

The Story of the Nine Times Table

By Lois Walker

Rhythm

To find and establish the proper rhythm for this piece, first read-aloud and clap through the sections as you go. Each *underlined word or word part* falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout these sections during performance.

Reading parts for ALL, ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS, and 5 SOLO VOICES.

A Choral Speaking Teachers Guide can be found online at:
<http://www.scriptsforschools.com/90.html>

ALL

(EXCEPT SOLO 1): Let's tell the story
 Of The Nine Times Table.

(SOLO 1 is clearly not happy about this idea).

SOLO 1: Aw, can't we read a folk tale, a legend or a fable?

ALL: Come on! Somebody
 Has to start.
 Somebody be a hero!

(Pause, pause)

SOLO 2: O.K, O.K...

(Pause, pause)

SOLO 2: What's 9 times nothing?

ALL: The answer is **ZERO!**

ALL: Great! We're on a roll,
And just in time.

ALL GIRLS: What's 9 times 1?

ALL BOYS: That would be 9!

ALL: Then 9 times 2
Is clearly eighteen,
Not more or less,
Or somewhere in between.

ALL GIRLS: So what's the answer
To 9 times 3?

ALL BOYS: We think it's 27.

SOLO 3: Sounds right to me!

SOLO 1: Stop! I can't take it.
Don't tell anymore
Next you'll say **36**...

ALL: Is right for 9 times 4!

ALL GIRLS: 45 is the answer
To 5 times 9,

ALL BOYS: And 6 times 9 is 54...
Right down the line.

ALL: So, 7 times 9?

SOLO 4: That's a mystery to me.

ALL
(EXCEPT SOLO 4): Wait!
We think the answer
Is sixty 3.

ALL GIRLS: Hold on, we're going higher

And it's quite a view!

ALL BOYS: From way up here it looks like
8 times 9 is 72.

ALL: We're almost finished,

SOLO 5: Are we almost done?

ALL: Yes!
(EXCEPT SOLO 5): 9 times 9 Is 81!

ALL GIRLS: And 10 times 9,
All high and mighty,

ALL BOYS: Turns out to be
A big, fat 90!

ALL: Then 9 times 11
Is ninety 9.

ALL GIRLS: Keep going, keep going..

ALL BOYS: We're doing fine!