**Inquiry in Music Education: Concepts and Methods for the Beginning Researcher (2nd ed.)**

**IME Worksheet 3.1 Articulating your Research Topic**

Relates to **Articulating your Research Topic**, p. 57

Objectives

* Use your imagination to envision what a study of your topic might look like.
* Notice how a change in wording can impact the meaning of a topic.

Review

Thinking about Becker’s (1998) suggestion “visualize” your research, use this space to imagine what a study of your current topic might look like when the topic is worded differently.

Directions

Write out three different statements of your topic below. A sample has been provided for you.

Sample: Carlos’ Topic: Assessments for high school concert band

1. Practical and meaningful assessments for high school concert band.
2. Student-led assessments for high school concert band.
3. Student interpretations of and experiences with high school concert band assessments.

Write your topic statements here:

1.
2.

Now reflect: How did changing the wording change the nature of the research you are envisioning? Which of the three statements comes closest to the research you actually want to do? Why is that?