

# Improve your sight-reading!

*New edition*

Piano  
Level 5

Intermediate

A progressive, interactive approach  
to sight-reading

**Paul Harris**



FABER *ff* MUSIC

# Improve your sight-reading!

**Paul Harris**

Stage 1 **Pianistic styles**

Stage 2 **C minor**

Stage 3 **F# minor**

Stage 4 **Thicker textures**

Stage 5 **More complex rhythms in  $\frac{6}{8}$  and  $\frac{3}{8}$**

Stage 6 **A $\flat$  major, Syncopation**

Stage 7 **Mixing rhythms and triplets**

Stage 8 **E major, Revision and some reminders**

## Rhythmic exercises

1

4/4

2

3/4

## Melodic exercises

The image displays three systems of musical notation, likely for guitar, arranged vertically. Each system includes a numbered box on the left side, possibly for a page or exercise number.

- System 1:** The box contains the number "1". The music is in 4/4 time, key of D major (two sharps). The right hand features a melody with triplets and slurs, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment.
- System 2:** The box contains the number "2". The music is in 4/4 time, key of B minor (two flats). The right hand has a melody with slurs and ties, and the left hand continues with an eighth-note accompaniment.
- System 3:** The box contains the number "3". The music is in 2/4 time. The right hand has a melody with slurs and ties, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

First system of musical notation, measures 1-4. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The right hand features a triplet of eighth notes in measures 1 and 2, followed by a half note in measure 3 and a dotted half note in measure 4. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment, with a '5' (finger 5) indicated under the first measure.

Second system of musical notation, measures 5-8. The key signature changes to one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The right hand has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 5, followed by eighth-note patterns in measures 6 and 7, and a half note in measure 8. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. A '5' (finger 5) is indicated under the first measure, with the instruction *(use the pedal here)* written below it.

Third system of musical notation, measures 9-12. The key signature remains one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The right hand features a half note in measure 9, a triplet of eighth notes in measure 10, and a half note in measure 11, followed by a dotted half note in measure 12. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Fingerings '1' and '3' are indicated for the right hand in measures 9 and 10, and '1' and '2' for measures 11 and 12.

Fourth system of musical notation, measures 13-16. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The right hand has a dotted half note in measure 13, followed by eighth-note patterns in measures 14 and 15, and a dotted half note in measure 16. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The instruction *Swing the quavers* is written above the first measure. Fingerings '5', '4', and '1' are indicated for the right hand in measures 13, 14, and 15 respectively. A '5' (finger 5) is also indicated under the first measure of the left hand.

Fifth system of musical notation, measures 17-20. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The right hand has a dotted half note in measure 17, followed by eighth-note patterns in measures 18 and 19, and a dotted half note in measure 20. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. A '5' (finger 5) is indicated under the first measure of the right hand.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 What are the clues to the character of this piece? What will your tempo be?
- 2 Are there any repeated patterns?
- 3 Where will you have to change hand position?
- 4 Follow the tune which begins in the right hand, and notice when it goes into the left hand.
- 5 Tap the rhythm of the piece, hands together.
- 6 Play the first note of each hand and then hear the piece in your head.

1

**Pesante**

- 1 How will you bring the piece to life?
- 2 Is the tune ever in the left hand?
- 3 How many bars are based on scale and arpeggio patterns? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 4 Look through the piece for changes of hand position.
- 5 Tap the rhythm of the piece, hands together on a table or the piano lid.
- 6 Play the first note of each hand and then hear the piece in your head.

2

**Allegro spiritoso**

Going solo!

Don't forget to prepare each piece carefully before you play it.

Bubbling

Musical score for 'Bubbling' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system has a treble staff with a melody starting on a whole rest, followed by eighth-note runs, and a bass staff with a continuous eighth-note accompaniment. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a final chord. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, *cresc.*, and *f*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

Andantino

Musical score for 'Andantino' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system has a treble staff with a melody starting on a whole rest, followed by eighth-note runs, and a bass staff with a continuous eighth-note accompaniment. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a final chord. Dynamics include *mf* and *rit.*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

Giocoso

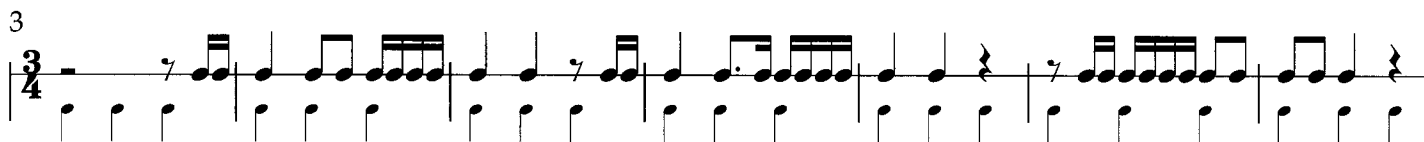
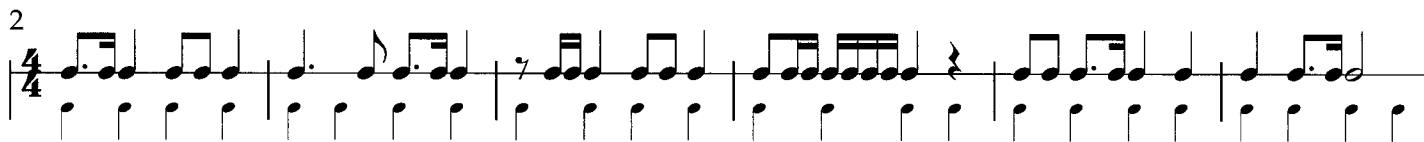
Musical score for 'Giocoso' in 3/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system has a treble staff with a melody starting on a whole rest, followed by eighth-note runs, and a bass staff with a continuous eighth-note accompaniment. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a final chord. Dynamics include *f* and *p*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

# Stage 2

C minor

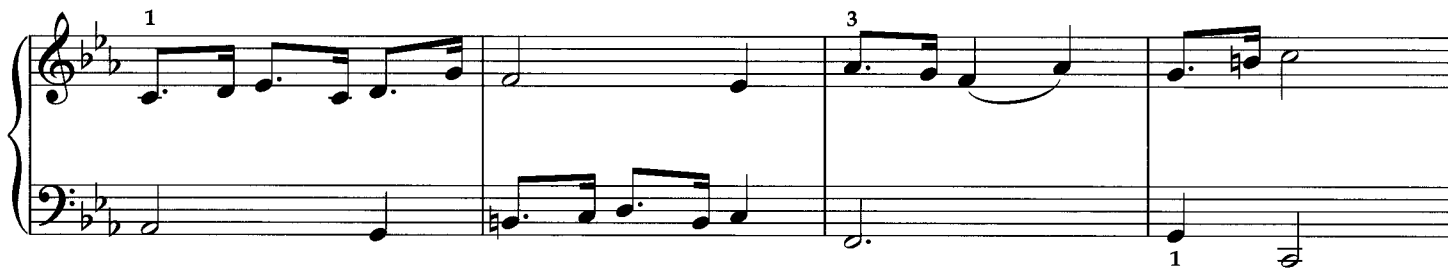
## Rhythmic exercises

Always count two bars before you begin each exercise – one out loud and one silently.

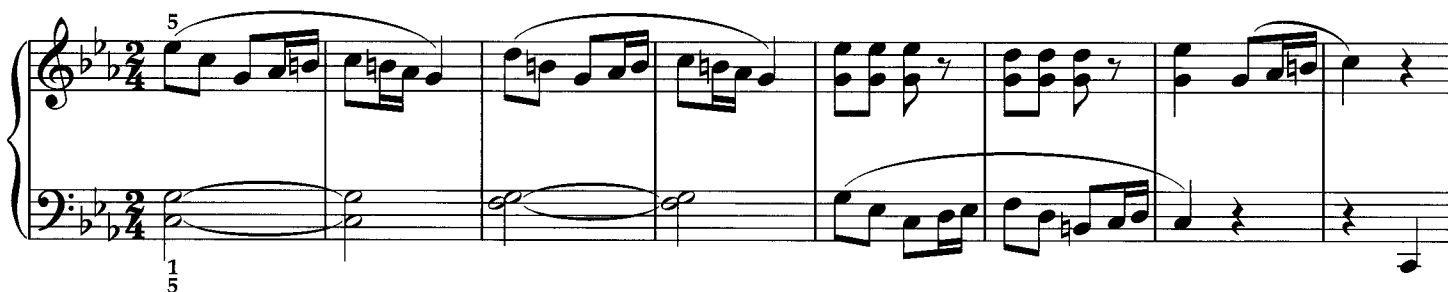


## Melodic exercises

1



2



The musical score is written for piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of five systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. Slurs are used to group notes across measures. The first system includes a large slur spanning the first two measures of the treble staff. The second system features a slur in the treble staff and a repeat sign at the end. The third system has a slur in the treble staff and a triplet in the bass staff. The fourth system includes a slur in the treble staff and a triplet in the bass staff. The fifth system features a slur in the treble staff and a triplet in the bass staff.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 What is the key of this piece? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 2 What is the interval formed by the notes in bars 1-2 of the left hand? Does it appear again?
- 3 Are there any other repeated patterns?
- 4 What will you count? Tap the rhythm of each hand separately, then both together.
- 5 What is the chord in the final bar?
- 6 Play the first notes in each hand and try to hear the piece through in your head.

**Andante**

1

- 1 What is the key of this piece? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 2 Can you see any bars that are not based on scale or arpeggio patterns?
- 3 Do the dynamic markings suggest a serious or light-hearted piece?
- 4 Look for changes of hand position.
- 5 Tap the rhythm of each hand separately. Then tap the rhythms of both hands together.
- 6 How will you bring this piece to life?

**Spiritoso**

2

# Going solo!

Con moto

First system of the piano score for 'Going solo!'. The tempo is 'Con moto' and the key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 2/4. The piece begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a five-finger fingering (5) on the first note and fingerings 2 and 1 on subsequent notes. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with a five-finger fingering (5) on the first note and a first finger (1) on the final note. The system concludes with a decrescendo hairpin.

Second system of the piano score. The dynamics shift to mezzo-piano (*mp*). The right hand continues the melodic development with a three-finger fingering (3) and a first finger (1). The left hand maintains the accompaniment. The system ends with a repeat sign.

Moderato

Third system of the piano score. The tempo changes to 'Moderato' and the time signature to 4/4. The dynamics fluctuate between mezzo-piano (*mp*) and forte (*f*). The right hand features a more active melodic line with fingerings 1, 3, and 3. The left hand has a rhythmic accompaniment with fingerings 4, 1, and 4. The system concludes with a decrescendo hairpin.

Serioso

Fourth system of the piano score. The tempo is 'Serioso' and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are mezzo-piano (*mp*) and include a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking. The right hand has a fast, flowing melodic line with fingerings 3, 1, and 3. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with fingerings 3 and 2. The system ends with a repeat sign.

Fifth system of the piano score. The dynamics are forte (*f*). The right hand features a melodic line with a decrescendo hairpin. The left hand continues the accompaniment. The system concludes with a repeat sign.

# Stage 3

F# minor

## Rhythmic exercises

Always count two bars before you begin each exercise – one out loud and one silently.

1

2

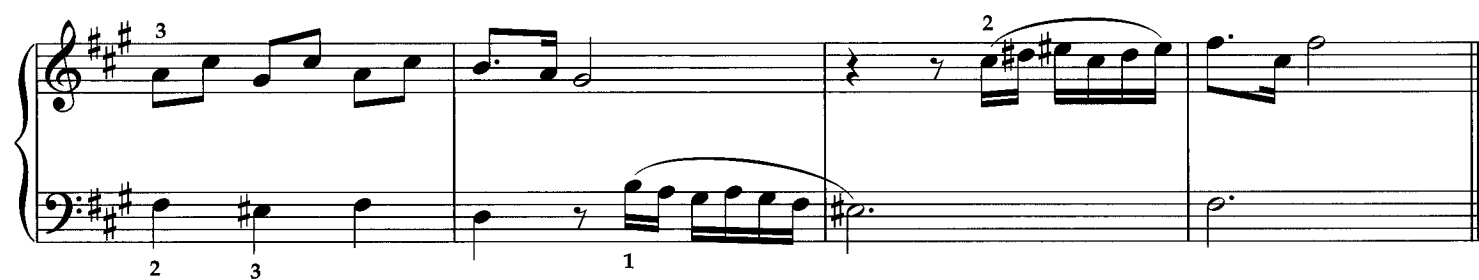
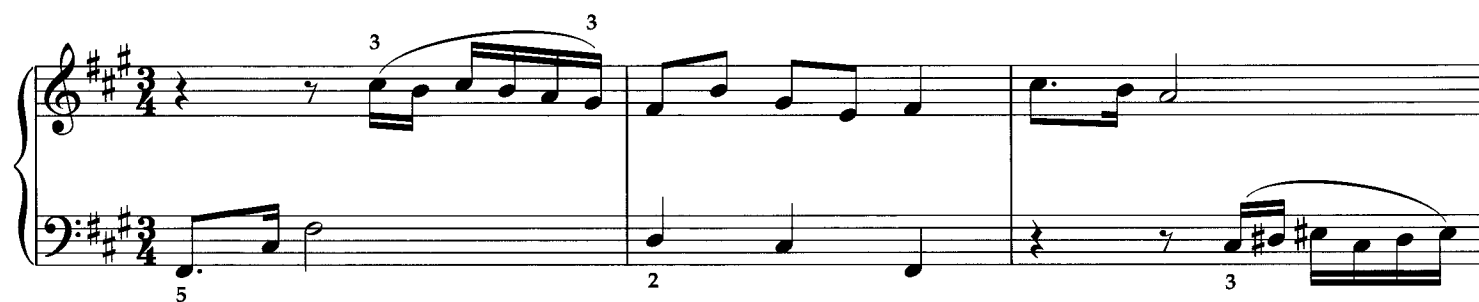
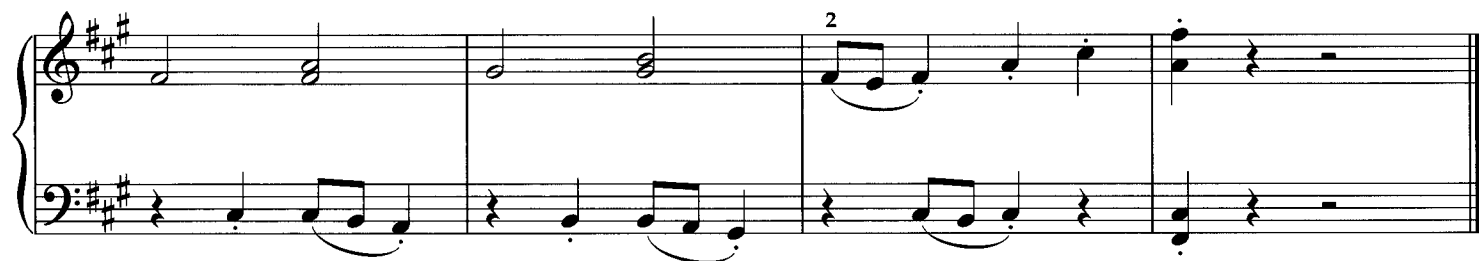
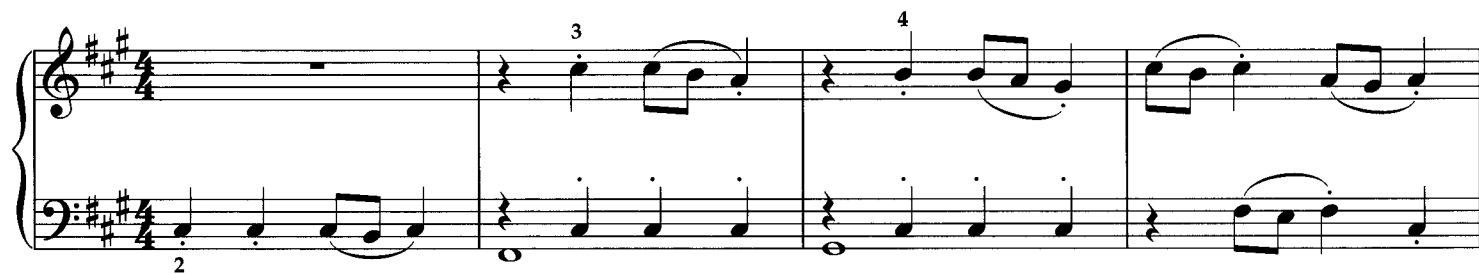
3

## Melodic exercises

1

2

3



## Prepared pieces

- 1 Study this piece carefully for a few minutes. Do you think you understand it?
- 2 What key is it in? Are there any scale patterns? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 3 Is it serious or humorous?
- 4 Think the rhythm through in your head.
- 5 Play the first note of the left hand and then hear the piece through in your head.
- 6 What are the important ingredients that will help you give character to the performance?

**1**

**Con moto**

mf p f p

- 1 What is the key of this piece? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 2 How many bars are based on the first bar?
- 3 Can you see where you'll have to change hand position?
- 4 Think about the fingering of the chords in the left hand bars 5 and 6.
- 5 Study the piece carefully until you feel you completely understand it.
- 6 What character will you try to convey?

**2**

**Marche funèbre**

mp cresc. f

p cresc. mf

## Going solo!

Don't forget to prepare each piece carefully before you play it.

### Molto moderato

*mf* *p* *cresc.* *mf cresc.* *f* *rit.*

### Molto cantabile

*mp* *cresc.* *f* *dim.*

### Poco adagio

*p* *mf* *mf* *rit.*

# Stage 4

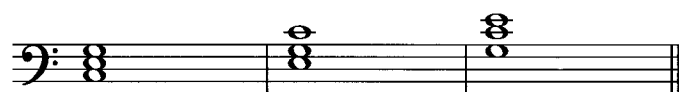
**Thicker textures**

Don't panic when you find that there are many notes to read at the same time. Often these note combinations are part of a simple chord pattern. Think of them as similar to reading a slightly longer word.

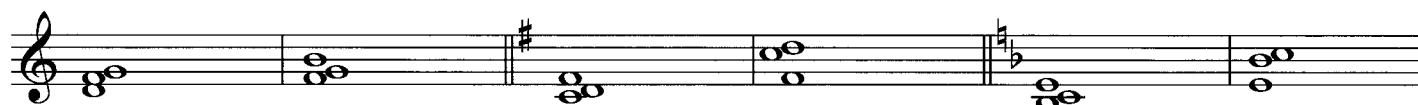
Knowing all the basic triads in each key is a very useful starting point. Play the following, describing them in your head as root position, first inversion and second inversion.



Root position 1st inversion 2nd inversion



Think about dominant 7th chords too. Here are some examples:



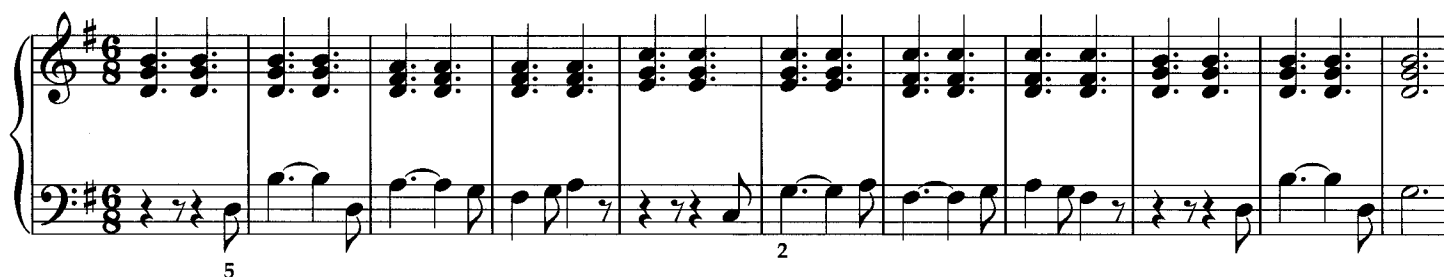
In C

In G

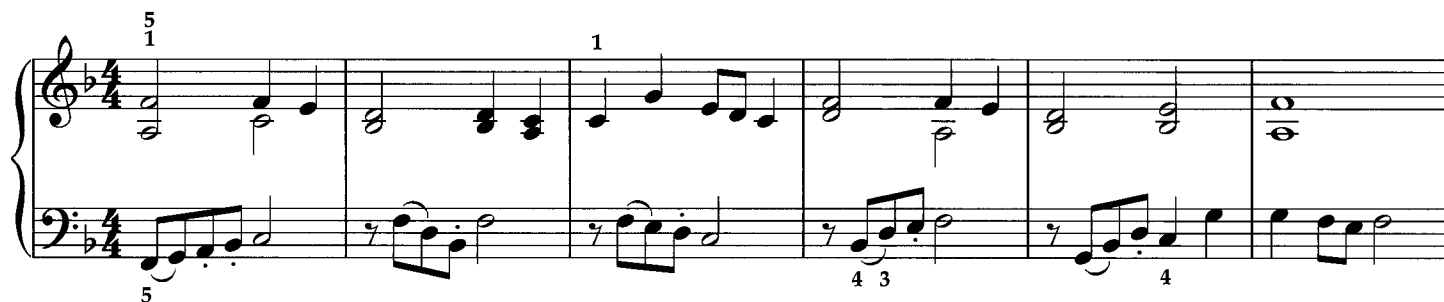
In F

## Melodic exercises

1



2



3



First system of a piano piece in 3/4 time, key of D major. The right hand features a sequence of chords and eighth-note patterns, with a fingering of 5, 2, 1 indicated at the start. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and eighth-note figures. A fingering of 2 is shown above the first eighth-note pair in the right hand.

Second system of the piano piece. The right hand continues with eighth-note patterns and chords, with a fingering of 3, 1 indicated. The left hand features a descending eighth-note scale in the first measure, followed by chords. A fingering of 1 is shown below the first eighth-note pair in the left hand, and a 5 is shown below the eighth-note pair in the fifth measure.

Third system of the piano piece. The right hand features a sequence of eighth-note patterns with a fingering of 3, 2, 1, 2, 2 indicated. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and eighth-note figures. A fingering of 1, 2, 5 is shown below the first eighth-note pair in the left hand.

Fourth system of the piano piece. The right hand features a sequence of eighth-note patterns with a fingering of 2 indicated. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and eighth-note figures. A fingering of 1 is shown below the first eighth-note pair in the left hand.

Fifth system of the piano piece. The right hand features a sequence of chords with a fingering of 5, 1 indicated. The left hand features a sequence of eighth-note patterns with a fingering of 4 indicated.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 What is the key of this piece? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 2 Describe the chord both hands play in bar 1.
- 3 Think about the fingering you will use in the right hand bars 3-6.
- 4 Can you spot any repeated patterns?
- 5 Are the right-hand notes with downward stems in bars 5-6 melody or accompaniment?
- 6 Play the first note in each hand then hear the piece through in your head.

### Lento misterioso

1

The musical score for 'Lento misterioso' is in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major (two flats). It consists of two systems of five bars each. The first system starts with a piano (mp) dynamic in the first bar and a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic in the second bar. The second system ends with a 'rall.' (rallentando) marking. The score includes various musical notations such as chords, arpeggios, and fingerings (e.g., 5, 4, 2).

- 1 What is the key of this piece? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 2 What is the character of this piece? How will you convey it?
- 3 To which chord do the notes in the first bar of the right hand belong?
- 4 Can you spot any repeated patterns?
- 5 Tap the rhythm of both hands on a table or the piano lid.
- 6 Play the first note in each hand then hear the piece through in your head.

### Lightly

2

The musical score for 'Lightly' is in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major (two flats). It consists of two systems of five bars each. The first system starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic, and the second system starts with a forte (f) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as chords, arpeggios, and fingerings (e.g., 2, 1, 5, 3, 2, 4, 1, 4).

## Going solo!

## Andante con moto

5  
1

*mf*

1

4

3

*p*

A musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". The score is written for a piano and voice. The piano part is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is in the right hand, and the accompaniment is in the left hand. The melody consists of a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some slurs. The accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand. The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. The tempo is marked "Allegretto". The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains the first two measures of the melody and the first measure of the accompaniment. The second system contains the next four measures of the melody and the next four measures of the accompaniment. The melody ends with a double bar line. The accompaniment ends with a double bar line. The score is written on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked "Allegretto". The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. The tempo is marked "Allegretto". The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains the first two measures of the melody and the first measure of the accompaniment. The second system contains the next four measures of the melody and the next four measures of the accompaniment. The melody ends with a double bar line. The accompaniment ends with a double bar line. The score is written on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked "Allegretto".

## Dolce

1

2

## Deciso

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. It contains a series of chords and single notes, with a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. The bass staff begins with a bass clef, the same key signature, and time signature. It contains a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. The second system continues the melody in the treble staff and the accompaniment in the bass staff. The treble staff includes a fermata over a note in the fourth measure. The bass staff includes a fermata over a note in the fourth measure. The score is written in a standard musical notation style with a white background and black ink.

# Stage 5

More complex  
rhythms  
in 6 and 3

## Rhythmic exercises

Always count two bars before you begin each exercise – one out loud and one silently.

1.

2.

3.

## Melodic exercises

And don't forget to count two bars before you begin each melodic exercise as well.

1

2

3

First system of musical notation. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 3/8. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings 2, 1, and 5. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with a 5 in the first measure.

Second system of musical notation. The right hand includes slurs, accents, and fingerings 3 and 5. The left hand continues the accompaniment with a 3 in the first measure.

Third system of musical notation. The key signature changes to two sharps (F-sharp and C-sharp). The time signature is 6/8. The right hand has slurs and fingerings 1 and 3. The left hand has slurs and fingerings 2 and 3. The system concludes with the instruction "rall." (rallentando).

Fourth system of musical notation. The key signature has one sharp (F-sharp). The time signature is 6/8. The right hand features a long slur and fingerings 1 and 3. The left hand has a 2/4 time signature marking in the first measure.

Fifth system of musical notation. The right hand has a long slur and a 5 in the first measure. The left hand continues the accompaniment.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 Describe the left-hand chords in bars 1 and 3. How are the chords in bars 2 and 4 related?
- 2 How many times is the melodic pattern in bars 1-2 repeated?
- 3 Is the final chord of the right-hand part (bars 11-12) major or minor? What is the chord?
- 4 What will you count? Tap the rhythm of each hand separately, then both hands together.
- 5 Do you think you understand the piece? What ingredients give you clues to the character?

**Lento espressivo**

1

*mp* *mf* *con ped.* *rall.*

- 1 How does the opening phrase differ on its return?
- 2 Study the chord in bar 1 (right hand). Now play it, listening to its character.
- 3 Think about the rhythm of bar 1 – when exactly do you play the right-hand chord?
- 4 Tap the rhythm of each hand separately. Then tap the rhythms of both hands together.
- 5 What key is the piece in? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 6 Play the first notes of each hand and then hear the piece through in your head.

**Furtively, like a secret agent**

2

*mf* *Ped.*

## Going solo!

Don't forget to prepare each piece carefully before you play it.

### Spiritoso

Musical score for **Spiritoso** in 6/8 time, key of B-flat major. The piece consists of two staves. The right hand starts with a 4-measure rest, then plays a series of eighth notes. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. Fingering numbers 1, 2, and 1 are indicated for the right hand.

### Con moto

Musical score for **Con moto** in 3/8 time, key of B-flat major. The piece consists of two staves. The right hand plays a series of eighth notes, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *f* and *mp*. Fingering numbers 1 and 3 are indicated for the right hand.

Continuation of the **Con moto** piece. The right hand plays a series of eighth notes, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *f*.

### Alla España!

Musical score for **Alla España!** in 6/8 time, key of D major. The piece consists of two staves. The right hand plays a series of eighth notes, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *f* and *mp*. Fingering numbers 5, 3, 2, and 2 are indicated for the right hand.

Continuation of the **Alla España!** piece. The right hand plays a series of eighth notes, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *f*.

# Stage 6

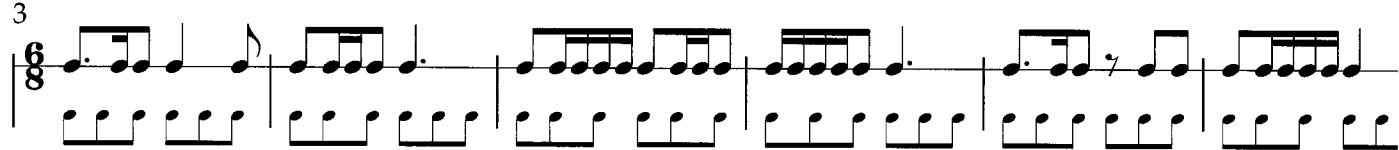
A $\flat$  major  
Syncopatio

## Rhythmic exercises

Always count two bars before you begin each exercise – one out loud and one silently, then continue to feel the pulse strongly.

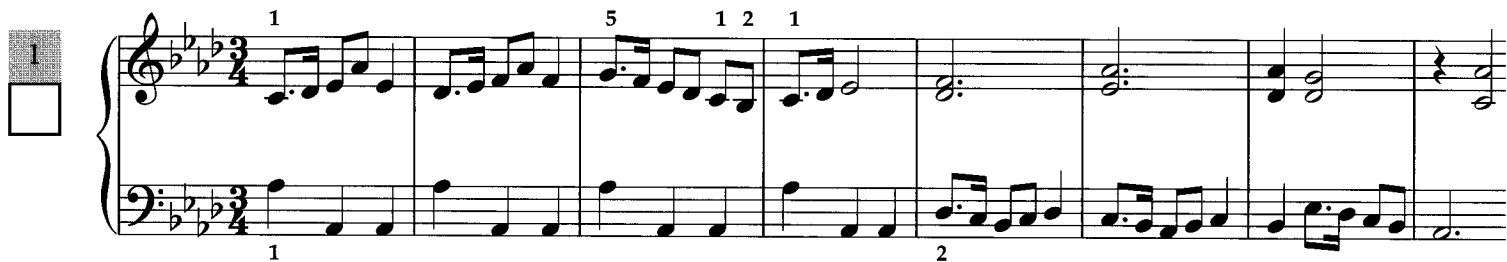
1. 

2. 

3. 

## Melodic exercises

Play the scale and arpeggio before you begin each piece and think carefully about the pattern of fingering you will need to use.

1. 

2. 

3. *(swing the  $\text{♩}$  ad lib.)*  


First system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. Bass staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. The system contains 8 measures. Fingerings are indicated: 4, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 4.

Second system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. Bass staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. The system contains 8 measures. Fingerings are indicated: 3, 3, 2, 1.

Third system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. Bass staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. The system contains 8 measures. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 2, 1, 2.

Fourth system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. Bass staff has a 4/2 time signature and a key signature of three flats. The system contains 8 measures.

Fifth system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff has a 6/8 time signature and a key signature of three flats. Bass staff has a 6/8 time signature and a key signature of three flats. The system contains 8 measures. Fingerings are indicated: 2, 4, 1.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 Is there any connection between bars 1-2 and bars 5-6?
- 2 Are there any changes of hand position? Think about the fingering you will use.
- 3 How will you convey the character of the piece?
- 4 What key is this piece in? Play the scale and arpeggio, and look at the chords carefully.
- 5 How does the texture in bars 1-2 differ from bars 3-4?
- 6 Play the opening chords and then hear the piece through in your head.

Slow, sad, serious and solemn

1

*mf espress.* *p* *mf*

- 1 Look carefully at the whole piece for a few moments. Do you feel you understand it?
- 2 How many passages are based on scale patterns? Which version of the scale is used in bar
- 3 Does the left hand change position?
- 4 Think about the tempo you will use.
- 5 Hear the rhythm through in your head, then the melody as well.
- 6 What character will you try to convey?

Misterioso

2

*p cresc.* *f dim.* *rall.*

# Going solo!

**Andante**

*mp* *cresc.* *p*

**rall.**

*f* *p*

**Adagio**

*mp* *molto espress.* *mf*

5 *cantabile* 2

*f* *mf* *f* *p*

**Vigorouso**

*f* *mf* *f* *p*

5

*f* *ff*

# Stage 7

Mixing rhythm  
and triplets

## Rhythmic exercises

Think of a word to help you with the rhythm of a triplet, such as 'sausages' or 'pineapple'!

1

2

3

## Melodic exercises

1

2

The first system of music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The right hand features a melodic line with eighth-note triplets and a final half-note chord. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with a 2/5 chord in the first measure and a triplet of eighth notes in the fifth measure.

The second system is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The right hand contains eighth-note triplets and a half-note chord. The left hand features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with a triplet of eighth notes in the fourth measure.

Norwegian song of the hills

The third system is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The right hand has a melodic line with eighth-note triplets and a half-note chord. The left hand features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with a triplet of eighth notes in the third measure.

The fourth system is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The right hand contains eighth-note triplets and a half-note chord. The left hand features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure.

The fifth system is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The right hand features a melodic line with eighth-note triplets and a half-note chord. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with a 2/5 chord in the first measure and a triplet of eighth notes in the fourth measure.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 In which key is this piece? What does the tempo mark suggest about the character?
- 2 Does the left-hand chord in bar 1 return anywhere? What is the chord? Play it.
- 3 Are there any repeated patterns? Tap the rhythms of both hands.
- 4 Play the first note and try to hear the piece through in your head.

### Allegretto e leggiero

1

- 1 What does *Adagio drammatico – operatico* suggest about the character?
- 2 What will you count? Tap the rhythm of each hand separately, then tap both hands together.
- 3 What is the key of this piece?
- 4 Play the first note of each hand and hear the piece through in your head.

### Adagio drammatico - operatico

2

## Going solo!

### Moderato humoroso

Musical score for Moderato humoroso, 4/4 time. The piece features a playful, bouncy melody with frequent triplets and dynamic shifts between *mp* and *f*. The right hand plays a series of eighth-note triplets, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with occasional triplet figures. The tempo is marked Moderato humoroso.

### Maestoso

Musical score for Maestoso, 4/4 time. The tempo is marked Maestoso. The piece features a slow, majestic melody with a focus on sustained notes and a gradual crescendo. The right hand plays a series of eighth-note figures, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with occasional triplet figures. The dynamics range from *f* to *p cresc.*

Continuation of the Maestoso section, 4/4 time. The piece features a slow, majestic melody with a focus on sustained notes and a gradual crescendo. The right hand plays a series of eighth-note figures, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with occasional triplet figures. The dynamics range from *f* to *p cresc.*

### Funky

Musical score for Funky, 4/4 time. The tempo is marked Funky. The piece features a rhythmic, syncopated melody with a focus on eighth-note figures and a steady bass line. The right hand plays a series of eighth-note figures, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with occasional triplet figures. The dynamics range from *f* to *p cresc.*

Continuation of the Funky section, 4/4 time. The piece features a rhythmic, syncopated melody with a focus on eighth-note figures and a steady bass line. The right hand plays a series of eighth-note figures, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with occasional triplet figures. The dynamics range from *f* to *p cresc.*

# Stage 8

**E major**  
**Revision**  
**and some**  
**reminders**

## Rhythmic exercises



## Reminders

Remember that sight-reading is really about understanding.

Are you nervous reading these words? Probably not. When you read music, at lessons, at home or in an exam it should be as straightforward as reading these words.

Here are a few tips to keep at the front of your mind:

- Don't play too quickly and always keep a steady and even pulse.
- Look at the music with your musical brain switched on – feel that you are understanding what the music is saying, just like these words.
- Notice the key, patterns and changes of hand position. In time these will become second nature to you.

## Melodic exercises

1

Scherzando

Flowing

Musical score for 'Flowing' in 3/8 time, key of D major. The piece is marked *mp*. The right hand features a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by eighth and quarter notes. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment, with a triplet of eighth notes in the fourth measure. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

Tango

First system of the 'Tango' piece in 2/4 time, key of D major. It is marked *f*. The right hand has a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by eighth and quarter notes. The left hand has a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure. The system ends with a crescendo leading to a *p* dynamic in the final measure.

Second system of the 'Tango' piece. The right hand continues with eighth and quarter notes, featuring a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The left hand has a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The system concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

Alla marcia

First system of the 'Alla marcia' piece in 4/4 time, key of D major. It is marked *f*. The right hand has a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by quarter and eighth notes. The left hand has a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure. The system ends with a crescendo leading to a *f* dynamic in the final measure.

Second system of the 'Alla marcia' piece. The right hand has a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by quarter and eighth notes. The left hand has a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure. The system concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 In which key is this piece? Play the scale and arpeggio. How many D sharps are there?
- 2 What does the tempo mark suggest about the character?
- 3 What is the chord in bar 2 of the left hand? Play it.
- 4 Study the rhythm in the right hand, bars 5-6, then play those bars.
- 5 Are there any repeated patterns? Tap the rhythms of both hands together.
- 6 Play the first note and try to hear the piece through in your head.

### Pastorale - molto espressivo

1

*p*  
*con ped.*  
*rall.*  
8<sup>va</sup>

- 1 In which key is this piece? Play the scale and arpeggio.
- 2 What does the tempo mark suggest about the character?
- 3 What is the final chord? Play it.
- 4 What will you count? Tap the rhythms of both hands together.
- 5 Do you feel you understand the piece?
- 6 Play the first note and try to hear the piece through in your head.

### Con moto, ma misterioso

poco rit.

2

*p*

Going solo!

Don't forget to prepare each piece carefully before you play it.

Neopolitan dance

Neopolitan dance

*mf*

5

1

5

2

4

*p*

2

Detailed description: This musical score is for a piece titled 'Neopolitan dance' in 6/8 time. It consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The right hand features a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet marked with a '1'. The left hand provides a steady bass line with eighth notes. The second system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The right hand has a more active melody with a triplet marked with a '2', while the left hand continues with a rhythmic accompaniment. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Like a flowing river

Like a flowing river

*mp*

4  
2

3

3

2

2

3

3

2

1

Detailed description: This musical score is for a piece titled 'Like a flowing river' in 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The right hand plays a melody of half notes and whole notes, with a fingering of 4 and 2 indicated. The left hand features a continuous eighth-note accompaniment with triplets marked with '3's. The second system continues the same musical themes, ending with a double bar line.

Alla Brazilia!

Alla Brazilia!

*f*

5

*mp*

*mf*

*p*

*f*

Detailed description: This musical score is for a piece titled 'Alla Brazilia!' in 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The right hand has a melody with eighth notes and rests, while the left hand plays a bass line with eighth notes. The second system begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, followed by a piano (*p*) section and then a final forte (*f*) section. The right hand features a melody with eighth notes and a final flourish, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment. The piece ends with a double bar line.

## Sprightly

4

*mf* *f*

## Giocoso

5

*f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Minuetto

Minuetto

Measures 1-8:

- Measure 1: Treble clef, 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. Melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4-B4. Bass clef accompaniment consists of quarter notes G2-A2-B2.
- Measure 2: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes C5-B4. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes G2-A2-B2.
- Measure 3: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes A4-G4. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes G2-A2-B2.
- Measure 4: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes F4-E4. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes G2-A2-B2.
- Measure 5: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes D4-C4. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes G2-A2-B2.
- Measure 6: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes B3-A3. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes G2-A2-B2.
- Measure 7: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes G3-F3. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes G2-A2-B2.
- Measure 8: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes E3-D3. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes G2-A2-B2.

Dynamic markings: *mf* (measures 1-4), *f* (measure 5), *mf* (measure 6), *dim.* (measures 7-8).

Lightly

Lightly

Measures 1-4:

- Measure 1: Treble clef, 4/4 time, key of D major. Melody starts with a quarter note D4, followed by eighth notes E4-F4. Bass clef accompaniment consists of quarter notes D3-E3-F3.
- Measure 2: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes G4-A4. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes D3-E3-F3.
- Measure 3: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes B4-C5. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes D3-E3-F3.
- Measure 4: Treble clef melody continues with eighth notes D5-C5. Bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes D3-E3-F3.

Dynamic markings: *mp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4).