

CONCLUSION

A sight-reading checklist

Before you begin to play a piece at sight, always remember to consider the following:

- 1 Look at the time-signature, and decide how you will count the piece.
- 2 Look at the key-signature, and find the notes which need raising or lowering.
- 3 Notice any accidentals that may occur.
- 4 Notice scale or arpeggio patterns.
- 5 Work out leger-line notes if necessary.
- 6 Notice dynamic levels and other markings.
- 7 Look at the tempo mark and decide what speed to play.
- 8 Count one bar before you begin, to establish the speed.

When performing your sight-reading piece, always remember to:

- 1 CONTINUE TO COUNT THROUGHOUT THE PIECE.
- 2 Keep going at a steady and even tempo.
- 3 Ignore mistakes.
- 4 Look ahead – at least to the next note.
- 5 Keep your hands in position on the keyboard during rests.
- 6 Play *musically*.

UNPREPARED TESTS

STAGE 1

1 Allegretto

The musical score for Stage 1, Test 1, Allegretto, is written for piano in 4/4 time and B-flat major. It consists of two systems of five measures each. The first system begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second system begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic in the fourth measure, and ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The tempo marking is Allegretto. Fingerings are indicated: 2, 3, 1 in the fourth measure of the second system.

2 Allegro ma non troppo

mp leggiero

Measures 2-5 of the first system. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. A crescendo hairpin is visible in the right hand.

mf

Measures 6-9 of the first system. The right hand continues the melodic development, and the left hand has a more active role with moving lines. A crescendo hairpin is present in the right hand.

Measures 10-13 of the first system. The right hand has a melodic phrase, and the left hand has a bass line. The system concludes with a double bar line. Below the staff, the numbers 1, 3, and 4 are printed.

STAGE 2

1 Andante

f p cresc.

Measures 1-4 of the second system. The right hand has a melodic line, and the left hand has a bass line. A crescendo hairpin is visible in the right hand.

f

Measures 5-8 of the second system. The right hand continues the melodic development, and the left hand has a bass line. A crescendo hairpin is present in the right hand.

2 Allegro moderato

2 Allegro moderato

Measures 2-8 of the piece. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first system (measures 2-3) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second system (measures 4-6) includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking. The third system (measures 7-8) returns to a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1 and 2 above the notes.

STAGE 3

1 Adagio

1 Adagio

Measures 1-7 of the piece. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The first system (measures 1-6) starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) and *sonore* dynamic. The second system (measures 7-8) continues the piece. The music features flowing sixteenth-note passages in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

2 Allegretto

2 Allegretto

Measures 1-5 of the piece. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first system (measures 1-3) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second system (measures 4-5) includes mezzo-forte (*mf*) and piano (*p*) dynamics. The music consists of eighth-note and quarter-note patterns.

6

3

espressivo

rit.

STAGE 4

1 Allegro ma non troppo

mf

cresc.

7

f

mf

2 Molto espressivo

mf

simile

f

7

mf

poco rall.

a tempo

rall.

mp

STAGE 5

1 Allegretto

First system of exercise 1, measures 1-6. The music is in 5/8 time. The right hand features eighth-note patterns, and the left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. A forte (*f*) dynamic is marked at the beginning.

Second system of exercise 1, measures 7-12. Measures 7-8 continue the previous pattern. Measures 9-10 are marked *rall.* (rallentando). Measure 11 is marked *a tempo* and *p* (piano). Measure 12 concludes the exercise.

Third system of exercise 1, measures 13-18. Measures 13-14 are marked *cresc.* (crescendo). Measures 15-16 are marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). Measures 17-18 conclude the exercise.

2 Allegro giocoso

First system of exercise 2, measures 1-6. The music is in 5/8 time. The right hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment, and the left hand features eighth-note patterns. A piano (*p*) dynamic is marked at the beginning.

Second system of exercise 2, measures 7-12. Measures 7-8 are marked *f* (forte). Measures 9-10 continue the pattern. Measures 11-12 conclude the exercise.

STAGE 6

1 Moderato

1 *f* *p* *f*

8 *f* *sfz*

16 *p* *f* *ff* *sfz*

2 Moderato con moto

mf

8 *f* *poco rall.* *a tempo* *mf*

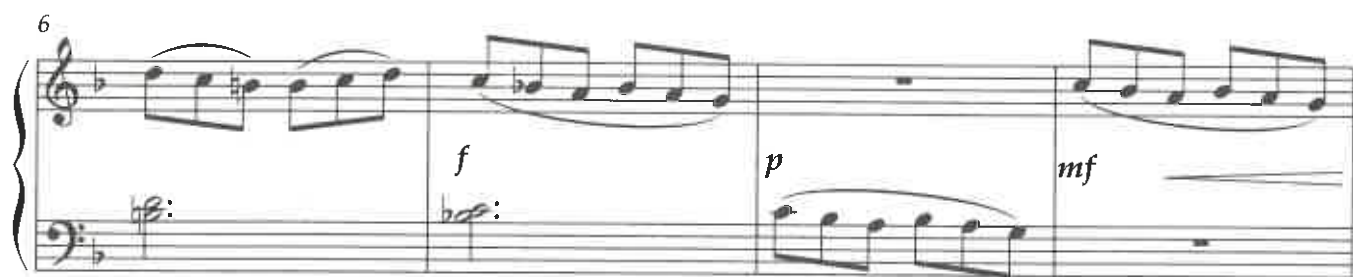
15 *rall.* *dim.*

STAGE 7

1 Allegretto grazioso



2 Tarantella



STAGE 8

1 Allegro spiritoso



5



2 Andante con moto



9



18



78154