

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



2 Con moto



3 Lightly

mp

1

4

4 Lento

mf

p

f

p

f

STAGE 2

1 Andante

mp

3

2

1

2 Allegretto

mf

5

1

3 Moderato

f

4

2

4 Andante

mf *p cresc.* *mf*

STAGE 3

1 Allegretto

mp *p* *f* *mf* *p* *dim.* *mf* *rall.*

2 Andante

mf *p* *cresc.* *mf* *p* *dim.* *mf* *rall.*

3 Alla Russe

f *mf* *p* *cresc.* *mf* *p* *dim.* *mf*

4 Con moto

mp *p* *cresc.* *mf* *p* *dim.* *mf* *rall.*

STAGE 4

1 Allegretto

Exercise 1, Allegretto, in 4/8 time, key of D major. The piece is marked *mp*. The right hand features a series of eighth-note patterns, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Fingering numbers 1, 2, 5, and 1 are indicated above the right hand, and 5, 5, 1, and 1 are indicated below the left hand.

2 Allegro

Exercise 2, Allegro, in 3/8 time, key of D major. The piece is marked *p*. The right hand plays eighth-note patterns, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Fingering numbers 3, 2, 1, 1, 3, and 1 are indicated above the right hand. Dynamics *cresc.* and *f* are marked. The piece concludes with a *rall.* marking.

Continuation of exercise 2, Allegro, in 3/8 time, key of D major. The right hand continues with eighth-note patterns, and the left hand continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Fingering number 4 is indicated above the right hand. Dynamics *p*, *cresc.*, and *f* are marked. The piece concludes with a *rall.* marking.

3 Maestoso

Exercise 3, Maestoso, in 3/4 time, key of D major. The piece is marked *f*. The right hand plays a series of eighth-note patterns, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Fingering numbers 1, 1, 1, and 2 are indicated above the right hand, and 1 and 2 are indicated below the left hand.

Continuation of exercise 3, Maestoso, in 3/4 time, key of D major. The right hand continues with eighth-note patterns, and the left hand continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Fingering numbers 3, 4, and 4 are indicated above the right hand. Dynamics *p cresc.* and *f* are marked.

STAGE 5

1 Allegro

f *dim.*

rall. *a tempo* *p* *pp*

2 Allegro marcato

f *mf*

cresc. *p* *f*

3 With humour

f

4

STAGE 6

1 Allegretto

p

2 Allegro spiritoso

f

3 Con moto

f

p cresc.

STAGE 7

1 Allegro moderato

1 *mp*

2 Delicato

p dolce

rall.

3 Spiritoso

f

STAGE 8

1 Lento

1 Lento

p dolce

rall.

2/5 1/5

2 Con spirito

2 Con spirito

f

3 Brightly

3 Brightly

f leggiero

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4 Andantino

4 Andantino

f

p

f

5/3 2