

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*.

1 Moderato con moto

Exercise 1 is in 4/4 time and consists of two systems. The first system features a treble clef with a melody starting on G4, moving up stepwise to D5, and then down to G4. The bass clef has a single note G2. The second system continues the melody in the treble, starting with a rest, then moving up to A5, and finally down to G4. The bass clef has a single note G2. Dynamics include *f* (forte) in the first system and *p* (piano) in the second system. A *cresc.* (crescendo) marking is present in the second system. Fingerings 4 and 5 are indicated for the first and second notes of the first system, respectively.

2 Allegro ritmico

Exercise 2 is in 3/4 time and consists of two systems. The first system features a treble clef with a melody starting on G4, moving up stepwise to D5, and then down to G4. The bass clef has a single note G2. The second system continues the melody in the treble, starting with a rest, then moving up to A5, and finally down to G4. The bass clef has a single note G2. Dynamics include *p* (piano) in the first system and *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the second system. A *cresc.* (crescendo) marking is present in the second system. Fingerings 4 and 1 are indicated for the first and second notes of the first system, respectively.

3 Andante espressivo

Exercise 3 is in 3/8 time and consists of two systems. The first system features a treble clef with a melody starting on G4, moving up stepwise to D5, and then down to G4. The bass clef has a single note G2. The second system continues the melody in the treble, starting with a rest, then moving up to A5, and finally down to G4. The bass clef has a single note G2. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the first system and *rall.* (rallentando) in the second system. Fingerings 3 and 2 are indicated for the first and second notes of the first system, respectively.

1 Moderato

f pesante

4 2

3 3

4 4 3 2 2

5 1

rit.

2 Andante espressivo

p *f*

3

1/5 1/5

3 3

3 Alla marcia

f

1 4 2 1 4 5 3 3

1

1 3 5 4

1 With a swing

3 2 1

mf

3

2 Allegro giocoso

5 1 2 1 2

f

3 5 4

2

3 Vigoroso

mf

p cresc.

f

3

1 Vigoroso

1 Vigoroso

f *p*

f

v

2 Allegro ma non troppo

2 Allegro ma non troppo

mf *rall.*

3 Lento

3 Lento

mp

5 3 1 5 2 1

1 Moderato con moto

3
1

f

3
2

4
2

mp

3
1

cresc.

f

2

1

2 Adagio espressivo

4

p

4

1

cresc.

1

2

3 Giocoso

mp

f

mp cresc.

dim.

p

1 Moderato

The musical score for 'Lento' by Beethoven, measures 1-6, is shown. The tempo is marked 'Lento' and the time signature is 3/8. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is written for piano (p) and features dynamic markings: *mf* *sonore*, *p*, and *mf*. The first system contains measures 1-3, and the second system contains measures 4-6. The music is characterized by a slow, expressive melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

2 Scherzando

Scherzando

Measures 1-4 of the musical score. The first system contains measures 1 and 2, and the second system contains measures 3 and 4. The right hand plays a melody with eighth notes, while the left hand provides a bass line with eighth notes and rests. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *p* (piano).

3 Con moto

3

p

3

3

rall. 5 4 2 1

a tempo

3 2 1

1 With a swing

Exercise 1, 'With a swing', is an 8-measure piece in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first system (measures 1-4) features a treble staff with a melody starting on a whole rest, followed by eighth and quarter notes, and a bass staff with a continuous eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). The second system (measures 5-8) continues the melody and accompaniment, with a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic in measure 6 and accents in measures 7 and 8.

2 Andante sostenuto

Exercise 2, 'Andante sostenuto', is a 10-measure piece in 5/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The first system (measures 1-5) has a treble staff with a melody of eighth and quarter notes and a bass staff with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The second system (measures 6-10) continues the piece, featuring a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking in measure 8 and a *p* (piano) dynamic in measure 10. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-5.

3 Moderato

Exercise 3, 'Moderato', is a 10-measure piece in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first system (measures 1-4) features a treble staff with a melody of eighth and quarter notes and a bass staff with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *f* (forte). The second system (measures 5-10) continues the piece, with a *p* (piano) dynamic in measure 10. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-6.