## Preliminary Grade

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## Semiquavers

## $A$ <br> These are semiquavers. A semiquaver is equal in length to half a quaver beat.

Between the two lines practise drawing semiquavers with their stems pointing up. The semiquaver's tail must be on the right side of the note stem (see the example):


Practise drawing semiquavers with their stems pointing down. Once again, the semiquaver's tail must be on the right side of the note stem (see the example):


As with quavers, semiquavers can be grouped together.
In this Grade they can be joined in groups of two or four.


Two semiquavers can also be joined to a quaver. Each of these groups is equal in length to one crotchet beat.

Practise drawing the above quaver and semiquaver groupings, with their stems pointing up (see the example):


Practise drawing the above quaver and semiquaver groupings, with their stems pointing down (see the example):


Musical Maths

Answer the following questions by writing the correct number (see the example):


Answer the following questions by writing the correct note (see the example):


## Notation

In Junior Grade you were introduced to the following treble and bass clef notes:


Bass Clef


The new notes for Preliminary Grade are:


Name the following notes:


Name the following treble clef notes (the first one has been completed as an example):

G sharp $\qquad$
4으

Name the following bass clef notes:


Write the following treble clef notes as dotted crotchets (see the example):


On the grand staff below, write the following notes as dotted minims (see the example):

$E^{b}$ in a space $\quad B$ on a line $\quad D^{\natural}$ on a line $C^{\#}$ above the $\quad C^{b}$ below the $A$ in a space $F^{\natural}$ on a line stave stave

Are both the treble and bass clef notes notated correctly in each bar of the grand staff below? Answer 'Yes' or 'No' in the box provided (see the example):


## Revision Test - Notation

Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Name the following treble clef notes:


Name the following bass clef notes:
으


Write the following treble clef notes as dotted crotchets:


Are both the treble and bass clef notes notated correctly in each bar of the grand staff below?
Answer 'Yes' or 'No' in the box provided:



Total:


## Tones and Semitones

The gap between any two successive notes of a major scale can be described as either a tone or semitone.

- When two notes are right next to each other (with no other note in-between) they are a semitone apart.
- When two notes have one other note in-between them they are a tone apart.

In Preliminary Grade you are required to recognise the difference between tones and semitones within the C major scale using the piano keyboard as reference. If you look at the keyboard below, you will see that the gap between $\boldsymbol{E}-\boldsymbol{F}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}-\boldsymbol{C}$ is a semitone, as there is no other note in-between them.


All the other letters of the musical alphabet ( $C-D \quad D-E \quad F-G \quad G-A \quad A-B)$ are a tone apart, as there is one other note in-between each of them (eg. between $C \& D$ is $C \# / D^{b}$ ).


Below is a one octave C major scale. Notice where the tones and semitones fall within the scale:


Using the piano keyboard below as reference, mark each pair of bracketed notes as a tone or semitone (see the example):



## Accidentals

In Preliminary Grade, you are required to understand how the following accidentals affect the notes they are attached to:

| $\#$ - Sharp | $b$ - Flat | $\square$ - Natural |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Raises a note by a semitone | Lowers a note by a semitone | Cancels out a sharp or flat |

- A natural placed next to a note that was previously a sharp will lower the note by one semitone.
- A natural placed next to a note that was previously a flat will raise the note by one semitone.

By using the correct accidental, raise each of the following notes one semitone (see the example):


By using the correct accidental, lower each of the following notes one semitone:


## Scales

In Junior Grade you were required to write a one octave C major scale (see below). You will notice that accidentals are not required when writing a C major scale. In order to make a scale sound like a major scale, there must be a semitone gap between notes $3 \& 4$, and notes $7 \& 8$ of the scale. The gap between all other notes must be a tone gap.


In Preliminary Grade you are also required to write one octave $\mathbf{F}$ major and $\mathbf{G}$ major scales. If you write the F major scale without using any accidentals, you will notice that one of the semitone gaps is not where it should be:


In order for there to be a semitone gap between notes 3 \& 4 (and not notes $4 \& 5$ ) you must lower the 4th note ' $B$ ' by a semitone. The 4 th note of the $F$ major scale will now be ' $B$ '.


Similarly, if you write the G major scale without any accidentals, there will be a semitone gap between notes $6 \& 7$ (and not notes $7 \& 8$ ). For there to be a semitone between notes $7 \& 8$ you will need to raise ' F ' to ' F ',


Using accidentals where necessary, write the following one octave major scales (see the example):

F major, ascending in quavers (grouped in fours)


F major, descending in dotted crotchets


G major, descending in dotted minims


C major, ascending in semiquavers (grouped in pairs)


C major, descending in minims

## 9:

F major, ascending in semibreves
耳

## Key Signatures

Instead of writing accidentals next to notes to establish the tonality of a scale, you can place the required accidental(s) at the beginning of each stave. This is called a key signature.


For Preliminary Grade you are required to know the following key signatures:


In the box provided, identify each of the following major key signatures (see the example):


Using the correct key signature, write the following one octave major scales (see the example):

G major, descending in dotted minims


F major, ascending in quavers (grouped in pairs)


C major, descending in dotted crotchets


G major, descending in minims

F major, descending in semiquavers (grouped in pairs)

## Э

## Revision Test - Notation 2

Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Using the piano keyboard below as reference, mark each pair of bracketed notes as a tone or semitone:



By using the correct accidental, raise each of the following notes one semitone:


In the box provided, identify each of the following major key signatures:


Using the correct key signature, write the following one octave major scale:

> G major, descending in dotted crotchets:


Total: $\square$

## Intervals

In Preliminary Grade, you are required to identify the following interval numbers above any given note:


Important - When working out an interval, always count the bottom note of the interval as ' 1 '. Identify the following intervals (see the example):

$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$


Write the following intervals above the given note (see the example):

Treble clef


Write the following intervals above the given note, and then write the letter of the upper note in the box provided (the first two bars have been completed as an example):




Make your way through the maze below by linking the boxed letters from the previous exercise. (the first two links have been completed as an example):
Star

## Triads

A triad is made up of three notes:


- The middle note of a triad is a 3 rd above the root note.
- The top note of a triad is a 5th above the root note.

A triad that is built with the intervals of a 3rd and 5th above a given note is called a root position triad.

Triads can be built upon all notes of a scale, however for Preliminary Grade you are only required to write tonic triads (triads built above the 1st note of a scale).

Using the correct key signatures, write the following root position tonic triads and then write the same triad one octave higher or lower (see the example):


Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether each tonic triad has been written correctly (see the example):


## Revision Test - Intervals \& Triads

## Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Identify the following intervals:

$\qquad$


Using the correct key signatures, write the following root position tonic triads:


## Time Signatures

In previous grades the following time signatures have been introduced:


## 4

4 crotchet beats per bar

The new time signature for Preliminary Grade is:


Remember, every time signature is made up of two numbers. The top number tells you how many counts or beats are in every bar. The bottom number tells you what kind of note is equal to one count or beat for that particular time signature.

In $\mathbf{4}_{4}$ time there are three crotchet beats in every bar. The three beats can be made up in many ways. Here are some examples:


Add bar lines to the following melodies:


## Common Time



Sometimes, the symbol ' $\mathbf{C}$ ' is used to represent ${ }_{4}^{4}$ time. We call this time signature common time.
N. B. The symbol 'C' does not stand for the first letter of 'common', however it is an easy way to remember it. The use of this symbol dates back hundreds of years, when $\mathbf{4}_{\mathbf{4}}^{\mathbf{3}}$ time was considered to be the 'perfect' time signature, and was represented by a full circle. $\mathbf{4}_{\mathbf{4}}$ time was considered to be 'imperfect' time, and as a result was often represented by a broken (half) circle.

Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether the bar could be represented correctly by the ' $\mathbf{C}$ ' time signature:


For a full bar of quavers in ${\underset{4}{2}}_{2}$ or ${\underset{4}{3}}_{3}$ time, the quavers can either be grouped together in pairs (to represent each beat) or as one whole group of quavers.


If there is a full bar of quavers in $\frac{4}{4}$ time, the quavers can also be grouped together in pairs to show each beat of the bar (see bar 1 below). Alternatively, you can group together all four quavers for beats 1 and 2 , and/or all four quavers for beats 3 and 4 (see bar 2). You cannot join the quavers for beats 2 and 3 together (see bar 3 ), or join all eight of the quavers (see bar 4).


Using the given time signature, complete each bar with correctly grouped quavers. Write your answer beneath the asterisk (the first bar has been completed as an example):


Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether the quavers have been grouped correctly (the first box has been completed as an example):


Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether the correct number of beats is in each bar, according to the time signature (the first box has been completed as an example):




## Adding Time Signatures

When writing a time signature, you should use the top two spaces of the stave to write the top number and the bottom two spaces to write the bottom number.


Add the correct time signature to the following short melodies:


A tie connects two notes of the same pitch. They are played as a single note with a duration equal to the sum of both notes. Write the number of crotchet beats each of the following ties should be held for in the box provided (see the example):


Circling Beats

Place a single circle around beat $\mathbf{2}$ in each bar below (see the example):


Place a single circle around beat 3 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beat 1 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beat 4 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beats $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$ in each bar below (see the example):


Place a single circle around beats 3 and 4 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beats 2 and 3 in each bar below:


Place a circle around beat $\mathbf{1}$ and a circle around beat $\mathbf{4}$ in each bar below (see the example):


Place a circle around beat 2 and a circle around beat $\mathbf{4}$ in each bar below:


## Bar Lines

Add bar lines and a double bar line to each of the following staves:



## Revision Test - Timing

Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Using the given time signature, complete each bar with correctly grouped quavers. Write your answer beneath the asterisk:

*     * 
* 
* 



Add the correct time signature to the following melody, and write the number of crotchet beats each tie should be held for in the box provided:


Place a circle around beat 2 in each bar below:


Place a circle around beat $\mathbf{1}$ and a circle around beat $\mathbf{3}$ in each bar below:


Add bar lines and a double bar line to the following line of music:


Total: $\square$

## Terminology

Understanding and following the terminology in your pieces will enable you to perform more musically. There are six new terms for you to learn in Preliminary Grade, as well as a more detailed explanation of the sharp, flat and natural signs. You will also be tested on terms introduced in previous Grades. You will most likely have already come across most of the terms before in the pieces you play. Study them, and then have someone test you on them at home.

## Preliminary Grade:

Allegro - fast
Andante - at an easy pace
Moderato - at a moderate speed
Rallentando - gradually becoming slower (rall.)
Diminuendo - gradually becoming softer (dim.)
Fermata - pause, hold the note longer than written( $(\sim)$
Sharp (\#) - raises a note by a semitone
Flat (b)-lowers a note by a semitone
Natural (b) - cancels out a sharp or flat

You must also know:

## Beginner Grade:

Forte - loud ( $\boldsymbol{f}$ )
Piano - soft $(\boldsymbol{p})$
Mezzo forte - moderately loud ( $\boldsymbol{m} \boldsymbol{f}$ )
Mezzo piano - moderately-soft (mp)
Crescendo - grádually becoming louder
(cresc. or )
Decrescendo - gradually becoming softer
(decresc. or $\qquad$

## Junior Grade:

Fortissimo - very loud ( $\boldsymbol{f f}$ )
Pianissimo - very soft ( $\boldsymbol{p p}$ )
Accelerando - gradually becoming faster (accel.)
Ritenuto - held back, slower immediately (rit.)
Staccato - short and detached
Legato - smooth and connected
Slur - a curved line over or under two or more notes to indicate the notes are to be played legato
Tie - A tie connects two notes of the same pitch. They are played as a single note with a duration equal to the sum of both notes
Accent - make the note stand out stronger than the other notes ( ${ }^{( }$)
N. B. Tempo markings (eg. 'Allegro') provide a guide as to the approximate speed of a piece. A tempo marking is normally placed above the first note of a piece (see the example):


Complete each question and task regarding the following pieces:


The dynamic marking in bar $\mathbf{1}$ tells you to play: $\qquad$
In bar 3 you should: $\qquad$
On the last note you should: $\qquad$

- Place a tempo marking to indicate the piece should be 'fast'.
- Raise the ' $C$ ' in bar 3 by a semitone.
- Slur together all of the quavers in bar 4.


The dynamic marking in bar 1 tells you to play:
The dots below the notes in bar $\mathbf{1}$ indicate that they should be played: $\qquad$
In bar 3 you should: $\qquad$

- Place a tempo marking to indicate the piece should be 'at an easy pace'.
- Tie the first two notes together in bar 2.
- Cancel out the 'F\#' on the third beat of bar 3.


The dynamic marking in bar $\mathbf{1}$ tells you to play: $\qquad$
The volume in bar 2 should: $\qquad$
The last half of bar $\mathbf{3}$ should: $\qquad$

- Place a tempo marking to indicate the piece should be 'at a moderate speed'.
- Cancel out the ' B ' ' in bar 2.
- Place an accent over the ' $C$ ' in bar 2.
- Slur each of the quaver groups in bar 3 (one slur for each group of four notes).
- Place a fermata over the final note of the piece.


## Metronome Markings

A metronome is a device that produces a noise (click or beep) to represent each beat of a bar. The speed of each beat can be adjusted to suit the tempo of a particular piece. The metronome is both an important practice tool, and a way for a composer to indicate the exact speed a piece is intended to be played. There are three main ways a metronome speed can be indicated:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
d=100 & \text { M.M. } \downarrow=100 & d=\text { circa } 100 \\
100 \text { crotchet beats per minute } & \text { Maelzel's Metronome: } & \begin{array}{c}
\text { Approximately } 100 \text { crotchet } \\
\text { beats per minute }
\end{array}
\end{array}
$$

M.M. ${ }^{\text {= 100: }}$ Johann Maelzel was the first person to successfully manufacture a metronome that was both able to beat very fast, and very slow (the other metronomes before Maelzel's did not work well for pieces with a very slow tempo). This brand of metronome became known as Maelzel's Metronome, and the abbreviation 'M.M.' was placed before the metronome speed.
d = circa 100 (usually abbreviated to d = c. 100): The piece should be played at approximately 100 beats per minute. It is acceptable to take the piece a little faster or slower, depending on the performer's interpretation.

## Da Capo and Dal Segno

In previous Grades you were introduced to repeat signs, as well as 1st \& 2nd time bars. In Preliminary Grade, you are also required to understand the terms Da Capo, Dal Segno, Coda and Fine.

Da Capo (D.C.): From the beginning of the piece.

Dal Segno (D.S.): From the sign (※).
Da Capo al Fine: From the beginning of the piece, and finish when you get to the word 'Fine', which means 'end'.

Dal Segno al Fine: From the sign ( $(\mathbf{\Psi})$, and finish when you get to the word 'Fine'.
Da Capo al Coda: From the beginning of the piece, and when you get to the 'To Coda $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ ' instruction you should move to the section of the piece marked ' $\phi$ Coda'.

Dal Segno al Coda: From the sign ( $\Psi$ ), and when you get to the ' $\boldsymbol{T o} \operatorname{Coda} \boldsymbol{\phi}^{\prime}$ ' instruction you should move to the section of the piece marked ' $\theta$ Coda'.

In is important to note that repeat signs are not observed after following the instructions 'Da Capo' or 'Dal Segno' in a piece of music.

Complete the following (and circle when required):


- Add a metronome marking to indicate that the piece should be played at 120 crotchet beats per minute.
- Place the abbreviation for pianissimo under the first note of bar $\mathbf{1}$.
- Tie the last note of bar $\mathbf{1}$ with the first note of bar $\mathbf{2}$.
- Place an accent over the first note of bar 5 .
- Slur together all of the semiquavers in bar 7.
- Indicate that the first two notes of bar 8 should be played staccato.

- Add a metronome marking to indicate that the piece should be played at 72 crotchet beats per minute on Maelzel's Metronome.
- Place the abbreviation for mezzo forte under the first note of bar 1.
- Tie the last note of bars 1, 3, 5 and 7 with the first note of the following bar.
- Indicate that the first two notes of bar $\mathbf{5}$ and bar 7 should be played staccato.
- Indicate that the piece should speed up from bar 8.


After bar 3 (the 1st time through) you should play: bar 1
After bar 3 (the 2nd time through) you should play: bar 1
bar 5
bar 4

After bar 9 you should play:
The last bar you should play is:
bar 1
bar 5
bar 4
bar 4
bar 5 bar 9

- Add a metronome marking to indicate that the piece should be played at 90 crotchet beats per minute.
- Slur together all of the notes in beat 1 of bar 3 and bar 8
- Indicate that the first two notes of bar 5 and the last two notes of bar 7 should be played staccato.


After bar 2 (the 1st time through) you should play: bar 3
After bar 2 (the 2nd time through) you should play: bar 3
After bar 6 (the 1st time through) you should play: bar 1
After bar 11 you should play:
bar 1

After bar 2 (the 3rd time through) you should play: bar 3
The last bar you should play is: bar 4
bar 2
bar 7
bar 5
bar 7
bar 4
bar 5
bar 2
bar 5
bar 5
bar 7
bar 6 bar 11

- Add a metronome marking to indicate that the piece should be played at approximately 60 crotchet beats per minute.
- Place the abbreviation for fortissimo under the first note of bar $\mathbf{1}$.


After bar 3 (the 2nd time through) you should play: bar 4
After bar 9 you should play:
bar 1
bar 5
bar 6
bar 6
bar 10

After bar 3 (the 3rd time through) you should play: bar 4
bar 5
bar 10
After bar 7 (the 2nd time through) you should play: bar 1
After bar 12 (the 1st time through) you should play:
bar 10
bar 8
bar 10
bar 1 bar 13

The last bar you should play is:
bar 4
bar 9
bar 14


After bar 4 (the 1st time through) you should play: bar 1
After bar 4 (the 2nd time through) you should play: bar 1
After bar 8 you should play:
After bar 6 (the 1st time through) you should play: bar 7
After bar 6 (the 2nd time through) you should play: bar 1
bar 5
bar 5
bar 5
bar 5
bar 5
bar 3
bar 9
bar 9
bar 9
bar 9

## Musical Crossword



## Clues:

## Across:

4. Gradually becoming faster
5. Smooth and connected
6. Cancels out a sharp or flat
7. Held back, slower immediately
8. A curved line connecting two or more notes to indicate they are to be played legato.
9. A curved line connecting two notes that are the same pitch. They are be played as one single note.
10. Very loud
11. Pause, hold the note longer than written
12. At an easy pace
13. Short and detached
14. At a moderate speed

## Down:

1. Gradually becoming softer (decresc.)
2. Loud
3. Very soft
4. Fast
5. Gradually becoming slower
6. Moderately soft
7. Lowers a note by a semitone
8. Gradually becoming louder
9. Gradually becoming softer (dim.)
10. Make the note stand out stronger than the other notes
11. Raises a note by a semitone
12. Soft

## Sample Examination Paper 1

Your name: $\qquad$
Teacher's name: $\qquad$
Exam centre: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

## Time allowed for this examination: 1 Hour

Please complete all questions in pencil or ink. Read all questions carefully.

## 1. Notation (30 marks)

Name the following treble clef notes:
$\qquad$

$\qquad$

In the grand staff below, write the following notes as quavers:

$D \#$ below the stave $B^{b}$ above the stave
$E^{\natural}$ in a space
Middle C
B on a line

Using the correct key signature, write a one octave G major scale ascending in semibreves:


## Sample Examination Paper - Preliminary Grade

Using the piano keyboard below as reference, mark each pair of bracketed notes as a tone or semitone:

In the box provided, identify each of the following major key signatures:
$\square$


## 2. Intervals (20 marks)

Identify the following intervals:


Write the following intervals above the given notes:


## Sample Examination Paper - Preliminary Grade

## 3. Triads ( 10 marks)

Using the correct key signatures, write the following root position tonic triads:

| Examiner's

## Sample Examination Paper - Preliminary Grade

## 5. Terminology (20 marks)

Complete the following:


The dynamic marking in bar 1 tells you to play: $\qquad$
In bar 3 you should: $\qquad$
On the last note you should: $\qquad$

- Add a metronome marking to indicate that the piece should be played at approximately 60 crotchet beats per minute.
- Raise the 'D' in bar 2 by a semitone.
- Slur together all of the semiquavers in bar 3.

Circle the correct answer for each of the questions below:


| After bar 2 (the 1st time through) you should play: | bar 3 | bar 1 | bar 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| After bar 2 (the 2nd time through) you should play: | bar 3 | bar 5 | bar 8 |
| After bar 8 you should play: | bar 1 | bar 5 | bar 3 |
| The last bar you should play is: | bar 2 | bar 4 | bar 8 |

## Sample Examination Paper 2

Your name: $\qquad$
Teacher's name: $\qquad$
Exam centre: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

Time allowed for this examination: 1 Hour
Please complete all questions in pencil or ink. Read all questions carefully.

| Examiner's <br> use only |
| :--- |

## 1. Notation (30 marks)

Name the following bass clef notes:


In the grand staff below, write the following notes as minims:


$$
C \# \text { below the stave } \quad E^{b} \text { in a space } \quad C^{\natural} \text { above the stave } \quad G \text { on a line } \quad B^{\#} \text { below the stave }
$$

Using the correct key signature, write a one octave F major scale descending in semiquavers (grouped in fours):


By using the correct accidental, raise each of the following notes one semitone:


## Sample Examination Paper 2 - Preliminary Grade

Using the piano keyboard below as reference, mark each pair of bracketed notes as a tone or semitone:


In the box provided, identify each of the following major key signatures:
$\square$

3. Intervals (20 marks)

Identify the following intervals:

$\qquad$

Write the following intervals above the given notes:


Sample Examination Paper 2 - Preliminary Grade

## 3. Triads (10 marks)

Using the correct key signatures, write the following root position tonic triads:

| Examiner's

Add the correct time signature to the following melody, and write the number of crotchet beats each tie should be held for in the box provided:


Place a circle around beat $\mathbf{2}$ and a circle around beat $\mathbf{4}$ in each bar below:


Add bar lines and a double bar line to the following line of music:


## 5. Terminology (20 marks)

Complete the following:


The dynamic marking in bar 1 tells you to play: $\qquad$
Bar 3 should be: $\qquad$

- Place a tempo marking to indicate the piece should be 'at a moderate speed'.
- Slur together all of the semiquavers in bar 2.
- Lower the ' B ' in bar 3 by a semitone.
- Indicate that bar 4 should 'gradually become softer'.

Circle the correct answer for each of the questions below:


