

**Grades 6–8 Viola**

# Improve your sight-reading!

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## **Grade 6**

Stage 1 **Introducing F minor, flat keys,  $\dot{\vee}$**  *page 4*

Stage 2 **More sharp keys, triplets** *page 8*

Stage 3  **$\frac{9}{8}$  and more  $\frac{6}{8}$  patterns** *page 12*

Stage 4  **$\frac{5}{4}$  and  $\frac{5}{8}$ , exploring  $\text{tr}$**  *page 16*

## **Grade 7**

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Stage 2 **Introducing B minor, extending the range to B** *page 24*

Stage 3  **$\frac{7}{8}$  and  $\frac{7}{4}$ , left-hand pizzicato** *page 28*

Stage 4 **Revision** *page 32*

## **Grade 8**

Stage 1 **Introducing B major, extending the range to C** *page 34*

Stage 2 **Flat keys, introducing D $\flat$  major, ornaments** *page 38*

Stage 3 **More compound and irregular time signatures,  $\frac{12}{8}$ , cross rhythms** *page 42*

Stage 4 **Revision** *page 46*

## Prepared piece

- 1 Play the scale and arpeggio in a variety of dynamics found in this piece.
- 2 Hear the rhythmic pattern of the first two bars in your head. Now improvise a short piece on the rhythm.
- 3 Think through how you will finger the piece. Then think through the bowing.
- 4 Tap the pulse and think the rhythm, then tap the rhythm and think the pulse.
- 5 Make up an exercise based on bar 15.
- 6 Read the piece through silently (having played the first note), thinking about expressing the character as you do so.

### Hot air ballooning on a calm day (with sandwiches)

Gliding along

□

The musical score is written for a string instrument in 6/8 time, key of B-flat major. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a square box. The score includes various dynamics: *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano). There are also slurs, ties, and a pizzicato (*pizz.*) marking. The piece is titled 'Hot air ballooning on a calm day (with sandwiches)' and has a tempo/mood of 'Gliding along'.

*f* *mp*

*mf*

*mp* *p*

*f* *mf* (sandwiches)

*f* *p* *pizz.*

## Ballad ... with a hint of Malcolm Arnold

Andantino

5

5

*mp*

*cresc.*

*f*

*p*

*mf*

*cresc.*

*f*

*dim.*

*mp*

*mf*

*p*

Detailed description: This musical score is for a piece titled 'Ballad ... with a hint of Malcolm Arnold'. It is marked 'Andantino' and consists of five measures. The notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score is written for a single melodic line. It begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, followed by a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to a forte (*f*) dynamic, then a piano (*p*) dynamic. The fifth measure returns to mezzo-forte (*mf*), followed by another crescendo (*cresc.*) to forte (*f*), and finally a decrescendo (*dim.*) to piano (*p*). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and a triplet of eighth notes in the fifth measure.

## Georgie and Tess ... with a hint of Gershwin

Lazily

6

6

*mp*

*mf*

*mp*

*f*

*mf*

*p*

*rall.*

*mp*

Detailed description: This musical score is for a piece titled 'Georgie and Tess ... with a hint of Gershwin'. It is marked 'Lazily' and consists of six measures. The notation is in 12/8 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). The score is written for a single melodic line. It begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, followed by a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, then a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The sixth measure returns to mezzo-forte (*mf*), followed by a forte (*f*) dynamic, then a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, and finally a piano (*p*) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and a triplet of eighth notes in the sixth measure.