

Grade 4 Stage 1

A major 7
Chromatic notes
Phrase markings

Rhythmic exercises

Always practise the rhythmic exercises carefully first. There are different ways of doing them:

- Your teacher (or a metronome) taps the lower line while you clap or tap the upper line.
- You tap the lower line with your foot and clap or tap the upper line.
- You tap one line with one hand and the other line with the other hand on a table top or any flat surface.
- You tap the lower line and sing the upper line.

Before you begin each exercise count two bars in – one out loud and one silently.

1

2

3

Melodic exercises

Set 1: Exploring A major and phrase (or legato) markings

Play the scale and arpeggio from notation before you work through these exercises.

1

2

Prepared pieces

- 1 What is the key? Play the scale and arpeggio with a serious character.
- 2 What do the two voices have in common?
- 3 What do the accidentals in bars 4 and 7 indicate?
- 4 Play the first note, then try to hear the piece in your head with the dynamic markings.
- 5 How will you bring the serious character to life?

1

Allegretto serio

- 1 Play the scale and arpeggio of the appropriate key humorously!
- 2 What is compound time? How do you count in this time signature?
- 3 On a flat surface, tap the rhythm of the upper part with your right hand and the lower part with your left hand.
- 4 How will you give the piece a humorous character?
- 5 Play the first note in each voice, then hear the piece in your head with character and all the markings.

2

Allegretto 'humoroso'

3

4

Improvise!

As you are improvising, remember to think about what you're going to play next. Use these bars to begin your improvisation. It can be as long or as short as you like.

Compose!

Compose your own 8-bar tune beginning with these two bars. Use ideas from the first two bars in your melody.