

# Stage 1

E major  
A $\flat$  major

## Rhythmic exercises

Remember to count at least two bars before you begin each exercise – one out loud and one in your head.

1

2

3

## Melodic exercises

### Set 1: Exploring E major

1

2

3

**Going solo!** Don't forget to prepare each piece carefully before you play it.

1

**Angrily**

Two staves of music in treble clef, key of D major, 3/4 time. The first staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff continues the piece with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-4. There are accents and slurs throughout the piece.

2

**Con moto**

Two staves of music in treble clef, key of B-flat major, 6/8 time. The first staff starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second staff continues the piece with a piano (*p*) dynamic and ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-2. There are slurs and accents throughout the piece.

3

**Baroquily**

Two staves of music in treble clef, key of D major, 2/4 time. The first staff starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff continues the piece. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-3. There are slurs and accents throughout the piece.

4

**Heavy and solemn**

Two staves of music in treble clef, key of B-flat major, 4/4 time. The first staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff continues the piece with a forte (*f*) dynamic and ends with a *rall.* (rallentando) marking. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1-2. There are slurs and accents throughout the piece.

## Prepared pieces

- 1 Play the scale of C minor using some of the marked dynamics.
- 2 Why is this piece easier than it looks at first?
- 3 How many bars don't contain scale shapes?
- 4 What will you count? Tap the pulse strongly and think the rhythm, then tap the rhythm softly and think the pulse.
- 5 Play a C and imagine playing the piece through confidently.

1

**Animato**

The musical score for 'Animato' is written on a single treble clef staff in C minor (three flats) and 3/4 time. It consists of 12 bars. The dynamics are marked as follows: *f* (first bar), *mf* (second bar), *f* (third bar), *mp* (fourth bar), *p* (fifth bar), *f* (sixth bar), *f* (seventh bar), *p* (eighth bar), *f* (ninth bar), *f* (tenth bar), *f* (eleventh bar), and *f* (twelfth bar). The piece features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some bars containing scale-like patterns and others containing more complex rhythmic figures.

- 1 In which key is this piece? Play the scale like a dance.
- 2 Do any bars have the same rhythm?
- 3 Think the pulse and tap the rhythm backwards, beginning at the end!
- 4 Study any two bars for a few moments, and then play them from memory.
- 5 Play the first note and then hear the piece through in your head.

2

**Dancing**

The musical score for 'Dancing' is written on a single treble clef staff in A major (three sharps) and 6/8 time. It consists of 12 bars. The dynamics are marked as follows: *mf* (first bar), *p* (second bar), *f* (third bar), *f* (fourth bar), *f* (fifth bar), *f* (sixth bar), *f* (seventh bar), *f* (eighth bar), *f* (ninth bar), *f* (tenth bar), *f* (eleventh bar), and *f* (twelfth bar). The piece features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some bars containing scale-like patterns and others containing more complex rhythmic figures.