

UNIT 1 Crossing the break

Each unit in this book is devoted to a different and important technique. We begin with more music to help you cross the break really smoothly.

- * In *Gliding* your embouchure needs to be firm but not tight, and make sure that there's always a strong flow of air. Your aim is to join the notes as smoothly as a swan gliding over still water or a glider sailing gently through the air.
- * Listen carefully – if you bump or accent a note, try again! Breathe only in the rests.

Gliding

Floating calmly

- * Prepare your Smooothie by practising bars 3, 7, 11 and 15 first.
- * Try to breathe after every 4 bars to help the music flow.

Smooothie

Andante, with mangoes and bananas

Do it yourself

Make up your own exercise or study to help you practise crossing the break.

UNIT 7 Developing fast fingers

In most fast passages, it's not that your fingers that are moving fast, but that the time between each finger movement is short! First check your hand and finger position (your teacher will help). The pads of each finger should cover the finger holes and each finger should be very gently curved. Finger movement should always be firm but relaxed – fingers must never be stiff or rigid.

* Keep returning to this study, playing it ever faster.

Theme and two variations

At a comfortable speed

The musical score consists of five staves of music in a single system, all in treble clef and common time (C). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. The music is a continuous sequence of eighth notes, starting on a middle C and ascending stepwise to a G above the staff. The second staff starts at measure 4 and continues the sequence. The third staff starts at measure 8. The fourth staff starts at measure 11 and includes a repeat sign. The fifth staff starts at measure 14 and continues the sequence. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

* When preparing *Dog chasing cat, chasing mouse* which scale would it be useful to practise?

Dog chasing cat, chasing mouse

With a lot of freedom

The musical score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It features a series of eighth notes with accents, starting on a middle C and ascending to a G above the staff. The notes are marked with a forte dynamic (*ff*) and the instruction "barking!". The second staff starts at measure 4 and is divided into two parts. The first part is marked with a piano dynamic (*pp*) and the instruction "cat stalking stealthily". The second part is marked with a mezzo-forte dynamic (*mp*) and the instruction "mouse scurries off behind the toaster". This second part is also marked with the tempo instruction "Fast" and consists of a rapid sequence of eighth notes.

UNIT 7 Developing fast fingers**Concertpiece**

Franz Danzi

Vivace (♩ = 50)

1.

Musical score for the first system (measures 1-8). The piece is in 3/8 time, marked Vivace (♩ = 50). The first staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with dynamics *f*, *mp*, and *f*. The second staff (piano accompaniment, bass clef) features chords with dynamics *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. A first ending bracket spans measures 7-8.

9 2. FINE

Musical score for the second system (measures 9-16). The first staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with dynamics *mf*. The second staff (piano accompaniment, bass clef) features chords with dynamics *mp*. A second ending bracket spans measures 15-16, marked FINE.

17

Musical score for the third system (measures 17-25). The first staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with dynamics *p* and *cresc.*. The second staff (piano accompaniment, bass clef) features chords with dynamics *cresc.*.

26

D.C. al Fine

Musical score for the fourth system (measures 26-32). The first staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with dynamics *mf cresc.* and *f*. The second staff (piano accompaniment, bass clef) features chords with dynamics *mf cresc.* and *f*. The piece concludes with a double bar line.