

Dictation

Part I: Rhythm

Developing Aural-Oral Translation Skills

Review the rhythm patterns in Chapter 8.3 using the three-step process with your instructor or student partner, as well as individually via the MP3 files of the rhythm patterns in Part I, Chapter 8, located on the companion website.

Compound Meter Shorthand

Suggested shorthand symbols for Part I, Chapter 8 are illustrated below.

Compound Meter: Dotted Half Note = Beat Unit; Divided Beat — Chapter 8, Part I

The image displays ten dictation exercises in compound meter. Each exercise is presented in three parts: Dictation Shorthand (vertical lines and curves), Dotted Half Note = Beat Unit (musical notation in 6/4 time), and Dotted Quarter Note = Beat Unit (musical notation in 6/8 time). Exercises 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10 are marked with 'R' shorthand, while exercises 4, 5, 6, and 7 are marked with 'r' shorthand. Exercises 2, 3, 9, and 10 also include a '3' above the shorthand, indicating a triplet of beats.

Rhythm Shorthand Procedure

Write with one hand and quietly patsch/tap the beat with the other hand. Following the down-up-up (↓↑↑) motion of each beat can be an aid in determining the rhythm. Isolate each beat and its division and mark the appropriate shorthand. If the rhythm on a particular beat or two cannot be determined, continue to move forward focusing on the ensuing beats. On the second playing, readdress the missing beats. On the second playing, readdress the missing beats. Make any necessary adjustments during the third playing and then transcribe the rhythm shorthand into notation. All or part of each reading exercise in Chapter 8 as well as the additional reading exercises available on the companion website can be used for dictation.

Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 8, Part I

As your skills improve, gradually increase the length of each dictation exercise.

A. Four Measure Template

1 2 3 4

Shorthand

♩ = Beat Unit $\frac{6}{4}$

♩ = Beat Unit $\frac{6}{8}$

B. Four Measure Template

1 2 3 4

Shorthand

♩ = Beat Unit $\frac{6}{4}$

♩ = Beat Unit $\frac{6}{8}$

C. Eight Measure Template

1 2 3 4

Shorthand

♩ = Beat Unit $\frac{6}{4}$

♩ = Beat Unit $\frac{6}{8}$

5 6 7 8

Shorthand

♩ = Beat

♩ = Beat

Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 8, Part I, cont.

D. Twelve Measure Template

1 2 3 4

Shorthand

♩ = Beat Unit **6**
♩ = Beat Unit **4**

♩ = Beat Unit **6**
♩ = Beat Unit **8**

5 6 7 8

Shorthand

♩ = Beat

♩ = Beat

9 10 11 12

Shorthand

♩ = Beat

♩ = Beat