

# Dictation

## Part I: Rhythm

### Developing Aural-Oral Translation Skills

Review the rhythm patterns in Chapter 9.3 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 9, located on the companion website.

### Compound Meter Shorthand

Suggested shorthand symbols for Part I, Chapter 9 are illustrated below.

### *Compound Meter: Dotted Eighth Note = Beat Unit; Divided Beat — Chapter 9, Part I*

The notation block contains several exercises:

- Exercise 1:** Shows shorthand symbols for a dotted eighth note and a dotted quarter note, both equal to one beat unit. Below are musical staves for 6/16 and 6/8 time signatures illustrating these units.
- Exercise 2:** A series of rhythmic patterns labeled 4, 5, 6, and 7. Shorthand 'r' is used to mark eighth notes, and 'R' marks dotted eighth notes. Musical notation below shows the corresponding notes and rests.
- Exercise 3:** A series of rhythmic patterns labeled 8, 9, and 10. Shorthand 'r' and 'R' are used. Musical notation below shows the corresponding notes and rests.

### 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. 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 9 as well as the additional reading exercises available on the companion website can be used for dictation.

*Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 9, Part I*

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

*A. Four Measure Template*

	1	2	3	4	
Dictation					
Shorthand					
Dotted Eighth Note	6				
= Beat Unit	16				
Dotted Quarter Note	6				
= Beat Unit	8				

*B. Four Measure Template*

	1	2	3	4	
Dictation					
Shorthand					
Dotted Eighth Note	6				
= Beat Unit	16				
Dotted Quarter Note	6				
= Beat Unit	8				

*C. Eight Measure Template*

	1	2	3	4				
Dictation								
Shorthand								
Dotted Eighth Note	6							
= Beat Unit	16							
Dotted Quarter Note	6							
= Beat Unit	8							

  

	5	6	7	8	
Dictation					
Shorthand					
Dotted Eighth Note	6				
= Beat Unit	16				
Dotted Quarter Note	6				
= Beat Unit	8				

*Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 9, Part I, cont.*

*D. Twelve Measure Template*

	1	2	3	4
Dictation				
Shorthand				
Dotted Eighth Note = Beat Unit	<b>6</b>			
	<b>16</b>			
Dotted Quarter Note = Beat Unit	<b>6</b>			
	<b>8</b>			

  

	5	6	7	8
Dictation				
Shorthand				
Dotted Eighth Note = Beat Unit				
Dotted Quarter Note = Beat Unit				

  

	9	10	11	12
Dictation				
Shorthand				
Dotted Eighth Note = Beat Unit				
Dotted Quarter Note = Beat Unit				

*E. Three Compound Meters; Four Measure Template*

	1	2	3	4
Dictation				
Shorthand				
Dotted Quarter Note = Beat Unit	<b>6</b>			
	<b>8</b>			
Dotted Eighth Note = Beat Unit	<b>6</b>			
	<b>16</b>			
Dotted Half Note = Beat Unit	<b>6</b>			
	<b>4</b>			