

Dictation

Part 1: Rhythm

Developing Aural-Oral Translation Skills

Practice chanting and naming patterns (Section 11.3) using the three-step process with your instructor or student partner, or individually via the MP3 files of the rhythm patterns for Part I, Chapter 11 located on the companion website.

Rhythm Shorthand

Using a shorthand method can facilitate the writing portion of the learning process. Ultimately the goal is to develop the level of proficiency to the point where the shorthand is no longer needed.

Suggested shorthand symbols for Part I, Chapter 11 are illustrated below.

Simple Meter: Quarter Note = Beat Unit; Syncopation; Chapter 11, Part I

The image shows two examples of dictation exercises. Each example consists of a musical staff and a corresponding shorthand notation above it. The shorthand notation uses vertical lines to represent beats and horizontal lines to represent rests or groupings. The first example is labeled '1' and shows a 4/4 time signature with a sequence of quarter notes and a half note. The second example is labeled '2' and shows a sequence of quarter notes and a half note with a syncopated rhythm. The third example is labeled '3' and shows a sequence of quarter notes and a half note with a syncopated rhythm. The fourth example is labeled '4' and shows a sequence of quarter notes and a half note with a syncopated rhythm. The shorthand notation for each example is shown above the musical staff.

Rhythm Shorthand Procedure: Write with one hand and quietly pat/tap the beat with the other hand. Following the down-up motion of each beat can be an aid in determining the rhythm. Isolate each beat 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.

As your skills improve, gradually increase the length of each dictation exercise. All or part of each reading exercise in Chapter 11 as well as the additional reading exercises available on the companion website can be used for dictation.

Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 11, Part I

Short Hand	1.												2.													
Notation	$\frac{2}{4}$												$\frac{2}{4}$													
Short Hand	3.												4.													
Notation	$\frac{2}{4}$												$\frac{2}{4}$													
Short Hand	5.																									
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$																									
Short Hand	6.																									
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$																									
Short Hand	7.																									
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$																									
Short Hand	8.																									
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$																									
Short Hand	9.																									
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$																									
Short Hand	10.																									
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$																									
Short Hand	11.																									
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$																									
Short Hand	12.																									
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$																									