

# Dictation

## Part I: Rhythm

### Developing Aural-Oral Translation Skills

Practice chanting and naming patterns (Section 18.3) 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 18 located on the companion website.

### Rhythm Shorthand

Suggested shorthand symbols for Part I, Chapter 18 are illustrated below.

### *Simple Meter: Eighth Note = Beat Unit; More Rhythms; Chapter 18, Part I*

The musical notation consists of four staves. The first staff is labeled "Dictation Shorthand" and "Eighth Note = Beat Unit". It shows four measures of music with shorthand symbols "S", "r", "S", and "R" above them. The second staff shows a triplet of eighth notes followed by a quarter note, then a quarter note followed by a triplet of eighth notes, and finally a quarter note followed by a dotted quarter note. The third staff shows a quarter note followed by a quarter note, then a quarter note followed by a quarter note, and finally a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fourth staff shows a quarter note followed by a quarter note, then a quarter note followed by a quarter note, and finally a quarter note followed by a quarter note.

### Rhythm Shorthand Procedure

Write with one hand and quietly patsch/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 18 as well as the additional reading exercises available on the companion website can be used for dictation.

*Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 18, Part I*

Short Hand	A					<b>B</b>					<b>C</b>					
Quarter Note = 1 beat	$\frac{2}{4}$					$\frac{2}{4}$					$\frac{2}{4}$					
Eighth Note = 1 beat	$\frac{2}{8}$					$\frac{2}{8}$					$\frac{2}{8}$					
Half Note = 1 beat	$\frac{2}{2}$					$\frac{2}{2}$					$\frac{2}{2}$					

Short Hand	D															
Quarter Note = 1 beat	$\frac{4}{4}$															
Eighth Note = 1 beat	$\frac{4}{8}$															
Half Note = 1 beat	$\frac{4}{2}$															

Short Hand	E															
Quarter Note = 1 beat	$\frac{3}{4}$															
Eighth Note = 1 beat	$\frac{3}{8}$															
Half Note = 1 beat	$\frac{3}{2}$															

Short Hand	F															
Quarter Note = 1 beat	$\frac{4}{4}$															
Eighth Note = 1 beat	$\frac{4}{8}$															
Half Note = 1 beat	$\frac{4}{2}$															

Short Hand	G															
Quarter Note = 1 beat	$\frac{3}{4}$															
Eighth Note = 1 beat	$\frac{3}{8}$															
Half Note = 1 beat	$\frac{3}{2}$															