Level 1 Lesson 1

Activity 1: Beat and Rhythm



Click on this video icon to learn about beat and rhythm.

Beat

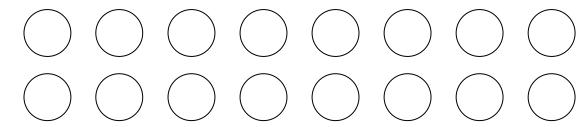
The **beat** is the "heartbeat" of the music.

The beat makes us tap our foot or clap our hands to music.

It is regular, consistent and steady.

Point to the beat, using "Beat Circles" as you listen to or sing various songs.

Beat Circles



Rhythm



Sing "Who's That Yonder?" pointing to the beat circles above.

Click on the audio icon to hear "Who's That Yonder?" being sung five times with the words.

- Sometimes you sing one word (or syllable) on each beat,
- sometimes you sing two words (or syllables) on each beat and
- sometimes you don't sing anything on a beat.

The pattern of shorter and longer sounds on a beat is called the **rhythm**.

The words in a song show the **rhythmic pattern**.

Sing "Who's That Yonder?" once more, pointing to the beat circles above and write one, two or no strokes inside each circle (showing how many sounds you sing on each beat).

The **rhythm name** of a note is used when reading a rhythm out loud.

Activity 2: Crotchets, Quavers and Crotchet Rests



Click on this video icon to learn about crotchets, quavers and crotchet rests.

= **crotchet** (English Name) = **quarter note** (American Name) = **one** sound (word) on a beat. Its rhythm name is **ta**.

(Although a rest is a silence and therefore needs no rhythm name when reading out loud, when

practicing this rhythm we can say za in our heads.)

= two quavers (English Name) = two eighth notes (American Name) = two equal sounds on a beat. Its rhythm name is ti-ti.

= one **quaver** or **eighth note** = a **half** of a beat. Its rhythm name is **ti**.



Activity 3: Writing the Rhythm of a New Song

Click on this audio icon to hear "What's the Time" being sung five times with the words.

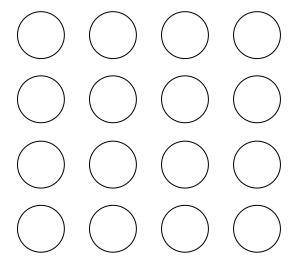
Once you have listened several times, begin singing along with the song, while pointing to the beat circles below.

Write the stick notation for the rhythmic pattern (of the words) of the song in the beat circles below.

Finally, sing the song in rhythm names while quietly tapping the beat.

Click on this audio icon to hear "What's the Time" being sung twice in rhythm names.

Beat Circles



Activity 4: Rhythmic Sightreading

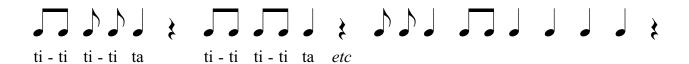


Click on this video icon to learn about Rhythmic Sightreading.

Read the rhythm names, in your head and out loud, of **Rhythmic Sightreading 1** below, while tapping the beat. (Once you have learned the conducting patterns, perform the beat by conducting instead of tapping). Click on the audio icon below to hear the rhythm being read in rhythm names if required.

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Rhythmic Sightreading 1



Activity 5: Rhythmic Clever Echo Activity



Clever Echo is an **instant rhythmic dictation** practice activity. Click on this Clever Echo Video icon and follow the instructions given on the video.

Level 1 Lesson 1 - Worksheet

Questions 1 and 2 below can be found in the *Musicianship & Aural Training for the Secondary School*, Level 1 Books, page 2.

Question 1: Rhythmic Recognition. Follow these instructions to complete this question.

Sightread each of the following rhythms by reading each in rhythm names, in your head then out loud, while tapping the beat.



Click on this audio icon to hear the three rhythms for **Question 1: Rhythmic Recognition** being played in a different order from that seen below. You will hear four beats of click track before each playing begins.

As you listen, write the number "1" in the box to the left of the rhythm you hear first, number "2" in the box to the left of the rhythm you hear second and number "3" in the box to the left of the rhythm you hear third.



Question 2: Rhythmic Dictation. Follow these instructions to complete this question.

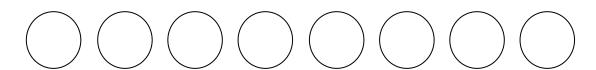
Click on this audio icon to hear the rhythm for **Question 2: Rhythmic Dictation** played five times Each playing will be preceded by four beats of click track.

During the first playing of the eight beat rhythm listen and quietly tap the beat.

As you listen to the second playing, point to the beat circles below, considering how many sounds you hear on each beat.

During the third and fourth playings, write the stick notation for the rhythmic pattern you hear in the beat circles.

Finally, during the fifth and final playing, read the rhythm names of the rhythmic pattern you have written in the beat circles below, in rhythm names, to correct any errors if necessary.



Listening Activity.

Click on this audio icon and listen to the first 22 seconds of **The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra by Benjamin Britten.** Circle any words below that you could use to describe this excerpt.

Cheerful Friendly Dignified Dreamy Dramatic Jubilant Mystical