

Dictation

Part I: Rhythm

Dictation involves recognizing and translating aural vocabulary and then transcribing it into notation.

Chapter 5, Compound Meter: Dotted Quarter Note = Beat Unit

Developing Aural-Oral Translation Skills

To build aural-oral vocabulary skills in compound meter, practice chanting and naming patterns (Section 5.3) 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 5 on the companion website.

Rhythm Shorthand

In compound meter, lines representing the beats and beat divisions are drawn in each measure. Notes longer than the beat division are tied together. An upper case “R” is used for rests longer than a beat division and a lower case “r” is used for beat division and shorter rests.

Suggested shorthand symbols for Part I, Chapter 5 are illustrated below.

Compound Meter: Dotted Quarter Note = Beat Unit — Chapter 5, Part I

Rhythm Shorthand Procedure

Listen as your instructor or student partner plays or chants on a neutral syllable, a rhythm pattern (Section 5.3), rhythm exercises (Section 5.4) and additional reading exercises (Part I, Chapter 5, companion website) or individually via the MP3 files (Part I, Chapter 5, companion website) and then notate the rhythm using the shorthand above and the procedure below.

- First playing: Write with one hand and quietly use a down-up-up motion with the other hand. Following the down-up-up (↓↑↑) motion of each beat can be visual and kinesthetic aids in determining the rhythm. Isolate each beat and mark the appropriate shorthand. If the rhythm on a

Rhythm Shorthand Procedure, cont.

particular beat or two cannot be determined, continue to move forward focusing on the ensuing beats.

- Second playing: On the second playing, readdress the missing beats.
- Third playing: Review your shorthand and make any necessary adjustments.
- Transcribe the rhythm shorthand into notation on the staff.

As your skills improve, gradually increase the length of each dictation exercise. All or part of each reading exercise in Section 5.4 as well as the additional reading exercises available on the companion website can be used for dictation.

Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 5, Part I

Shorthand	1.		2.	
♩ = Beat Unit	6/8		6/8	
Shorthand	3.		4.	
♩ = Beat Unit	6/8		6/8	
Shorthand	5.			
♩ = Beat Unit	6/8			
Shorthand	6.			
♩ = Beat Unit	6/8			
Shorthand	7.			
♩ = Beat Unit	9/8			
Shorthand	8.			
♩ = Beat Unit	9/8			
Shorthand	9.			
♩ = Beat Unit	12/8			
Shorthand	10.			
♩ = Beat Unit	12/8			