

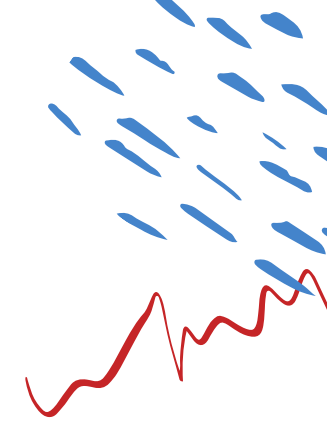
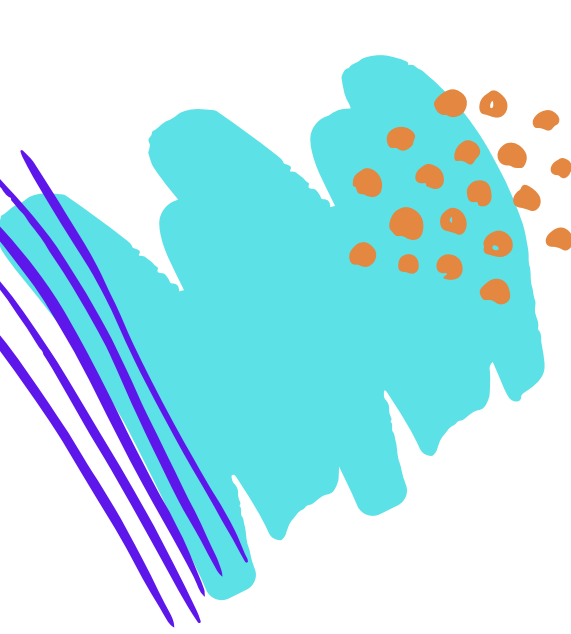


MUSIC THEORY

for kids

ALEYNA M. BROWN





MUSIC THEORY for kids

Miss Aleyna's

fun colorful handwritten

LESSONS & ACTIVITIES

designed for young music theory students

Introduction to the Staff

Note Identification

Bass & Treble Clefs

Counting

Notes & Rests

Dotted Rhythms

Music = MATH

Time Signatures

Tempo

Dynamics & Articulations

Key Signatures

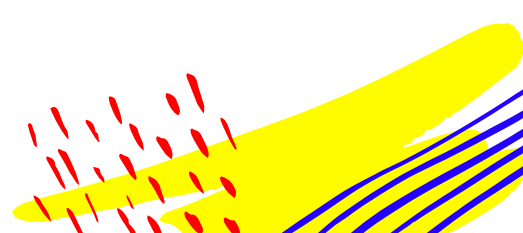
Intervals

Full-color PDF

Available for Download

FREE

aleynabrown.com



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INTRODUCTION to the STAFF

A handwritten musical staff with a green background. It features a blue treble clef on the left. The staff contains five notes, each with a red dot and a red label below it: 'FINE' (first line), 'DOES' (second line), 'BOY' (third line), 'GOOD' (fourth line), and 'EVERY' (fifth line). An arrow points from the word 'EVERY' to the treble clef.

Remember the lines with this phrase

treble clef

The spaces spell "FACE"

bass clef

For Bass Clef use these phrases

A handwritten musical staff with a red background. It features a blue bass clef on the left. The staff contains five notes, each with a green dot and a green label below it: 'ALWAYS' (first line), 'FINE' (second line), 'DO' (third line), 'BOYS' (fourth line), and 'GOOD' (fifth line). An arrow points from the word 'GOOD' to the bass clef.

GRASS

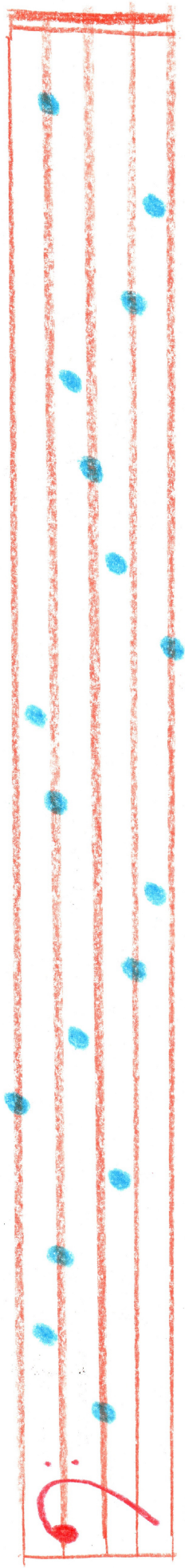
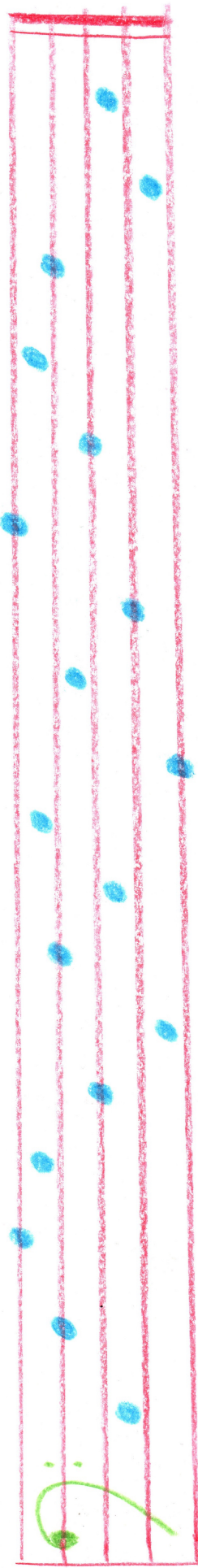
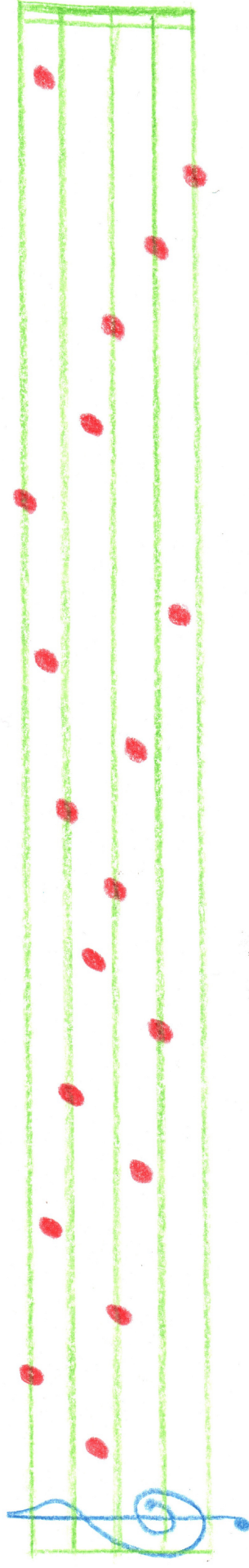
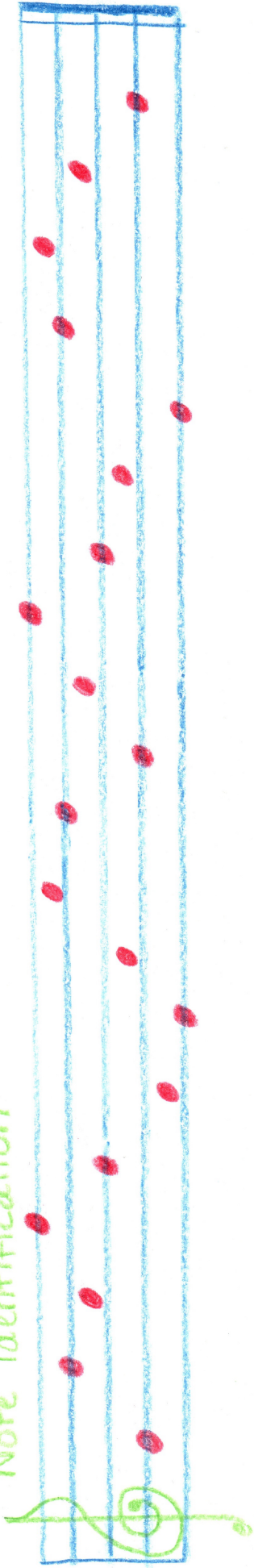
EAT

COWS

ALL

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Note Identification



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Note lengths + Rhythms

Rests

 whole note $\rightarrow$ 4 beats $\leftarrow$ whole rest 

 half note $\rightarrow$ 2 beats $\leftarrow$ half rest 

 quarter note $\rightarrow$ 1 beat $\leftarrow$ quarter rest 

 eighth note $\rightarrow$ $\frac{1}{2}$ beat $\leftarrow$ eighth rest 

Dotted Notes

Dot adds half the value of the note

$$O \cdot = 4 + 2 \text{ (half of 4)} = 6$$

$$P \cdot = 2 + 1 \text{ (half of 2)} = 3$$

$$P \cdot = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (half of 1)} = 1.5$$

$$P + P = O$$

$$P + P = P$$

$$P + P = P$$

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Music = MATH

Solve for number of beats

1. $\circ + \rho + \rho + \rho$

2. $\rho + \circ + \rho + \rho + \rho$

3. $\rho + \circ + \rho + \circ + \rho$

4. $\rho + \rho + \rho + \rho + \rho$

5. $\rho + \rho + \circ + \rho$

6. $\rho + \rho + \rho$

7. $\rho + \rho + \circ + \rho$

8. $\circ + \rho + \rho + \rho + \rho$

9. $\rho + \rho + \rho + \circ + \rho$

10. $\circ + \rho + \rho + \rho + \rho$

Answers:

1. 9
2. 9
3. 14
4. 7
5. 8
6. 5
7. 9
8. 11
9. 8
10. 13

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TIME SIGNATURES

3 ← how many beats per measure

4 ← what type of note gets the beat

Ex. 4 = quarter note

8 = eighth note

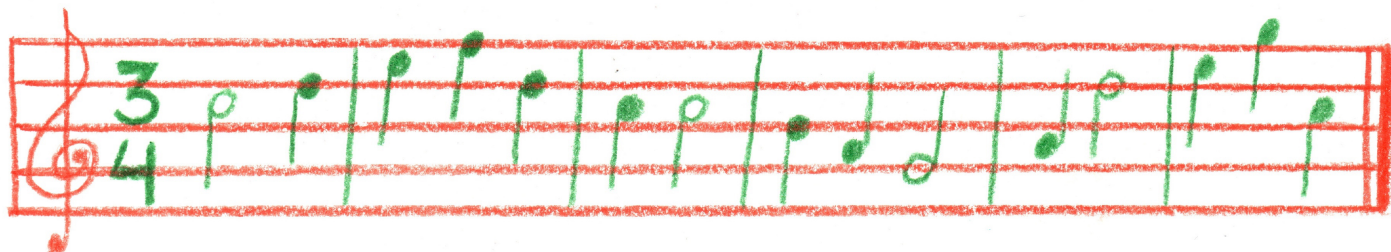
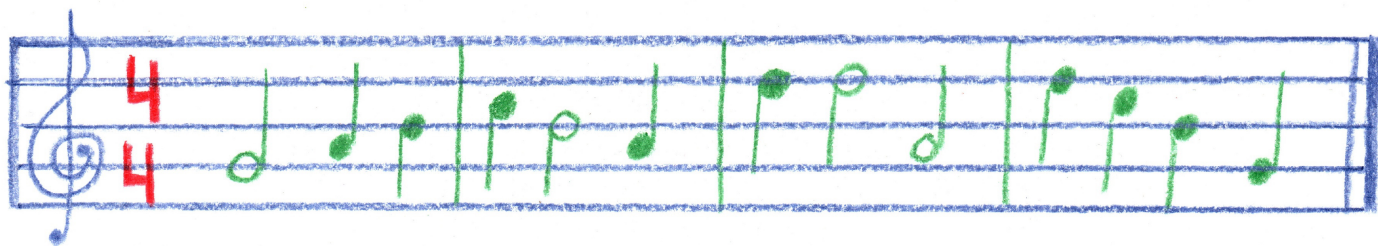
2 = half note

4 ← 4 beats per measure

4 ← quarter note gets the beat

} Also known as
Common Time

In the musical examples below, identify the measures with the incorrect number of beats according to the time signature.



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TEMPO

How fast/slow to play the music

Metronome BPM = beats per minute

GRAVE ♩ = 20-40 slow and solemn

LENTO ♩ = 40-60 slowly

LARGO ♩ = 40-60 broadly

ADAGIO ♩ = 66-76 slow, "at ease"

ANDANTE ♩ = 76-108 walking speed

MODERATO ♩ = 108-120 moderately

ALLEGRO ♩ = 120-140 fast

VIVACE ♩ = 140-160 fast and lively

PRESTO ♩ = 160-200 very fast

Put the following tempo markings in order (1-9) from
slowest to fastest:

Presto

Adagio

Lento

Andante

Vivace

Largo

Allegro

Grave

Moderato

Dynamics

How loud/soft to play

pp = pianissimo (very soft)

p = piano (soft)

mp = mezzo piano (medium soft)

mf = mezzo forte (medium loud)

f = forte (loud)

ff = fortissimo (very loud)

 = crescendo (gradually louder)

 = diminuendo (gradually softer)
(or decrescendo)

pp < **mf** > **p** < **f**

Articulations

How each note is played

• — > ^

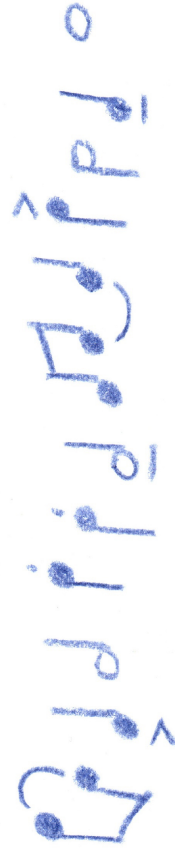
 = staccato (short)

 = tenuto (long/full value)

 = accent (louder, with emphasis)

 = tie (between two of the same note, hold)

 = slur (between two different notes, do not re-articulate)



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Dynamics

Matching

Italian	1. pp	a. piano
	2. mf	b. fortissimo
	3. p	c. mezzo forte
	4. ff	d. pianissimo
	5. mp	e. forte
	6. f	f. mezzo piano

English	1. mf	a. loud
	2. p	b. medium soft
	3. pp	c. very loud
	4. f	d. medium loud
	5. mp	e. very soft
	6. ff	f. soft

Comparing

Use a < or >

Ex. $p < f$

1. mp	mf	4. mf	f	7. ff	mf
2. ff	f	5. pp	mp	8. mp	p
3. p	mp	6. p	f	9. f	mp

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MATCHING Review

1. 
2. 
3. mf
4. 
5. f
6. 
7. 
8. mp
9. 
10. 

- a. decrescendo
- b. forte
- c. mezzo piano
- d. piano
- e. treble clef
- f. repeat sign
- g. crescendo
- h. bass clef
- i. fermata
- j. mezzo forte

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 
9. 
10. 

- a. staccato
- b. sharp
- c. natural
- d. accent
- e. common time
- f. flat
- g. slur
- h. quarter rest
- i. tie
- j. tenuto

MUSIC THEORY PRACTICE

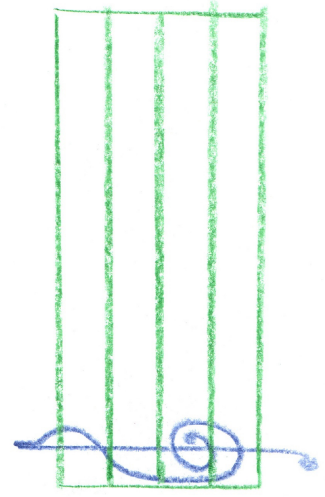
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Key Signatures b b

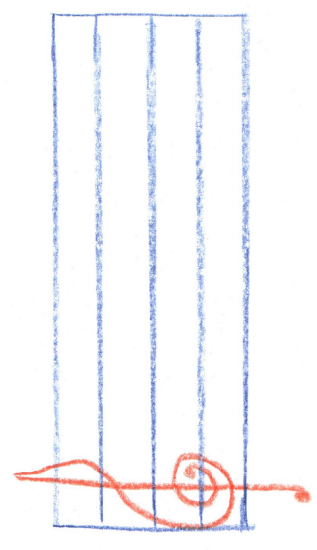
Identify the Major key:
(extra challenge: identify the relative minor key)

#	#	b	#	b	#	#	b	b	b
#	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b

#	#	b	#	b	b	b	b	#	#
b	#	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b



Write the
order of
sharps



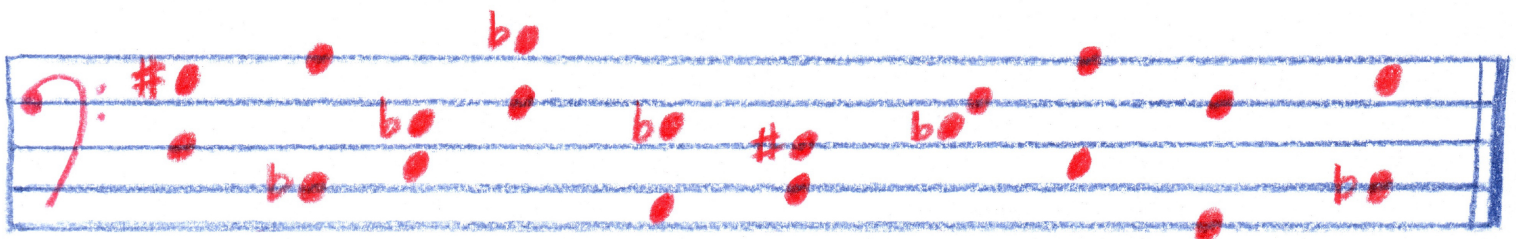
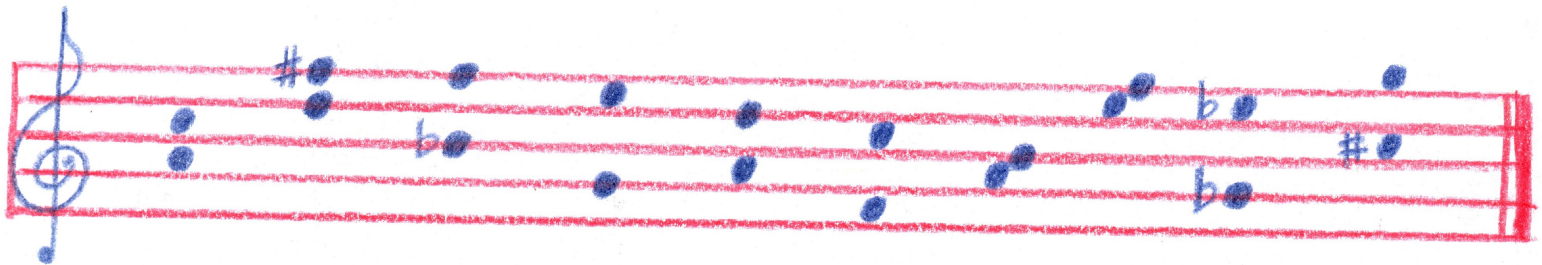
Write the
order of
flats

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Intervals

# of half steps	Interval
1	m2
2	M2
3	m3
4	M3
5	P4
6	tritone (aug 4 or dim 5)
7	P5
8	m6
9	M6
10	m7
11	M7
12	P8 (octave)

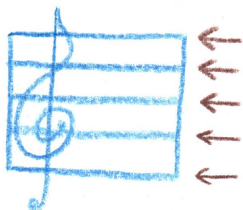
m = minor
M = Major
P = perfect



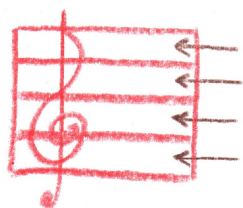
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Review QUIZ

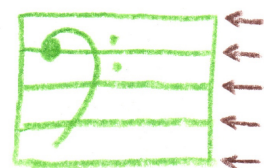
1. How do you remember the lines of the treble clef staff?



2. How do you remember the spaces of the treble clef staff?



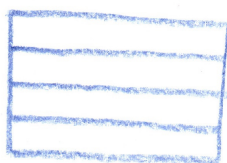
3. How do you remember the lines of the bass clef staff?



4. How do you remember the spaces of the bass clef staff?



5. Draw a treble clef:



6. Draw a bass clef:



(Go to
next page)

Review QUIZ continued

7. How many beats does a whole note get? _____

Draw a whole note:

8. How many beats does a quarter rest get? _____

Draw a quarter rest:

9. What are dynamics?

10. True or False: *mp* is louder than *mf*

11. True or False: *pp* is softer than *p*

12. How do you read the numbers of a time signature?

4 ←

4 ←

13. Identify the circled symbols in the following example:



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next page)

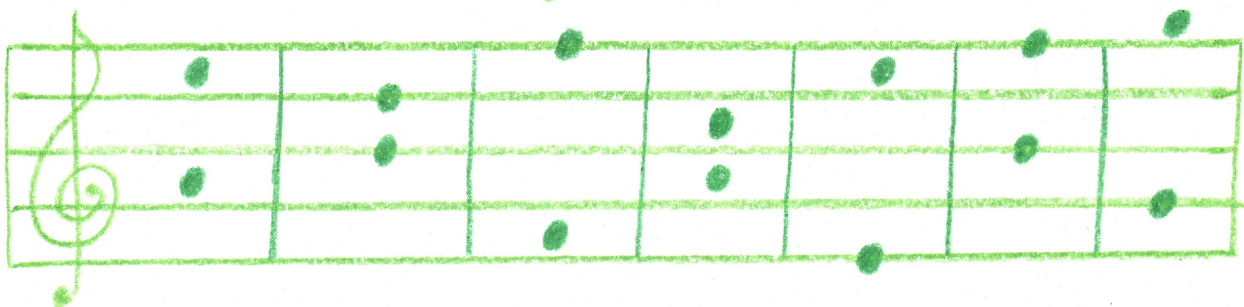
Review QUIZ continued

14. A # (sharp) _____ the note by $\frac{1}{2}$ step.

15. A b (flat) _____ the note by $\frac{1}{2}$ step.

16. A $\natural$ (_____) cancels out a # or b.

17. Which of the following pairs of notes are in octaves:



18. What is the musical (Italian) term for medium loud?

19. Matching:

1. Tempo

2. Allegro

3. Largo

4. BPM

5. Presto

6. Adagio

7. Andante

a. Slow/Broadly

b. Beats per minute

c. Slow and at ease

d. How fast/slow to play

e. Walking speed

f. Fast

g. Very Fast

20. Solve for number of beats: $\circ + \text{P} + \text{♩} + \text{P} =$