

EXERCISES FOR STRING SCORING

1. Notate the open strings.

Violin Viola Cello Double bass

The exercise shows four staves representing the string sections: Violin (treble clef), Viola (alto clef), Cello (bass clef), and Double bass (bass clef). Each staff contains a single vertical line representing an open string.

2. Rewrite for viola in alto clef.

Moderato

The exercise consists of two staves. The top staff is in bass clef with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff is in alto clef (C-clef on the third line) with a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and it is currently empty.

3. Bow the cello part.

Allegro

The exercise shows a single staff in bass clef with a 6/8 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is placed below the first measure.

4. Score for a full string section.

Adagio

mp

mp

5. Define the following terms as they relate to the strings:

- a. Scordatura
- b. Double stop
- c. Pizzicato
- d. Sul tasto
- e. Artificial harmonics
- f. Bratsche
- g. Senza sordino
- h. Col legno
- i. Divisi
- j. Arco

6. Indicate “on the string” or “off the string” for the following bowings:

- a. Spiccato _____
- b. Louré _____
- c. Jeté _____
- d. Détaché _____
- e. Legato _____
- f. Saltando _____
- g. Martelé _____

7. Indicate whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F):

- a. _____ Tempo markings and dynamics are both written below the staff in the orchestral score and parts.
- b. _____ The double bass sounds two octaves below the written note.
- c. _____ String players usually play with vibrato, unless otherwise specified.
- d. _____ In general, notes on the double bass are clearest and have the best definition in its lowest register.
- e. _____ In second position on the violin, the first finger plays B on the G string.
- f. _____ Fingered tremolo is the equivalent of a trill at an interval larger than a second.
- g. _____ To begin a downbow the frog is farthest from the string.