

# Grade 4 Theory Test Paper (ABRSM)



At the end of the How to Blitz! ABRSM Theory Grade 4 workbook (2018 edition), there is a test paper which has been completed with MANY wrong answers. The following test paper is the same as the workbook example. Once you've marked the version in the workbook, do this test paper yourself and see if you can get 100%!

★★★★★★

## Theory Paper Grade 4

Time allowed: 2 hours

TOTAL MARKS  
100

1 Look at this extract and then answer the questions below.

15

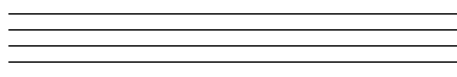
Andante sostenuto Chopin

- a) **sostenuto** means:  slowly  slurred  sustained  somberly
- affettuoso** means:  with affection  dance-like  comically  playfully
- (4)

b) Draw a bracket over four consecutive notes that form a chromatic scale. (2)

c) How many triplets are there in this passage? ..... (2)

d) Write as a breve the enharmonic equivalent of the last note. (4)



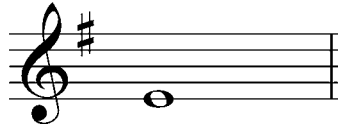
e) Name and explain the signs under the triplets in bar 6. .... (3)

2 After each of these notes write a *higher* note to form the named melodic interval.

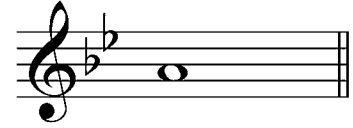
10



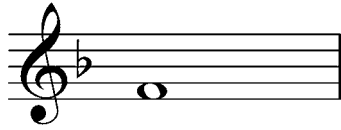
perfect 4th



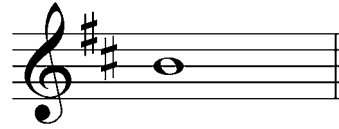
minor 6th



major 2nd



major 7th



minor 3rd

3 Study this piece of music and answer the questions below.

35

Grieg

**Tempo Giusto**

*p con espressione*

*pp*

a) Insert the correct time signature. (2)

b) **Tempo giusto** means: *con espressione* means: (4)

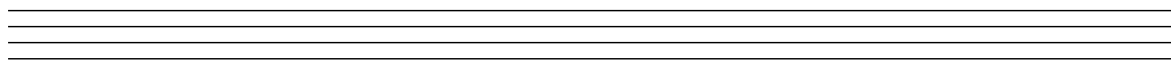
- |                 |                          |                    |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| a little slower | <input type="checkbox"/> | with force         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a little faster | <input type="checkbox"/> | speedily           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| in strict time  | <input type="checkbox"/> | with a light touch | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| march-like      | <input type="checkbox"/> | expressively       | <input type="checkbox"/> |

c) The extract (on previous page) begins on the dominant. Name the key: ..... (2)

d) Name the melodic intervals marked with brackets in bars 11, 12 and 13. (6)

Bar 11 ..... Bar 12 ..... Bar 13 .....

e) Rewrite bars 8 and 9 in compound time but without changing the rhythmic effect. (10)  
Remember to include the new time signature.



f) The breath marks at the end of bars 9 and 13 indicate that this piece is probably written for a woodwind instrument. Name two instruments from this family that could play it. (2)

..... and .....

g) Name the ornaments in bars 3 and 4. .... (2)

h) There are long brackets over the first and last phrases. Mark the other phrases in the same way. (2)

i) Answer True or False to the following statements:

4

Tubas are the highest-pitched brass instruments. ....

The term 'con sordino' only applies to strings. ....

'Arco' is a term you would see after 'pizzicato'. ....

The timpani is a pitched percussion instrument. ....

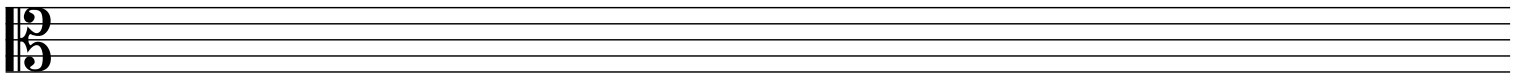
ii) Name a standard orchestral woodwind instrument that uses the bass clef.

1

.....

4 a) Write the key signature of B major and then one octave descending of that scale. Use semibreves.

10



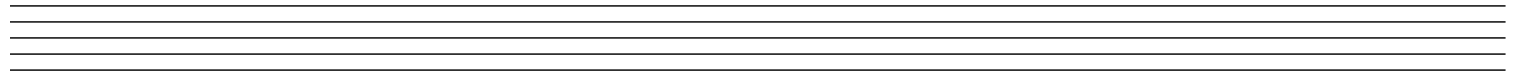
b) Add all necessary sharp, flat or natural signs in order to make a chromatic scale beginning on the given note.



5 Rewrite this melody in the alto clef so that it sounds one octave higher.

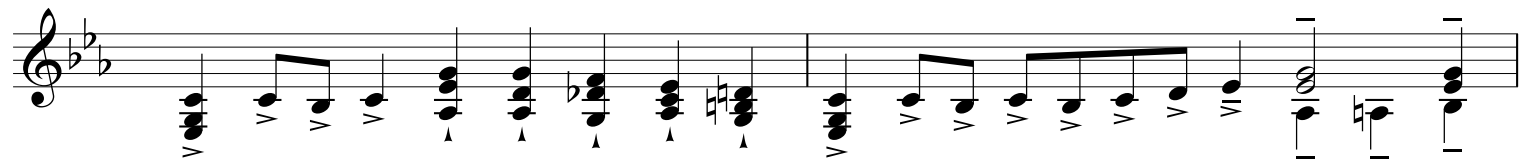
10

Faure



6 Look at this music by Bartok and answer the questions below.

5

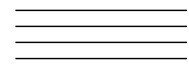


a) Name and explain three types of articulation used.

.....  
.....  
.....

b) Insert the correct time signature.

c) Write the rest that would fill an entire bar in this time signature.



7 (a) Name each of the numbered chords as tonic (I), subdominant (IV) or dominant (V). The key is C major.

Chord:

(1) .....

(2) .....

(3) .....

(9)

(b) Identify these triads by naming the key and describing them as I, IV or V..

(6)

Key: .....

.....

.....

Triad: .....

.....

.....