

Mississippi Music Teachers Association

**Pre-College Written Theory
REQUIREMENTS**

GRADE 3 & BELOW

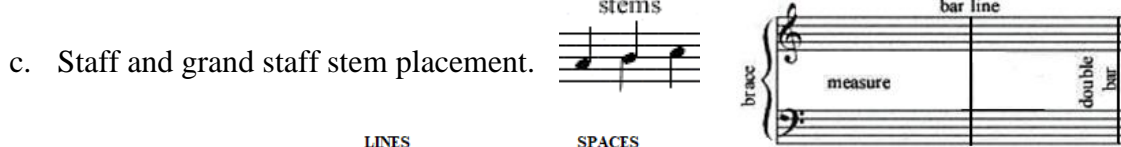
Students who take the MMTA Written Theory Exam are responsible for knowing the theory and music history information in the grade they enter and ALL previous grades.

Written Theory

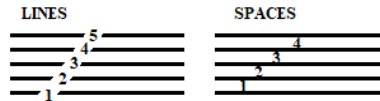
1. Notation concepts to know and understand:



- b. Notes on grand staff from Low F to High G, including inner ledger lines (D, C, B).



- d. Spaces and Lines.



- e. Accidentals: # b b

- f. Intervals: 2nd (step), 3rd (skip), repeated notes.

2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:

- a. Time signatures: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4.

- b. Time extensions: fermata , tied notes.



3. Triad concepts to know and understand:

- a. Name, spell, write and identify triads in keys of F, C, G Major.

4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:

- a. Identify, write and/or name five-note scales in keys of F, C, G Major using accidentals.

Ear Training

1. Recognize rhythms that are either “the same” or “different” in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4.
2. Recognize high and low pitch.
3. Recognize direction of melody, ascending or descending.

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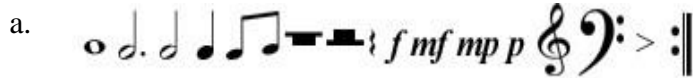
**Pre-College Written Theory
REQUIREMENTS**

GRADE 5

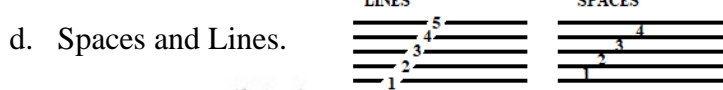
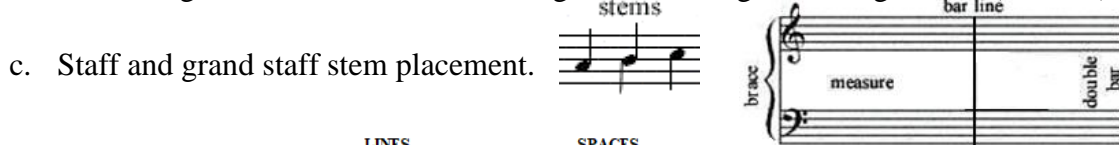
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Written Theory

1. Notation concepts to know and understand:

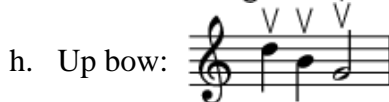


- b. Notes on grand staff from Low F to High G, including inner ledger lines (D, C, B).



- e. Accidentals: # b b

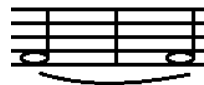
- f. Intervals: 2nd (step), 3rd (skip), repeated notes.



2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:

- a. Time signatures: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4,

- b. Time extensions: fermata , tied notes.



3. Triad concepts to know and understand:

- a. Name, spell, write and identify triads in the keys of: F, C, G, D, A, E Major and minor.

4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:

- a. Recognize the keys of: F, C, G, D Major.

- b. Identify, write and/or name five-note scales in the keys of: F, C, G, D, A, E, B Major and C, G, D, A minor. May use key signatures or accidentals.

Ear Training

1. Recognize rhythms that are either “the same” or “different” in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4.
2. Recognize high and low pitch.
3. Recognize direction of melody, ascending or descending.

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GRADE 6

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Written Theory

1. Notation concepts to know and understand:



- b. Dynamics: *f mf mp p*



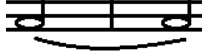
- c. Notes on grand staff from Low F to High G, including inner ledger lines (D, C, B).

- d. Accidentals: *# b b*

- e. Intervals: melodic and harmonic 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th.

- f. Pedal indications: *Ped.*, ***, *P.*, 

2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:

- a. Time signatures: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/4, 3/8, 6/8. 
- b. Time extensions: fermata , tied notes. 
- c. Identify an upbeat.

3. Triad concepts to know and understand:

- a. Identify, spell, and/or write triads in the keys of: F, C, G, D, A, E, B Major and minor.

4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:

- a. Write and identify the keys of: F, C, G, D, A, E, B Major.
b. Write and name the first five notes of this Major scales: F, C, G, D, A, E, B.

Ear Training

1. Recognize highness or lowness of pitch using wide intervals.
2. Recognize five-note Major and minor scales.
3. Recognize Major and minor triads in root position.
4. Recognize these intervals: M2 and M3.

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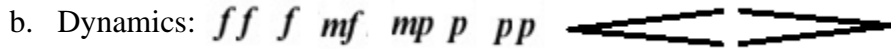
Pre-College Written Theory REQUIREMENTS

GRADE 7

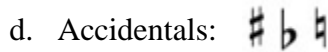
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Written Theory

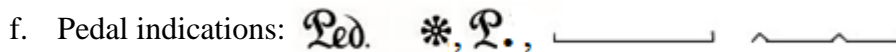
1. Notation concepts to know and understand:



c. Notes on the grand staff from bass ledger C to treble C, plus inner ledger lines.



e. Intervals: melodic and harmonic 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th.



2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:

a. Time signatures: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/4, 3/8, 6/8, C.



c. Identify an upbeat.

3. Triad concepts to know and understand:

- a. Identify, spell, and/or write root-position triads in the keys of: F, C, G, D, A, E, B, Eb, Ab, Db(C#) Major and minor.
b. Identify and/or write I-V6-I and/or I-V6/5-I cadence in the keys of: F, C, G, D, A, E, B, Eb, Ab, Db(C#) Major and minor. Identify each root by Roman numeral and letter name.

Example in the key of C Major: Chord: CEG BDG BFG; Roman numeral: I V6 V6/5; Letter name: C G6 G6/5

4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:

- a. Write and identify the keys of: F, C, G, D, A, E, B, Eb, Ab, Db Major.
b. Know the concept of the Circle of Fifths.
c. Write and identify the scales of: F, C, G, D, A, E, B, Eb, Ab, Db Major.

5. Form concepts:

- a. Analyze a two-part (AB) form piece (Binary Form).
b. Analyze a three-part (ABA) form piece (Ternary Form).

Ear Training

- 1. Recognize highness or lowness of pitch using wide and close intervals.
2. Recognize Major and minor scales and triads in root position.
3. Recognize these intervals: M2, M3, P5, M6, P8

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**Pre-College Written Theory
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GRADE 8


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Written Theory

1. Notation concepts to know and understand:

a. 
and variations 



- b. Reinforce **Grade 3** note reading range with increased use of inner, upper and lower ledger lines.

c. Accidentals: 

- d. Identify and/or write melodic and harmonic intervals within an octave by size.

- e. Know previous dynamics symbols and pedal indications from previous grades.

2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:

- a. Time signatures: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 () , 6/4, 3/8, 6/8, 2/2 ()

- b. Time extensions: fermata, tied notes, dotted notes and rests.

- c. Identify an upbeat.

3. Triad and cadence concepts to know and understand:

- a. Identify and/or write root-position triads in all Major and minor keys.

- b. Identify and/or write I-IV_{6/4}-I-V₆-I or I-IV_{6/4}-I-V_{6/5}-I cadence in all Major keys. Identify the root of each chord by Roman numeral and/or letter name. **USE KEY SIGNATURES.**

Example in the key of C Major:

Chord:	CEG	CFA	CEG	BDG	or	BFG	CEG
Roman numeral:	I	IV _{6/4}	I	V ₆	or	V _{6/5}	I
Letter name:	C	F _{6/4}	C	G ₆	or	G _{6/5}	C

4. Key signature concepts:

- a. Write and identify key signatures for all Major keys.
b. Have a thorough understanding of the Circle of Fifths in Major keys.
c. Identify and/or write scales in all Major keys.

5. Form Concepts:

- a. Analyze a two-part (AB) form piece (Binary Form).
b. Analyze a three-part (ABA) form piece (Ternary Form) with introduction and coda.

Ear Training

1. Recognize Major and minor scales and root-position triads.
2. Recognize I-V₇-I progressions in all Major keys.
3. Recognize these intervals: M2, M3, P4, P5, M6, M7, P8.
4. Recognize melodic rhythm patterns in 3/4 and 4/4 meter.

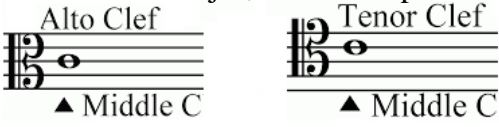
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**Pre-College Written Theory
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GRADE 9

Students who take the MMTA Written Theory Exam are responsible for knowing the theory and music history information in the grade they enter and ALL previous grades.

Written Theory

1. Notation concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know note and rest values from previous grades.
 - b. Know full reading range.
 - c. Identify and/or write Major, minor and perfect intervals within an octave.
 - d. C clefs: 
2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know time signatures from previous grades.
 - b. Know duration extensions (fermata, tie, dot, etc.).
 - c. Know variations of rhythm patterns, changing meters within a piece, irregular meter. Should have ability to bring all concepts together, including meter, counting, time signatures, and rhythmic notation.
3. Triad and cadence concepts
 - a. Identify and/or write Major and minor triads in all keys, root position, first inversion, and second inversion. Identify root by letter name.
 - b. Identify and/or write I-IV_{6/4}-I-V₆-I or I-IV_{6/4}-I-V_{6/5}-I cadence, root position in all Major keys.
 - c. Identify the root of each chord by Roman numeral and/or letter name. USE KEY SIGNATURES. Example in **Grade 8**.
4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Identify and/or write key signatures for all Major and minor keys.
 - b. Know the Circle of Fifths for Major and minor keys.
 - c. Know the order of sharps and flats.
 - d. Identify and/or write scales in all Major keys.
5. Form concepts:
 - a. Know concepts from previous grades.

Ear Training

1. Recognize Major and minor triads.
2. Recognize I-V_{6/5}-I and I-IV_{6/4}-I progression.
3. Recognize these intervals: M2, m2, M3, m3, P4, P5, M6, m6, M7, m7, P8.
4. Recognize same or different rhythm patterns.

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**Pre-College Written Theory
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GRADE 10

Students who take the MMTA Written Theory Exam are responsible for knowing the theory and music history information in the grade they enter and ALL previous grades.

Written Theory

1. Notation concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know notation concepts from previous grades.
 - b. Identify and/or write Major, minor, perfect, augmented, diminished intervals within an octave.
2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know rhythm and meter concepts from previous grades.
3. Triad and cadence concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Identify and/or write triads on each degree of Major scales.
 - b. Identify the root by Roman numeral, chord letter and quality (M, m, P, Aug., dim.).
 - c. Identify and/or write augmented and diminished triads.
 - d. Identify and/or write I-IV_{6/4}-I-V₆-I and/or I-IV_{6/4}-I-V_{6/5}-I cadences in root position, in all Major and minor keys.
 - e. Identify the root of each chord by Roman numeral and/or letter name. USE KEY SIGNATURES. Example in **Grade 8**.
4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Identify and/or write key signatures for all Major and minor keys.
 - b. Know degree names of a Major scale: Tonic, Supertonic, Mediant, Sub-Dominant, Dominant, sub-Mediant and Leading Tone (Sub-Tonic).
 - c. Identify and/or write all Major scales.
 - d. Identify and/or write harmonic minor scales in the keys of F, C, G, D, A, E and B.
5. Form concepts to know:
 - a. Concepts from previous levels.
 - b. Analyze a Theme and Variations piece (Theme, Variation I, II, etc.).

Ear training

1. Recognize Major and minor triads.
2. Recognize V_{6/5}-I and I-IV_{6/4}-I progression.
3. Recognize these intervals: M2, m2, M3, m3, P4, P5, M6, m6, M7, m7, P8.
4. Recognize same or different rhythm patterns.

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GRADE 11

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Written Theory

1. Notation concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know preceding notation concepts.
2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know preceding rhythm/meter concepts.
 - b. Identify and/or write unusual accents.
3. Triad and cadence concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know preceding triads and cadence concepts.
 - b. Write Dominant Seventh chords, root position. Identify root by letter name.
4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Identify and/or write key signatures for all Major and minor keys.
 - b. Identify and/or write these scales: all Major (know scale degree names and numbers); all harmonic minor scales; chromatic (ascending and descending).
 - c. Identify bitonal music.
5. Form concepts:
 - a. Know preceding form concepts.
 - b. Analyze a composition in Sonata-Allegro form.

Ear training

1. Recognize I-IV_{6/4}-I-V₆-I and I-IV_{6/4}-I-V_{6/5}-I progressions.
2. Recognize intervals of the Major and harmonic minor scales.
3. Recognize Major scales and harmonic minor scales.

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**Pre-College Written Theory
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GRADE 12

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Written Theory

1. Notation concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know preceding notation concepts.
2. Rhythm/meter concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know preceding rhythm/meter concepts.
3. Triad and cadence concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Know preceding triads and cadence concepts.
 - b. Identify these non-harmonic tones/non-chord tones: PASSING TONE (PT), APPOGGIATURA (App.), UPPER NEIGHBOR (UN), LOWER NEIGHBOR (LN), and SUSPENSION (Sus.).
4. Key signature concepts to know and understand:
 - a. Identify and/or write key signatures for all Major and minor keys.
 - b. Identify and/or write these scales: all Major (know degree names and numbers); all harmonic minor scales; chromatic (ascending and descending); whole tone (ascending).
 - c. Identify bitonal music.
5. Form concepts:
 - a. Know preceding form concepts.
 - b. Analyze a composition in Sonata-Allegro form.

Ear training

1. Recognize Major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads.
2. Recognize intervals of the Major and harmonic minor scales.
3. Rhythm dictation in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 meter using equivalent rests.
4. Recognize I-IV_{6/4}-I-V₆-I and I-IV_{6/4}-I-V_{6/5}-I progressions.
5. Recognize Major, harmonic minor, and chromatic scales.