

# Grade 6 Stage 1

E major  
A $\flat$  major  
9  
8

## Rhythmic exercises

Always practise the rhythmic exercises carefully before going on to the melodic exercises.  
Before you begin each exercise count two bars in – one out loud and one silently.

1

2

3

## Melodic exercises

### Set 1: Exploring E major and 9/8

Play the scale and arpeggio and improvise in the key. This will help you *think in the key*, which means having E major and its finger patterns strongly in your mind as you play.

1

2

## Prepared pieces

- 1 Play the scale in the character of the piece. Can you find any scale, triad or arpeggio patterns?
- 2 Sensing a crotchet pulse, clap the rhythm of the piece.
- 3 Think about the fingering in bar 6.
- 4 Why will it be important to feel a strong pulse when playing this piece?

Delicately

Have a rest

1

Musical score for 'Have a rest' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff is marked *cantabile* and features a long melodic line with a *p* dynamic at the end. The third staff includes dynamics of *pp*, *mp*, and *mf*, with several triplet markings. The fourth staff concludes with a *p* dynamic and a triplet of eighth notes.

- 1 Think about compound time. Does moving between  $\frac{9}{8}$  and  $\frac{6}{8}$  present any difficulty?
- 2 Play the scale and arpeggio of the key.
- 3 Read the piece in your head, hearing as much detail as you can.
- 4 Why are the leaps in bar 1 simple to play?

Wok's this?

Lightly stir-fried

2

Musical score for 'Wok's this?' in compound time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of three staves. The first staff is in 9/8 time, marked *mp*, and features a dynamic shift to *f* in the second measure. The second staff is in 6/8 time, marked *p*, and includes a *mp* dynamic. The third staff returns to 9/8 time, marked *mf*, and includes a *mp* dynamic and a *p* dynamic at the end.

# Grade 8 Stage 2

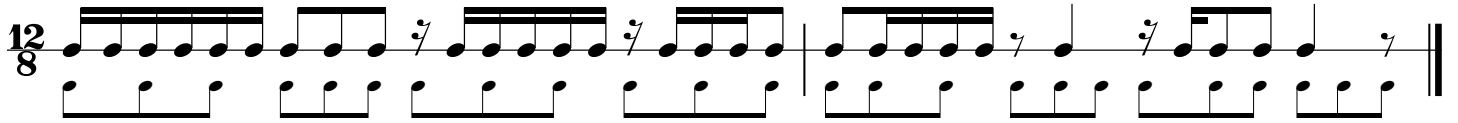
**D $\flat$  major**  
**Extending to F4**

$\frac{12}{8}$

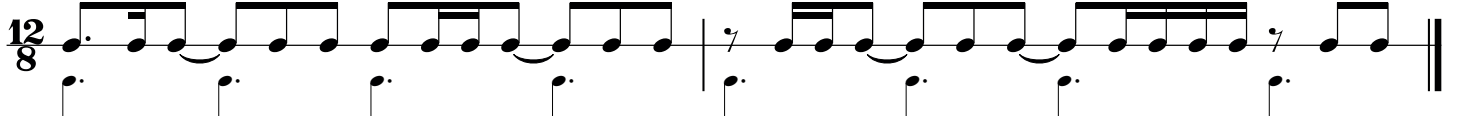
## Rhythmic exercises

Compound time signatures may be felt against a  $\text{♩}$  or  $\text{♩}$  pulse. With experience, you will become adept at working out which pulse is the most appropriate.

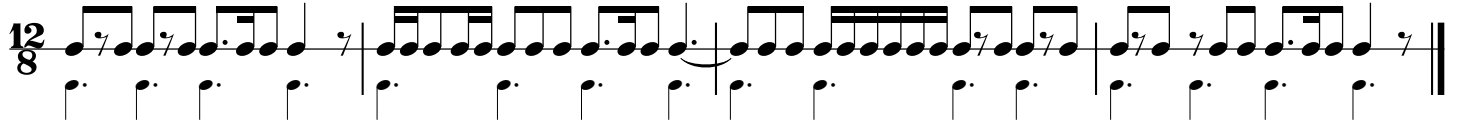
1



2



3

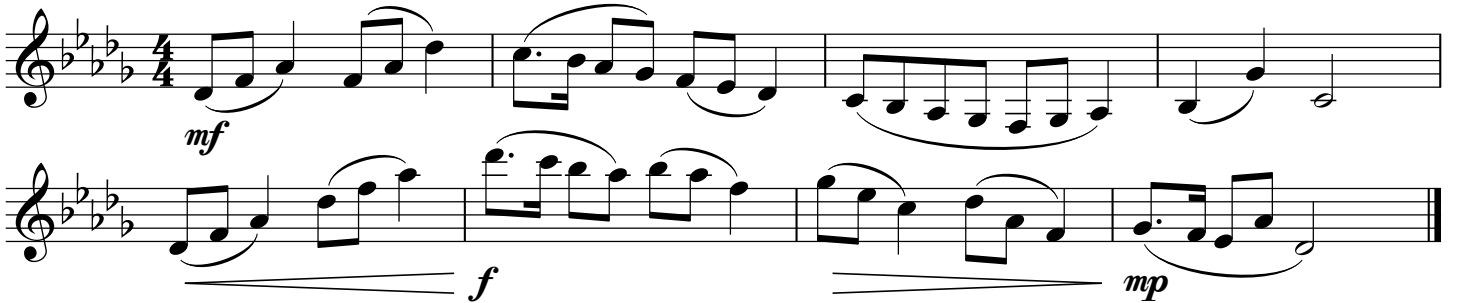


## Melodic exercises

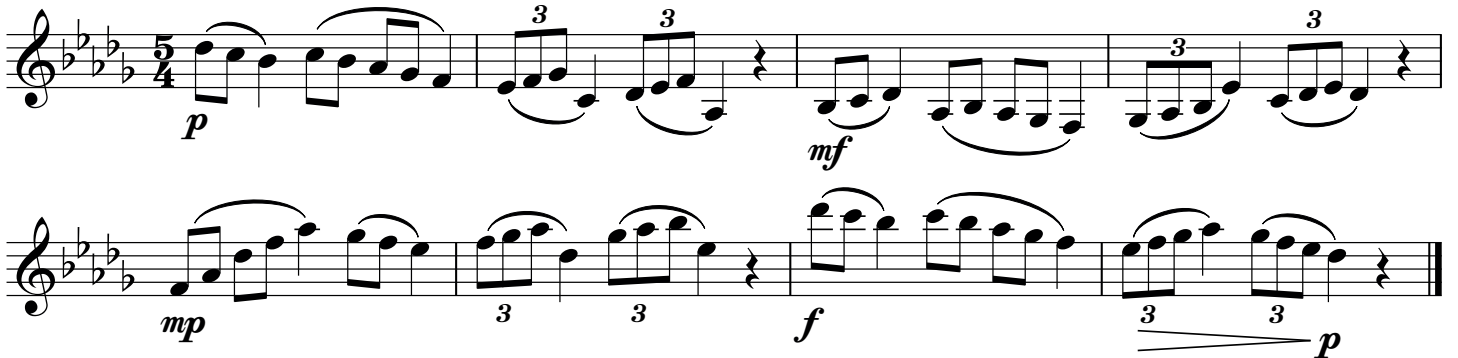
### Set 1: Exploring D $\flat$ major

Play the scale and arpeggio many times until you really know the patterns before going on.

1



2



3

