

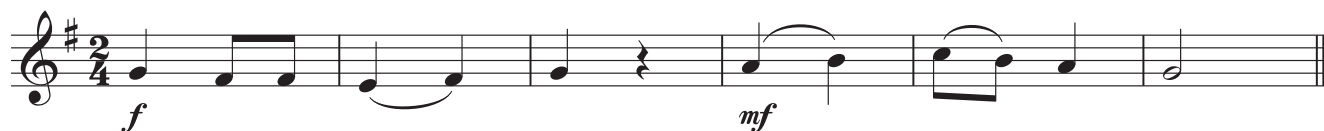
Oboe Sight-reading tests from 2018 - a sampler

The sight-reading requirements for woodwind are changing for 2018. A set of tests for Grades 1-8 are provided here to give you a flavour of what to expect, along with a table outlining the new parameters.

Further practice material can be found in ABRSM's new books of sample sight-reading tests, available to purchase at www.abrsm.org/shop.

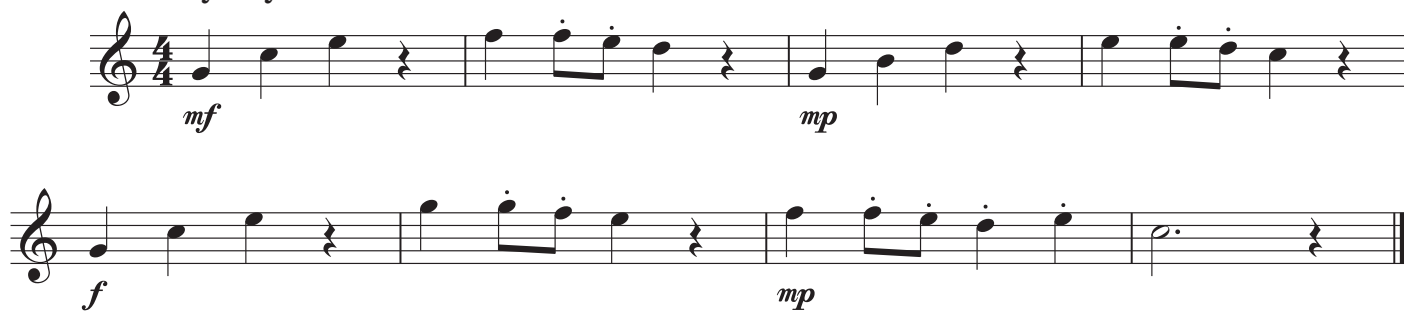
Grade 1

Andante



Grade 2

Playfully



Grade 3

Tempo di minuetto



Grade 4

Agitato

Musical score for Grade 4, Agitato. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and contains four measures of music. The second staff begins with a dynamic marking of *p* and contains four measures of music. The piece concludes with a final dynamic marking of *f*. The tempo is marked **Agitato**.

Grade 5

Scherzando

Musical score for Grade 5, Scherzando. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and contains four measures of music. The second staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and contains four measures of music. The third staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and contains four measures of music. The piece concludes with a dynamic marking of *ff*. The tempo is marked **Scherzando**.

Grade 6

Comedy Act

Con anima

Musical score for Grade 6, 'Comedy Act'. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The tempo is 'Con anima'. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and a *p* marking later. The second staff has *f* and *mf* markings. The third staff has *mp* and *mf* markings. The fourth staff has *p*, *pp*, and *fp* markings. The music features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

Grade 7

Rock It!

Andante risoluto

Musical score for Grade 7, 'Rock It!'. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab). The tempo is 'Andante risoluto'. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The second staff has *mf* and *f* markings. The third staff has *mf* and *ff* markings. The fourth staff has *ff*, *mf*, and *ff* markings. The music features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

Grade 8

Toccata

Allegro con fuoco

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The piece is marked **Allegro con fuoco**. The dynamics are as follows:

- Staff 1: *f* (first measure), *mp* (second measure).
- Staff 2: *ff* (first measure), *mf* (fourth measure).
- Staff 3: *f* (first measure), *p* (fourth measure).
- Staff 4: *f* (fourth measure).
- Staff 5: *ff* (fourth measure), *p subito* (fifth measure).

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents (>), and dynamic hairpins.

Sight-reading parameters

The table below shows the introduction of elements at each grade. Please note that these parameters are presented cumulatively, i.e. once introduced they apply for all subsequent grades (albeit within a logical progression of difficulty).

	Length (bars)	Time	Keys*	Range	Other features that may be included
Grade 1	4	4/4 3/4	G, F majors	d'-d''	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note values; rests • notes tongued or with simple two-note slurs • <i>f</i> and <i>mf</i>
	6	2/4			
Grade 2	8		C major D minor	d'-g''	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • and patterns; rests • tied notes • staccato • <i>mp</i> and <i>cresc.</i> hairpin
Grade 3		3/8	A minor	d'-b''	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accidentals (within minor keys only) • ; simple semiquaver patterns; rests • accents • <i>p</i> and <i>dim.</i> hairpin
Grade 4	c. 8	6/8	D major E minor	c'-c'''	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chromatic notes • anacrusis • tenuto • pause sign
Grade 5	c. 8-16		A, B \flat , E \flat majors B, G minors	c'-d'''	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • simple syncopation • slowing of tempo at end • <i>ff</i> and <i>pp</i>
Grade 6	c. 12-16	9/8 5/8 5/4	E, A \flat majors F \sharp , C minors	b-e'''	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes of time signature • triplet patterns • slowing of tempo followed by <i>a tempo</i>
Grade 7	c. 16-20	7/8 7/4	C \sharp , F minors	b \flat -e'''	
Grade 8	c. 16-24	12/8	B, D \flat majors	a \sharp -f'''	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • triplet crotchets • acceleration of tempo • simple ornaments

* Minors – natural form at Grade 2, any form from Grade 3

Ranges are presented using the Helmholtz system, i.e.:

