

Fundamentals of Music Theory

Music Theory · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. What is the name of the symbol that indicates a note should be played at a higher pitch?

- A) Flat
- B) Natural
- C) Sharp**
- D) Rest

2. How many beats are typically in a measure of 4/4 time?

- A) 2
- B) 3
- C) 4**
- D) 8

3. Which of the following is the shortest note duration?

- A) Whole note
- B) Half note
- C) Quarter note
- D) Eighth note**

4. What do we call the distance between two notes?

- A) Chord
- B) Melody
- C) Rhythm
- D) Interval**

5. How many lines are there in a standard musical staff?

- A) 4
- B) 5**
- C) 6
- D) 7

6. Which clef is most commonly used for higher-pitched instruments like the violin and flute?

- A) Bass clef
- B) Alto clef
- C) Tenor clef
- D) Treble clef**

7. What is the term for a group of three or more notes played simultaneously?

- A) Scale
- B) Arpeggio
- C) Chord**
- D) Cadence

8. Which of the following is the symbol for a pause in music, indicating that a note or rest should be held for longer than its usual duration?

- A) Fermata**
- B) Accent
- C) Staccato
- D) Legato

9. What is the primary building block of melody?

- A) Harmony
- B) Rhythm
- C) Pitch**
- D) Tempo

10. Which note is the first and eighth note in the C Major scale?

- A) D
- B) E
- C) F
- D) C**

11. What is the term for the speed at which a piece of music is played?

- A) Dynamics
- B) Tempo**
- C) Articulation
- D) Timbre

12. How many notes are in a standard diatonic scale?

- A) 5
- B) 6
- C) 7**
- D) 8

13. What does the term 'forte' indicate in music?

- A) Softly
- B) Loudly**
- C) Moderately
- D) Very fast

14. What is the name of the symbol that indicates a note should be played at a lower pitch?

- A) Sharp
- B) Natural
- C) Flat**
- D) Double flat

15. What is the distance between the first and last note of a major scale called?

- A) Octave**
- B) Unison
- C) Fifth
- D) Third