

Fundamentals of Music Theory

Music Theory · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. How many notes are in a standard Western musical scale before the pattern repeats?

- A) 5
- B) 7
- C) 10
- D) 12

2. Which of these symbols indicates that a note should be played one half-step higher?

- A) Flat
- B) Sharp
- C) Natural
- D) Fermata

3. What is the Italian term for playing music softly?

- A) Forte
- B) Staccato
- C) Piano
- D) Legato

4. Which clef is commonly used for higher-pitched instruments like the violin or flute?

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

5. A 'quarter note' receives how many beats in a standard 4/4 time signature?

- A) 1 beat
- B) 2 beats
- C) 3 beats
- D) 4 beats

6. Which of these is the term for the speed at which a piece of music is played?

- A) Pitch
- B) Rhythm
- C) Tempo
- D) Volume

7. What does the 'f' in musical notation stand for?

- A) Forte
- B) Fast
- C) Fine
- D) Flat

8. Which note typically follows A in the musical alphabet?

- A) C
- B) B
- C) G
- D) D

9. What is the distance between two different notes called?

- A) Octave
- B) Interval
- C) Scale
- D) Chord

10. Which of these is a group of three or more notes played simultaneously?

- A) Melody
- B) Scale
- C) Chord
- D) Beat

11. In a 4/4 time signature, what does the top number represent?

- A) The tempo
- B) The number of beats per measure
- C) The type of note that gets the beat
- D) The volume

12. What is the term for a smooth, connected style of playing notes?

- A) Staccato
- B) Legato
- C) Accent
- D) Pause

13. Which symbol tells a musician to lower a note by one half-step?

- A) Sharp
- B) Natural
- C) Flat
- D) Coda

14. What is the term for the 'home' note or tonal center of a piece of music?

- A) Key
- B) Rest
- C) Clef
- D) Bar

15. Which instrument is traditionally used to provide a steady beat or 'click' for practice?

- A) Metronome
- B) Tuner
- C) Microphone
- D) Amplifier

16. What does the term 'staccato' mean?

- A) Playing notes long and sustained
- B) Playing notes detached and short
- C) Playing as loud as possible
- D) Playing very slowly

17. What is the term for a short, silence in music?

- A) Rest
- B) Beat
- C) Note
- D) Key

18. How many eighth notes equal one quarter note?

- A) 1
- B) 2
- C) 3
- D) 4