

Name _____ # _____

Subject Fourth Melody (Level II) Teacher Code _____

15

Due Date: October 23, 2009

Dynamic Markings



There are a number of signs, symbols and terms that tell us how **loud** or **soft** the music is to be played. These are called **dynamic markings**.

SYMBOL

*pp**p**mp**mf**f**ff*

MEANING

very soft

soft

moderately (medium) soft

moderately (medium) loud

loud

very loud

PRONUNCIATION

pianissimo

piano

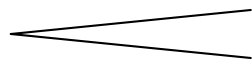
mezzo piano

mezzo forte

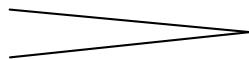
forte

fortissimo

The markings below direct the player to increase or decrease the level of loudness.

*cresc.*

(crescendo) means to play gradually louder.

*decresc.*

(decrescendo) means to play gradually softer.

This is also called diminuendo.

Your Assignment

Fill in the blanks:

1. Dynamic markings tell us _____. (1pt)
2. The symbol for forte is _____. (1pt)
3. p means _____. (1pt)
4. Cresc. means to get _____ gradually. (1pt)
5. The symbol for very soft is _____. (1pt)

Dynamics ... Take Two

Music has different **levels of loudness** depending on the music's feeling or mood. For example, a song called "Cradle Song" would be sung softly while "Yankee Doodle" would be sung much louder. The composer usually indicated how loud or soft a song should be played or sung by using **DYNAMIC MARKINGS**. Song signs, along with their matching Italian names, are listed here in order from "as soft as possible" to "as loud as possible".

<u>ITALIAN WORD</u>	<u>SIGN</u>	<u>ENGLISH MEANING</u>
<i>pianississimo</i>	<i>ppp</i>	as soft as possible
<i>pianissimo</i>	<i>pp</i>	very soft
<i>piano</i>	<i>p</i>	soft
<i>mezzo piano</i>	<i>mp</i>	moderately (medium) soft
<i>mezzo</i>	<i>m</i>	medium, the middle, half
<i>mezzo forte</i>	<i>mf</i>	moderately (medium) loud
<i>forte</i>	<i>f</i>	loud
<i>fortissimo</i>	<i>ff</i>	very loud
<i>fortississimo</i>	<i>fff</i>	as loud as possible
<i>sforzando</i>	<i>sf</i>	forced, accented

Your Assignment

- If a note is to have a forced or accented sound, you would play _____. (1pt)
- Pianississimo* means to play _____. (1pt)
- Match the Italian term to its English meaning. Write the correct letter in each blank. (8pts)

_____ soft
 _____ moderately soft
 _____ very soft
 _____ very loud
 _____ moderately loud
 _____ medium, the middle, half
 _____ as loud as possible
 _____ loud

a. **pianissimo**
 b. **piano**
 c. **mezzo piano**
 d. **mezzo**
 e. **mezzo forte**
 f. **forte**
 g. **fortissimo**
 h. **fortississimo**

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Extra Composition Opportunity! (optional)

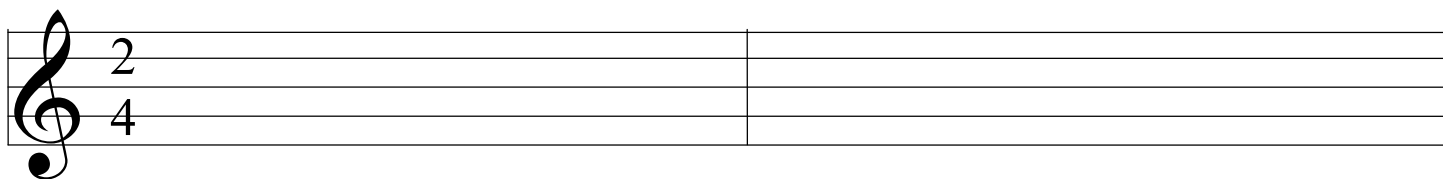
Write your own tune for the poem below using B, A, & G using the following rules and suggestions. Then, add some dynamics. ☺ Remember, only use 2 beats in each measure!

Rules To Follow

1. Start and end the song on the tonic or "do".
2. Do **not** end the question on "do".
3. Make the answer similar to the question.

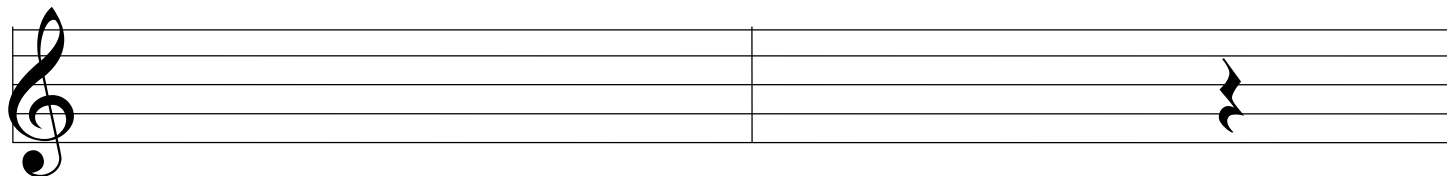
Suggestions To Follow

1. Use mostly repeated notes on faster rhythms.
2. Move mostly stepwise.

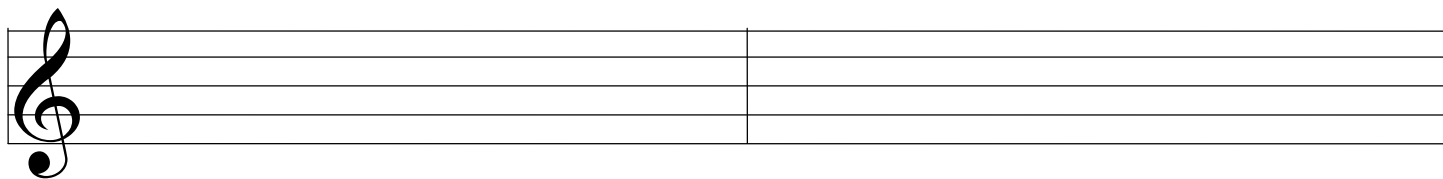


2
4

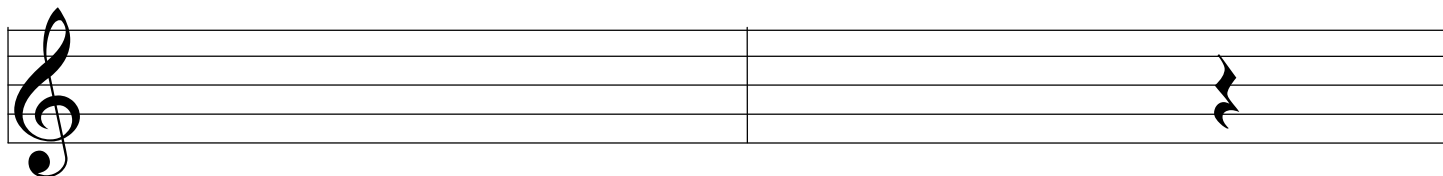
Witch - es, ghosts, and gob - lins,



Steal - ing down the street,



Knock on ever- y door - way,



Trick or treat!