



ONE BOOK, NOT FIVE

MUSIC THEORY

FROM BEGINNER TO GRADE 5

A COMPLETE & SYSTEMATIC GUIDE
TO GRADE 1–5 MUSIC THEORY



**EVERY POINT
HAS ITS OWN DRILL**

96 sets of exercises, each aimed at one of the 22 knowledge points. Work on exactly what you are weak at, not on random papers.



**GRADE 1 TO 5,
ALL IN ONE**

Every exercise and answer, in one book.
From your first term to the exam paper.



**EVERY ANSWER,
WORKED OUT**

Not just a letter. You see the working,
so a mistake actually teaches
you something.

**THE EXERCISE BOOK & ANSWER BOOK
ALL TOGETHER**

Dr. XinRu

❖ XINRU PIANO ❖

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Grade 1–5 Music Theory · Exercise Book

Every question type in the book — 6 chapters · 22 knowledge points · 96 numbered question types · 491 exercise sets.
Each type is written out as several separate sets, so a pupil can drill one thing until it holds.

Ch.1 Terms, Signs, Instruments & Key Signatures

1.1 Musical terms — Italian / German / French

the term is given, write what it means · no reverse

- 1 Italian terms
- 2 German & French terms (one shared sheet, twice round)
- 3 all three languages mixed

1.2 Signs

the sign is given, write what it means

- 1 dynamics & articulation signs
- 2 slurs, repeats & bowing signs
- 3 all signs mixed

1.3 Ornaments

name it, then write it out in full — how it sounds

- 1 all the ornaments mixed — name the sign, name the sound

1.4 Instruments & voices

- 1 family · clef · voice
- 2 reeds & percussion pitch
- 3 transposing instruments
- 4 all mixed — two questions each

1.5 24 key signatures, 4 clefs

- 1 relative keys — SHARP
- 2 relative keys — FLAT
- 3 key signature → which major, which minor

1.6 Degree names

- 1 name ↔ number, scrambled both ways
- 2 key + degree name → which note (24 keys)
- 3 note + key → which degree, number & name

Ch.2 Pitch · Single Notes, 4 Clefs

2.1 Name & write notes, octave labelled
one paper per rung — page 1 name the notes, page 2 write them; all full range with accidentals

- 1 TREBLE clef
- 2 BASS clef
- 3 ALTO clef
- 4 TENOR clef
- 5 all 4 clefs mixed

2.2 Enharmonic equivalents

each rung is two numbered types: rewrite it the other way · name given, write it 2 ways

- 1 enharmonic equivalents — write the note two other ways

Ch.3 Intervals

3.1 Simple intervals, 2 clefs

- 1 2nd + 3rd (major / minor)
- 2 2nd + 7th (major / minor)
- 3 3rd + 6th (major / minor)
- 4 4th + 5th (perfect)
- 5 2nd·3rd·6th·7th with accidentals — answers may be aug / dim
- 6 4th + 5th with accidentals — answers may be aug / dim
- 7 all 2nd–7th together, accidentals
- 8 all 2nd–7th together, under a KEY SIGNATURE
- 9 bottom note + name → write the TOP note
- 10 top note + name → write the BOTTOM note
- 11 ALL mixed — accidentals + key signatures together

3.2 Compound intervals, 2 clefs

- 1 within 2 octaves — 2 ways of naming it
- 2 within 2 octaves — 2 ways, accidentals
- 3 over 2 octaves — 1 way of naming it
- 4 over 2 octaves — 1 way, accidentals
- 5 under a KEY SIGNATURE, all together
- 6 bottom note + name → write the TOP note
- 7 top note + name → write the BOTTOM note
- 8 all mixed

Ch.4 Primary Chords + II

4.1 I · II · IV · V chords, 2 clefs

- 1 write the chords, key signature (scale first)
- 2 write the chords, accidentals (scale first)
- 3 name the chord, key signature
- 4 name the chord, accidentals

4.2 Chords in 3 positions

- 1 write, key signature
- 2 name, key signature
- 3 write, accidentals
- 4 name, accidentals

4.3 The 3 cadences

3 positions · all 12 major & minor · key given

- 1 write the cadence — SHARP keys · 3 positions
- 2 write the cadence — FLAT keys · 3 positions
- 3 name the cadence — SHARP keys · 3 positions
- 4 name the cadence — FLAT keys · 3 positions
- 5 name the cadence — sharp + flat mixed

Ch.5 Scales & Tonality

5.1 12 major scales

- 1 with a key signature
- 2 with accidentals

5.2 12 minor scales — harmonic & melodic

- 1 with a key signature
- 2 with accidentals
- 3 choose the clef that makes the scale fit (24 keys)

5.3 Chromatic scale

- 1 ascending & descending from all 12 starting notes — no key signature, accidentals only

5.4 Transposition, with key signatures

- 1 up & down a major 2nd
- 2 up & down a minor 3rd
- 3 up & down a perfect 5th
- 4 all three mixed

Ch.6 Rhythm

6.1 Time values

- 1 note / rest → worth how many beats (plain)
- 2 tails only → worth how many beats (single · added · beamed)
- 3 dotted & double-dotted → worth how many beats
- 4 tuplets → DRAW what they equal
- 5 syncopation → DRAW what it equals
- 6 note-value equations
- 7 whole mixed rhythm → count the beats (never a round number)

6.2 Simple time signatures

read the signature = beats in a bar · beat note · duple / triple / quadruple

- 1 read it — crotchet beat
- 2 read it — minim · quaver · semiquaver beats
- 3 read it — irregular (5/4 7/4 5/8 7/8 11/8 5/16 7/16 11/16)
- 4 read it — all mixed
- 5 add the bar lines — all mixed
- 6 write the time signature — crotchet beat
- 7 write the time signature — minim · quaver · semiquaver
- 8 write the time signature — irregular
- 9 write the time signature — all mixed

Ch.6 Rhythm (cont.)

6.3 Compound time signatures

all beat units mixed throughout

- 1 normal-beat note value · how many normal beats · how many BIG beats
- 2 BIG-beat note value · compound duple / triple / quadruple
- 3 write the time signature

6.4 Simple ↔ Compound

- 1 rewrite the rhythm — BOTH directions mixed, exam style: rests inside the brackets, dotted figures, long-short triplets; no syncopation

6.5 Note grouping + rests

- 1 group (beam) correctly — simple
- 2 group (beam) correctly — compound
- 3 group (beam) correctly — all mixed

Musical terms — Italian

1.1.1

Write the meaning of each term on the line underneath it.

1 diminuendo (dim.)

15 con forza

2 ma

16 doloroso

3 allegro

17 e • ed

4 lacrimoso

18 tempo

5 cantando

19 attacca

6 andante

20 dolce

7 ritmico

21 quasi

8 animato • con anima

22 lento

9 dolente

23 pesante

10 volta

24 tranquillo

11 calando

25 allegro assai

12 allegretto

26 con dolore

13 allargando

27 vivo

14 meno

28 rallentando (rall.)

Name the notes — TREBLE clef • with accidentals

2.1.1

Write the letter name and the octave under each note — very low • low • middle • high • very high.



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

octave _____



note _____

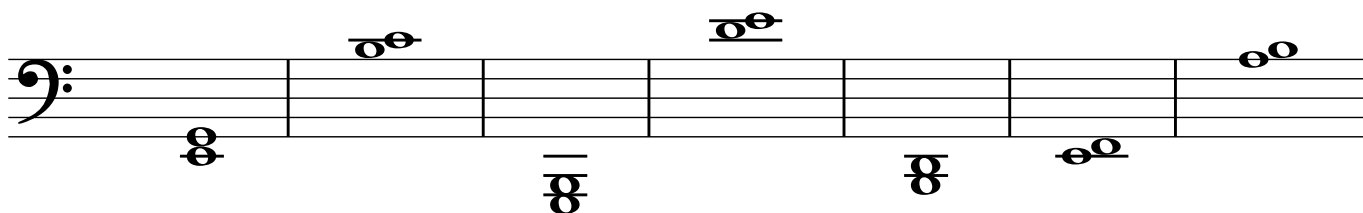
octave _____

Name the interval — 2nds & 3rds

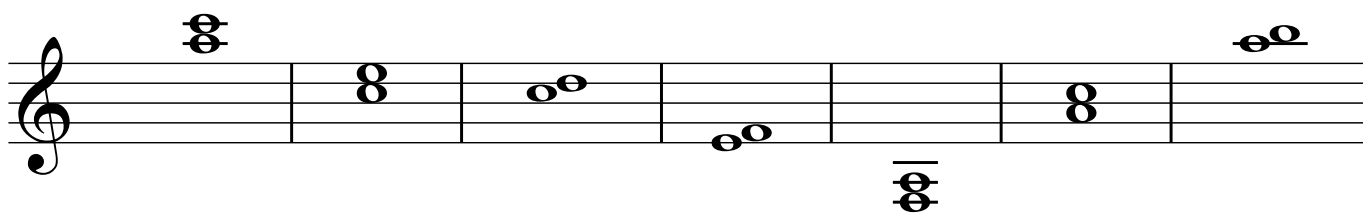
3.1.1

Name each interval on the line underneath.

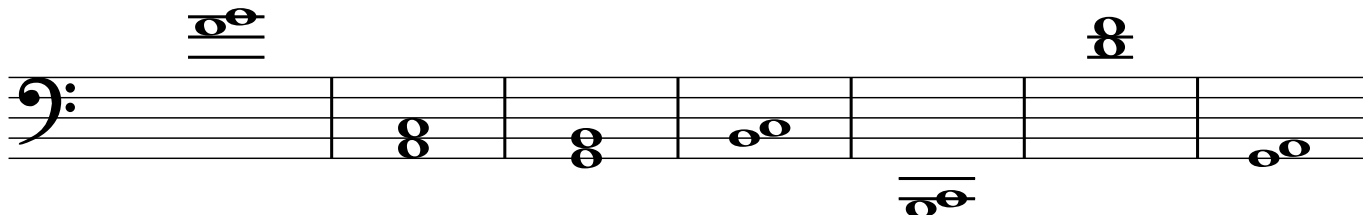
Bass clef • no key signature



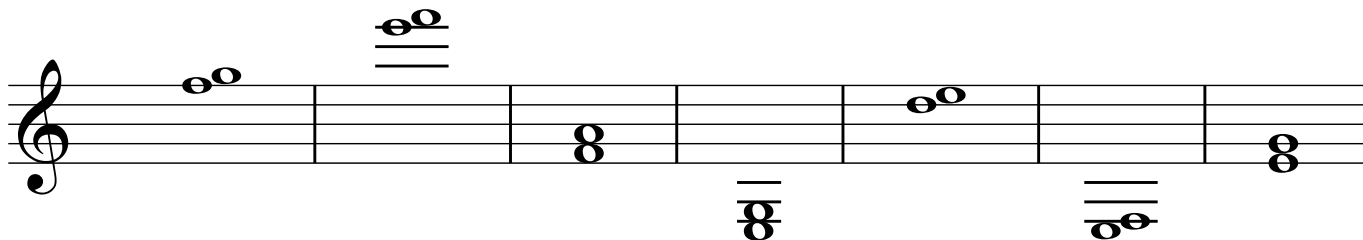
Treble clef • no key signature



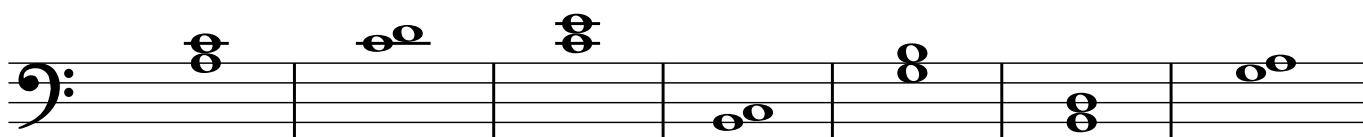
Bass clef • no key signature



Treble clef • no key signature



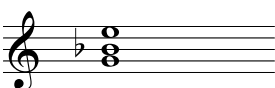
Bass clef • no key signature



Chords in three positions — name them • key signature

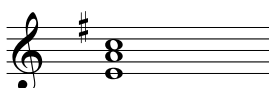
4.2.2

Name the chord and its position — a, b or c.

1 D minor 

chord _____

position _____

6 E minor 

chord _____

position _____

2 Db major 

chord _____

position _____

7 Db major 

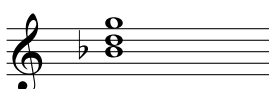
chord _____

position _____

3 E minor 

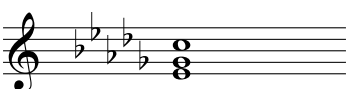
chord _____

position _____

8 F major 

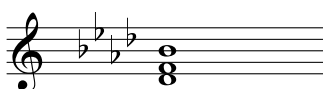
chord _____

position _____

4 Bb minor 

chord _____

position _____

9 F minor 

chord _____

position _____

5 Gb major 

chord _____

position _____

10 F minor 

chord _____

position _____

6.5.1

1. $3/4$

II $\frac{3}{4}$

[illegible]
$$\mathbb{H}^2_4$$

II $\frac{4}{3}$

|| 3

Example 3.7/3 shows a musical notation on a single staff. It begins with a double bar line, followed by a 4/8 time signature. The melody consists of a series of eighth notes. After a measure of eight eighth notes, there is a triplet of three eighth notes, indicated by a bracket with the number '3' above it. The notation ends with a double bar line.

II 4

II 2

Name the notes — TREBLE clef • with accidentals - answers

2.1.1

Write the letter name and the octave under each note — very low • low • middle • high • very high.



note **E** _____

octave **middle** _____



note **G flat** _____

octave **middle** _____



note **C flat** _____

octave **high** _____



note **A flat** _____

octave **middle** _____



note **D flat** _____

octave **middle** _____



note **B double flat** _____

octave **middle** _____



note **B** _____

octave **high** _____



note **B flat** _____

octave **high** _____



note **C sharp** _____

octave **high** _____



note **C sharp** _____

octave **very high** _____



note **A flat** _____

octave **high** _____



note **F double sharp** _____

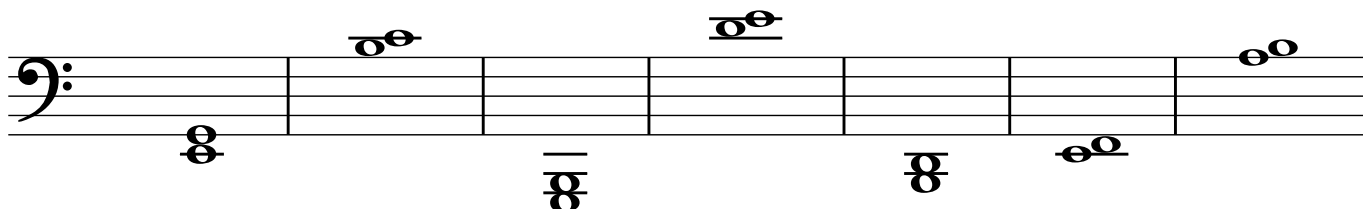
octave **middle** _____

Name the interval — 2nds & 3rds - answers

3.1.1

Name each interval on the line underneath.

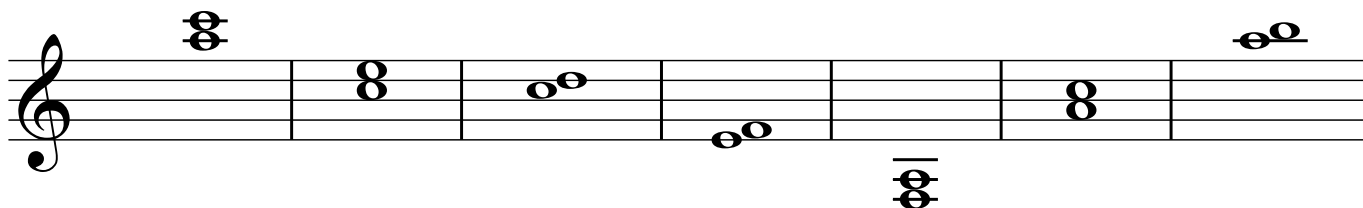
Bass clef • no key signature



Interval names for Bass clef:

- minor 3rd
- minor 2nd
- major 3rd
- major 2nd
- minor 3rd
- minor 2nd
- major 2nd

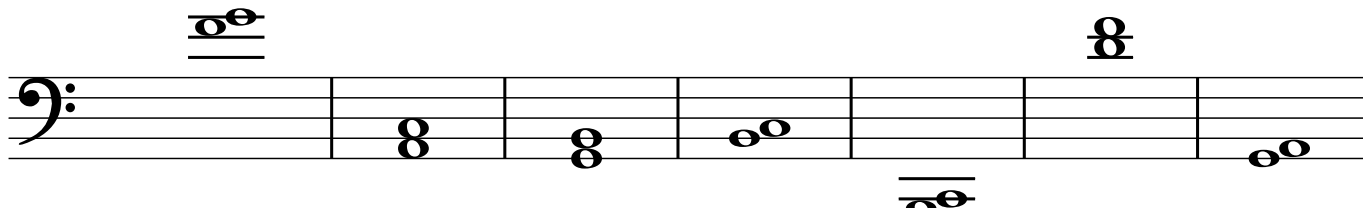
Treble clef • no key signature



Interval names for Treble clef:

- minor 3rd
- major 3rd
- major 2nd
- minor 2nd
- major 3rd
- minor 3rd
- major 2nd

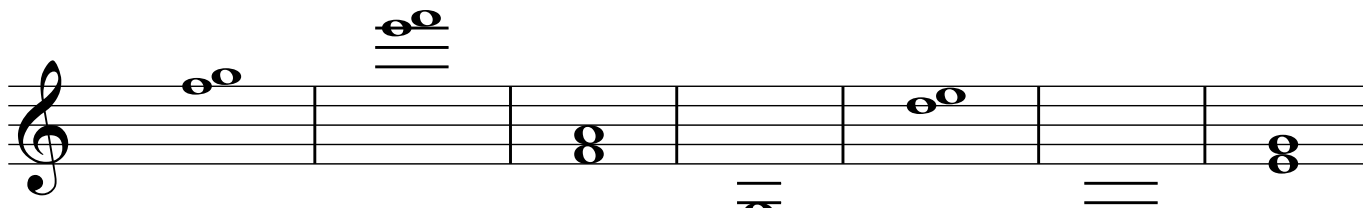
Bass clef • no key signature



Interval names for Bass clef:

- major 2nd
- minor 3rd
- major 3rd
- minor 2nd
- minor 2nd
- minor 3rd
- major 2nd

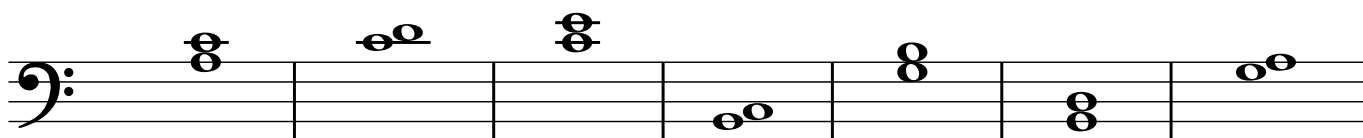
Treble clef • no key signature



Interval names for Treble clef:

- major 2nd
- minor 2nd
- major 3rd
- minor 3rd
- major 2nd
- minor 2nd
- minor 3rd

Bass clef • no key signature



Interval names for Bass clef:

- minor 3rd
- major 2nd
- major 3rd
- minor 2nd
- major 3rd
- minor 3rd
- major 2nd

6.5.1

1. $3/4$

2. 2/4

3. 4/2

4. $3/8$

5. 4/4

6. 4/8

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That was eleven pages of three hundred and fourteen.

The full book holds 96 exercise sets — one for every question type
in Grades 1 to 5 — and every answer worked out at the back.

Filed by knowledge point, not by grade, so you drill exactly the
thing you are weak at instead of grinding through a random paper.

Every stave engraved by hand for this edition.

XinRu Piano • Dr. XinRu