

MR. DICKSON'S METHOD FOR BAND

Book One

Mallets (high)

www.JustinDickson.com
revised July 13, 2020

--- While You Are Playing ---

Tap your foot with the beat, during all notes and rests.

Count 1-2-3-4-1-2-3-4 in your mind while you play each measure (notes and rests).

Breathe on the beat before you start playing. Breathe together to play together.

Look ahead and get ready for the next measure when you can.

Sit up straight, take a big and relaxed breath every time, don't tense up.

--- Practice ---

Practice your instrument every day. Really. Every day.

Every day you practice, you will get stronger and better;

every day you don't practice, you will get weaker and worse.

It's not about how hard you try; it's about how often you try.

If you want to get good at something, you have to do it over and over and over again slowly.

If you make a mistake, stop and fix it. Do not just keep going, or it will not get better.

Practice with a metronome, to help you count and keep a steady beat.

Practice with the Bandmate Chromatic Tuner app to check your notes.

--- Strategies For Learning New Music ---

Slowwwwwww Dooooowwwwwnnnnnnn.

Slow down the tempo until you can play it without any mistakes, then play it correctly at that tempo 5-10 times before trying to speed up. Slow down again if you make mistakes.

Say the letter names of the notes out loud.

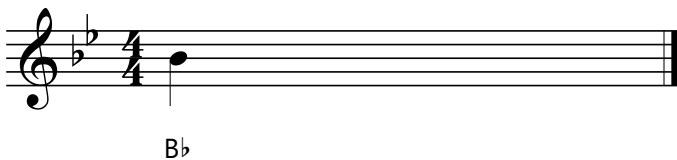
Say the rhythms out loud ("quarter quarter eighth eighth" etc.)

Tizzle, count, and/or clap the rhythm before you try to play the melody.

If you are having trouble playing the right notes, play through the melody holding each note for 3 seconds.

CHAPTER 1: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitches concert B \flat , C, and D; and rhythms with quarter notes and quarter rests.

1.01 Your first note



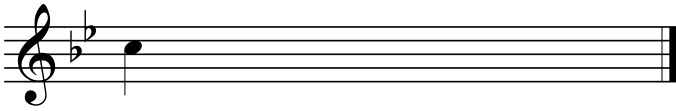
1.02 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.03 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.04 Your next note



C

1.05 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.06 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.07 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.08 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.09 Your third note



D

1.10 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.11 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.12 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.13 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.14 Quarter notes and quarter rests



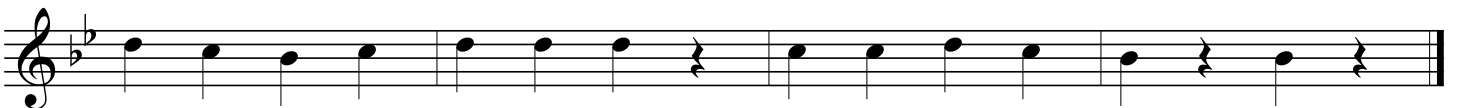
1.15 Three note scale



1.16 "Mary Had A Little Lamb"



*continue down to
the next line >>>>*

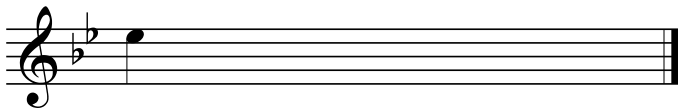


1.17 Most excellent bonus etude. Can you handle it!?



CHAPTER 2: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitches concert Eb and F.

2.01 New note!



E \flat

2.02 Quarter notes and quarter rests



2.03 Quarter notes and quarter rests



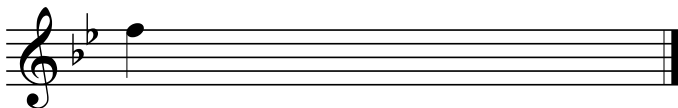
2.04 Quarter notes and quarter rests



2.05 Four note scale



2.06 New note!



F

2.07 Quarter notes and quarter rests



2.08 Quarter notes and quarter rests



2.09 Five note scale



2.10 Thirds



2.11 Thirds



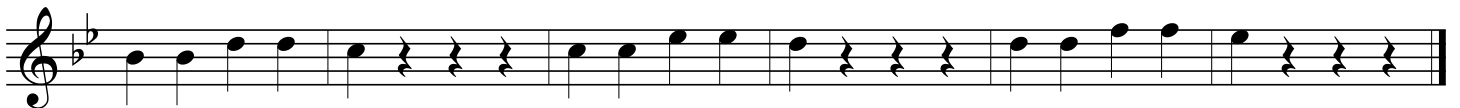
2.12 Thirds



2.13 Flexibility



2.14 Get up and get down

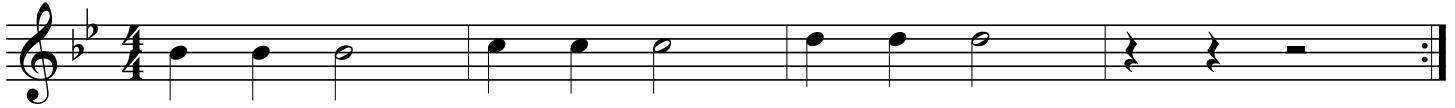


2.15 Super duper extra bonus beast mode star power etude for Narnia and Azeroth

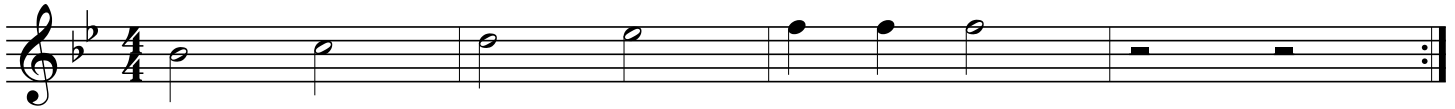


CHAPTER 3: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with half notes and half rests.

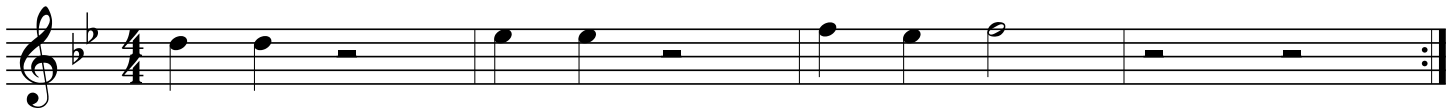
3.01 Half notes and half rests



3.02 Half notes and half rests



3.03 Half notes and half rests



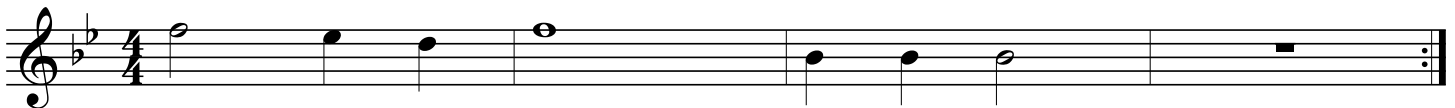
3.04 Half notes and half rests



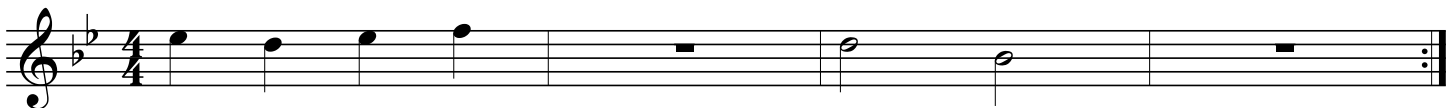
3.05 Whole notes and whole rests



3.06 Whole notes and whole rests



3.07 Whole notes and whole rests



3.08 Whole notes and whole rests



3.09 "Hot Cross Buns"

Musical notation for "Hot Cross Buns" in G major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of half and quarter notes.

3.10 "Jingle Bells"

continue down to
the next line >>>>

Musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in G major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

3.11 "Too Much Homework Blues" - Dickson

Musical notation for "Too Much Homework Blues" in G major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

3.12 "March Of The Stinky Kids" - Dickson

Musical notation for "March Of The Stinky Kids" in G major, 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

3.13 "Jingle Bells" with first and second endings

Musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in G major, 4/4 time. The first line shows the main melody. The second line shows two endings: the first ending leads back to the beginning, and the second ending concludes the piece.

CHAPTER 4: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch concert G.

4.01 New note!

Musical notation for "New note!" showing a single note G on a treble clef staff in G major.

G

4.02 Three note scale

Musical notation for "Three note scale" showing a three-note scale (G-A-B) on a treble clef staff in G major.

4.03 Help for the brass

Musical notation for "Help for the brass" showing a melody for brass instruments on a treble clef staff in G major.

4.04 "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" - W.A. Mozart

Musical notation for "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" by W.A. Mozart, showing three staves of the melody in G major, 4/4 time.

4.05 "Repeat Then Move On Blues" - Dickson

Musical notation for "Repeat Then Move On Blues" - Dickson. The piece is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of two flats. The first staff shows a melody with a repeat sign at the end. The second staff shows a bass line with a whole note chord at the end.

CHAPTER 5: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with eighth notes.

5.01 Eighth notes and eighth rests

Musical notation for 5.01 Eighth notes and eighth rests. The piece is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of two flats. The first staff shows a melody of eighth notes followed by eighth rests. Below the staff are the counts: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +.

5.02 Eighth notes

Musical notation for 5.02 Eighth notes. The piece is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of two flats. The first staff shows a melody of eighth notes. Below the staff are the counts: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 2 3.

5.03 Eighth notes

Musical notation for 5.03 Eighth notes. The piece is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of two flats. The first staff shows a melody of eighth notes. Below the staff are the counts: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 2 3.

5.04 Eighth notes

Musical notation for 5.04 Eighth notes. The piece is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of two flats. The first staff shows a melody of eighth notes. Below the staff are the counts: 1 + 2 3 + 4 1 2 3.

5.05 Eighth notes

Musical notation for 5.05 Eighth notes. The piece is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of two flats. The first staff shows a melody of eighth notes. Below the staff are the counts: 1 + 2 + 3 4 1 + 2 + 3.

5.06 Eighth notes

Musical notation for 5.06 Eighth notes. The piece is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of two flats. The first staff shows a melody of eighth notes. Below the staff are the counts: 1 + 2 + 3 4 1 + 2 + 3.

5.07 "Jolly Old St. Nicholas"

Two staves of musical notation for the piece "Jolly Old St. Nicholas". The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a final dotted half note.

5.08 "This Old Man"

Two staves of musical notation for the piece "This Old Man". The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The melody features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, ending with a dotted half note.

5.09 "Cafeteria Food Doesn't Seem Like Actual Food Blues" - Dickson

Two staves of musical notation for the piece "Cafeteria Food Doesn't Seem Like Actual Food Blues" by Dickson. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The melody includes quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests, concluding with a dotted half note.

CHAPTER 6: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch Ab, and dotted-half notes.

6.01 New note!

A single staff of musical notation showing a new note, Ab, in B-flat major. The note is a quarter note on the second line of the staff.

Ab

6.02 Three note scale

A single staff of musical notation showing a three-note scale in B-flat major. The notes are B-flat, C, and D, each a quarter note, followed by a dotted half note on B-flat.

6.03 "Yankee Doodle"

Two staves of musical notation for "Yankee Doodle". The first staff contains the melody, and the second staff contains a simplified accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 2/4. The melody consists of eighth notes and quarter notes.

6.04 Slurs

A single staff of musical notation for exercise 6.04. It features a sequence of eighth notes with slurs over pairs of notes, illustrating the technique of slurs.

6.05 Slurs

A single staff of musical notation for exercise 6.05. It features a sequence of quarter notes with slurs over pairs of notes, illustrating the technique of slurs.

6.06 Slurs

A single staff of musical notation for exercise 6.06. It features a sequence of half notes with slurs over pairs of notes, illustrating the technique of slurs.

6.07 Dotted-half notes

tap your foot with the beat while you play!

A single staff of musical notation for exercise 6.07. It features a sequence of dotted-half notes, illustrating the technique of playing dotted-half notes.

6.08 Etude

A single staff of musical notation for exercise 6.08. It features a sequence of eighth notes with slurs over pairs of notes, illustrating the technique of slurs.

6.09 Etude

Two staves of musical notation for Etude 6.09. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The first staff begins with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and C. The second staff continues with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a whole note C.

6.10 "Jurassic Park"

Two staves of musical notation for "Jurassic Park". The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The first staff begins with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and C. The second staff continues with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a whole note C.

6.11 "Covid-19 Blues" duet, part 1

Three staves of musical notation for "Covid-19 Blues" duet, part 1. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The first staff begins with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and C. The second staff continues with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a whole note C. The third staff continues with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a whole note C.

6.11 "Covid-19 Blues" duet, part 2

Three staves of musical notation for "Covid-19 Blues" duet, part 2. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The first staff begins with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and C. The second staff continues with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a whole note C. The third staff continues with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a whole note C.

CHAPTER 7: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies in 3/4 meter.

7.01 3/4 meter

1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1

7.02 "The Pirates Of The Instrument Storage Room" - Dickson

7.03 "We Wish You A Merry Christmas"

7.04 "There's A Hole In The Bucket"

CHAPTER 8: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch concert A, and rhythms with tied notes.

8.01 New note!



A

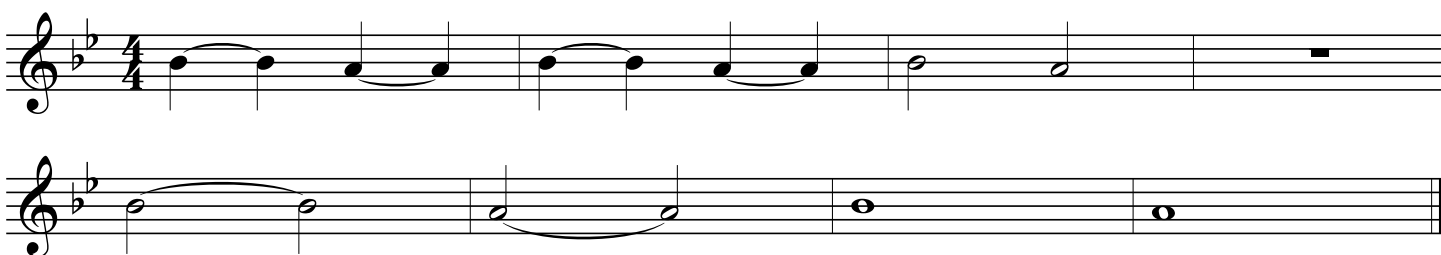
8.02 Etude



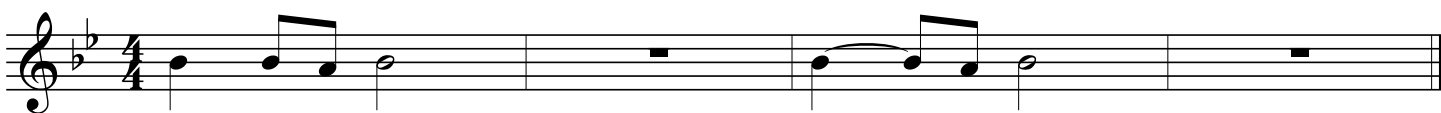
8.03 "Hat Dance"



8.03 Ties



8.04 Ties



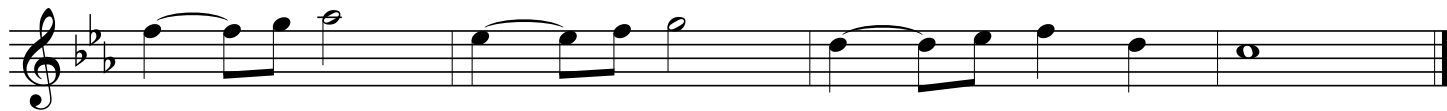
8.05 "Deck The Halls"



8.06 "Spooky Song" - Dickson

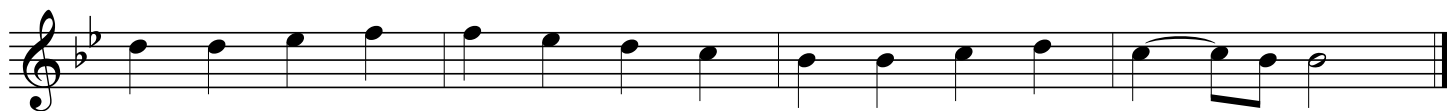


This _____ song is so spoo - ky, I _____ am so af - raid,



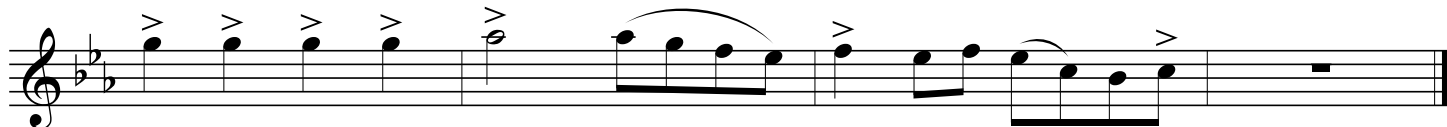
Lots _____ of ties, I _____ think I am _____ too scared to play!

8.07 "Ode To Joy" - Ludwig Van Beethoven



*notes with the Accent mark > should stand out,
so blow a little more air at the beginning of the note.*

8.08 "Accent Blues"



CHAPTER 9: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch concert G, accidentals, and rhythms with ties across the bar line.

9.01 New note!



G


9.02 Five note scale



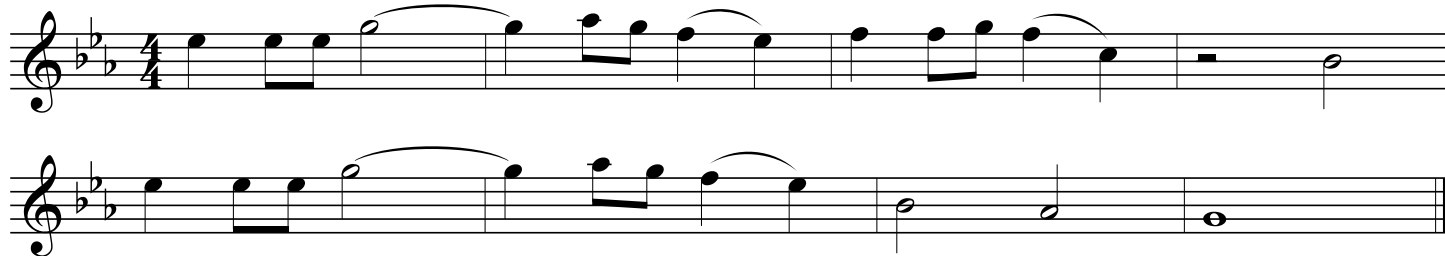
9.03 Ties



9.04 Ties



9.05 "Like And Subscribe To This Etude" - Dickson



9.06 "January February March" - Dickson



9.07 "Summertime" - George & Ira Gershwin

Musical score for "Summertime" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The second staff continues with a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a half note G4. The third staff continues with a half note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a half note C4. The fourth staff concludes with a half note B3, a quarter note A3, and a whole note G3.

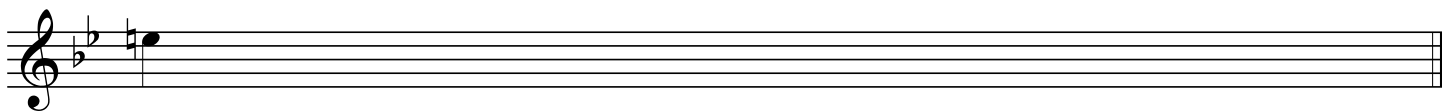
9.08 "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues" - Dickson

Musical score for "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The second staff continues with a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F4. The third staff concludes with a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3.

9.09 "The Medallion Calls" from Pirates Of The Caribbean

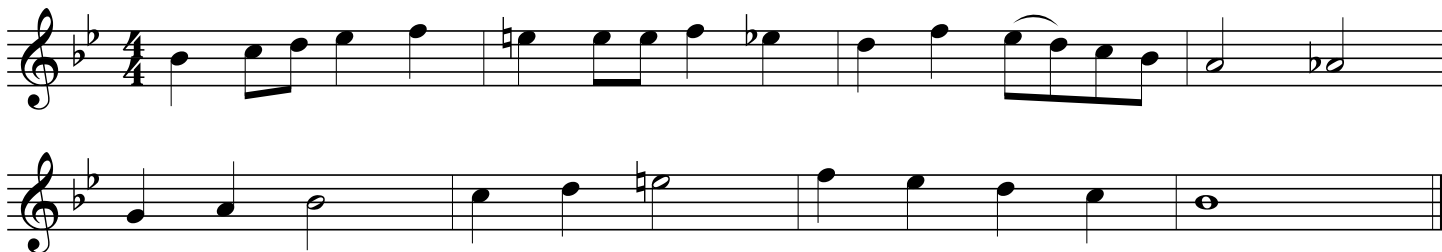
Musical score for "The Medallion Calls" in G major, 3/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second staff continues with a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The third staff continues with a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4. The fourth staff concludes with a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note G3.

9.10 New note

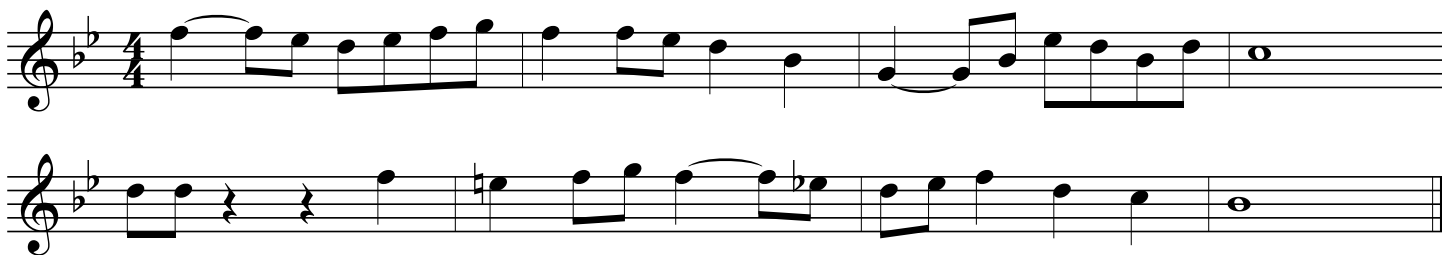


E

9.11 Accidentals



9.12 "March Of The Flying Eagles" - Dickson



9.13 "Sick Licks" - Dickson



During the 2020 pandemic, I wrote many new songs for my 6th grade students to learn at home. I added the best of them to Chapter 9, which is why this chapter is so long. Many of these songs have play-along recordings on my website. Some of these songs are redundant, in terms of the band curriculum, but they were good, fun to play, and I worked hard on them, so I wanted to include them in my Method anyway. Dig it.

9.14 "Linus And Lucy"

you can use this to play along with the recording of
"Linus And Lucy" by Ellis and Wynton Marsalis on Youtube

Musical score for "Linus And Lucy" in 4/4 time. The score consists of five staves. The first two staves show the melody with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature of 4/4. The third staff contains two endings, labeled "1." and "2.", with repeat signs. The fourth staff shows the accompaniment with accents (>) over the notes. The fifth staff shows the final part of the accompaniment, ending with a double bar line.

9.15 March

Musical score for "March" in 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves show the melody with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a common time signature of 4/4. The third staff shows the accompaniment with accents (>) over the notes. The fourth staff shows the final part of the accompaniment, ending with a double bar line.

9.16 "My Locker Won't Open" - Dickson

Musical score for "My Locker Won't Open" by Dickson. The score consists of three staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in treble clef. The first two staves are identical, and the third staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

9.17 "My Favorite Things"

Musical score for "My Favorite Things". The score consists of seven staves of music in 3/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in treble clef. The first six staves contain the main melody, and the seventh staff features a long, sustained note with a fermata, indicating the end of the piece.

9.18 "Springtime Under Quarentine" - Dickson



Fine



D.C. al Fine

