Class 4

Section 1 Music Notation

Dynamics*: Changes in volume occur often in music and are also indicated on a score. In written music the dynamics are shown by letters which stand for Italian words for the dynamic levels. The most commonly found dynamic markings are *p* and *f.*

Piano* (*p*): play quietly   **Forté* (*f*):** play loudly

However there are also other dynamics used wich are **more subtle** and are in between soft and loud. These are *mp* and *mf.*

Mezzo Piano* (*mp*) : moderately quiet- **louder** than piano (*p*)

Mezzo Forté* (*mf*) : moderately loudly- louder than mp but **softer** than forté (*f*)

Hairpin* dynamics (shown below) are a way of indicating the duration or length over which the change in dynamic should take place. A **crescendo*** is a gradual increase in volume and a **diminuendo*** is a gradual decrease in volume.
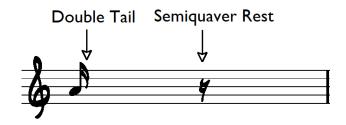

Section 2 Rhythm

You can beam together any combination of quavers and semiquavers provided they belong to the same beat. You can also beam 4 semiquavers together that start on a beat but you should not beam together semiquavers that belong to 2 different beats.

When writing a semiquaver on its own (not grouped in 2's or 4's) it will have a **double tail*** on the top of the stem falling to the right. This distinguishes it from a quaver beat which has one tail instead of 2 (see below). Similarly a **semiquaver rest** is a quaver rest but with **2 lines** instead of just one (see belaow).
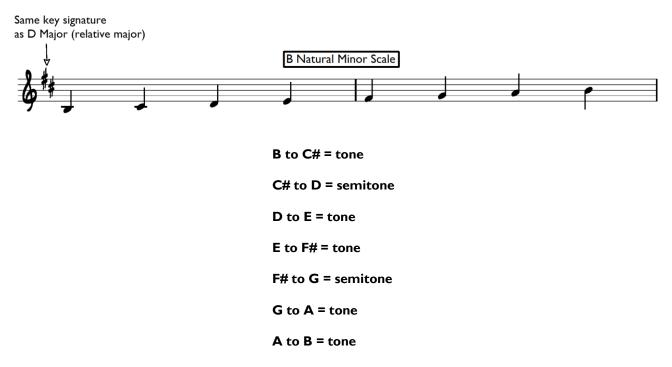
Section 3   Scales and Intervals

The **natural minor scale*** is different to the major scale. It is the same formula if started on the 6th note of the major scale formula. The following formula is used for constructing a natural minor scale.

<div align="center">

Tone **S**emitone **T**one **T**one **S**emitone **T**one **T**one

</div>

As a result, the **B Natural Minor** scale is **B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A** and **B**

Same key signature
as D Major (relative major)

B Natural Minor Scale

B to C# = tone

C# to D = semitone

D to E = tone

E to F# = tone

F# to G = semitone

G to A = tone

A to B = tone

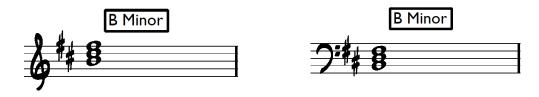## Section 4   Chords

Minor Triad*: Just the same as with a major triad, the 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes of a minor scale make up a minor triad. A minor triad is built by stacking the root, 3rd and 5th degrees of the major scale onto of each other. The root is once again the first note of the scale. As a result, the triad of **A minor** is **A, C,** and **E,** played at the same time to sound a chord.

B	C#	D	E	F#	G	A	B
I	2	b3	4	5	b6	b7	8/1

A minor chord is notated the exact same way as a major chord (see below).

B Minor

B Minor

Section 5   Ear Training

On the staff below write down the **pitch and rhythm** of the 4 bar passage played to you. It is in 4/4 and the key of C and may begin on any note. One approach may be to first sketch out the rhythm above the stave. This is called **melodic dictation*.**

Rough Work:

On the lines below write down the **quality** (major or natural minor) of the **scale** that will be played to you.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Sight-sing the melody below using the numbers given.

Things To Remember From Class

- *mp* stands for *mezzo piano*. It is a dynamic marking meaning to play moderately quiet- louder than piano (*p*).
- *mf* stands for *mezzo forté*. It is a dynamic marking meaning to play moderately loud- softer than forté (*f*).
- When written on its own a **semiquaver has 2 tails** instead of one, to distinguish it from a quaver.
- A **semiquaver rest** looks like a quaver rest with **2 lines** instead of one.
- **B Minor** has the same key signature as D Major.
- The **B Natural Minor Scale** contains the notes **B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A** and **B.**
- The triad of **B minor** is: **B, D** and **F#** (1, 3 and 5 of the natural minor scale).
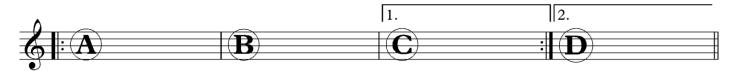
Homework

Answer the questions below relating to the following passage of music:

1.   What bar or bars contain a **crescendo**?_____
2.   Which bar is played **loudly** throughout?_____
3.   Which bar contains a **diminuendo***?_____
4.   Which bar is the **quietest**?_____
5.   Which bar contains the musical symbol **mezzo piano**?_____

Write down the sequence of **letters** that represents the order in which the following bars are played from the **start to the finish**.

Your answer _____

On the staves below **compose*** a **4 bar melody** in the key of **D major** and in **4/4.** Ensure there are 4 beats in every bar and the range of the notes are within an **octave*.**