

AP MUSIC THEORY 2017 SUMMER STUDY

If you are reading this you have chosen to enroll in the AP Music Theory course for this next school year. I would like to welcome you and encourage you as you work towards greater mastery of music. Please take time to read all of the information below so that you understand the demands of this course. Also take a moment and send me an email acknowledging that you have received this information. (s.santiago@tka.net) Feel free to contact me via email if you have any questions. All students will be expected to take a diagnostic test given the first week of school, to determine mastery of basic music theory concepts necessary to succeed in this course. This will count as your first test grade in the course. Please use the information below to help you prepare and bring the written assignment with you on the first day of class. The written assignment below will be your first daily grade.

Advanced Placement courses are presented on a college level using college-level textbooks. AP Music Theory runs like a first year college music theory experience, developing both theoretical and aural skills (although in college this is two separate courses).

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Like all other AP courses at TKA, you have this summer assignment to help you be better prepare for the demands of this course. We have much content to cover during the year including extensive aural skills (ear training). Students will benefit from preparatory work prior to the start of the school year. Some students have musical experience and parts of this summer assignment may feel like review. Either way, the Summer Assignment is critical to a successful start in August.

I have included the Summer Assignment for you to complete and bring with you on the first day of class. This study guide will be your first graded assignment. This study guide includes a list of topics which will be covered on your first test. You will also find excellent internet sources for you to use throughout the summer and the school year. You must spend some time on this material – you CAN NOT “Cram” for AP Music Theory.

BASIC MUSIC THEORY CONCEPTS:

- Identify notes in treble, bass, alto & tenor clefs
- Identify rhythmic symbols and their values
- Demonstrate understanding of meter signatures
- Identify Major Scales/modes (ONLY Major)
- Identify Key Signatures – Major keys only (flats & sharps)
- Ear training
 - Intervals – Major & Perfect intervals
 - Triads – Major, minor, Augmented & diminished
 - Scales – Major & minor

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT WEBSITES & STUDY INFORMATION

You will use several internet sites to help study and prepare you for the Summer Assignment. Each site is organized in a slightly different format. Take some time to familiarize yourself with each and take advantage of all they have to offer. We will use these sites regularly throughout the school year so it is vital for you to know how to navigate each one. Please keep in mind that the assignment below is just a brief example of the material you should be familiar with. You will need additional practice

These first two sites will be useful in answering the questions on the summer assignment:

<http://john.steffa.net/IntroToTheory/introduction/ChapterIndex.html>

This site was designed as an online course, however you will use the site for instruction and will use the practice questions at the end of each chapter to test your knowledge. If you find yourself reading through a chapter you already know, simply skip to the questions at the end of the chapter and test your knowledge of the material. You will be able to go back and review as needed.

Use the following website chapters for your Summer Study Assignment:

- Musical Symbols
- Note & Rest Values
- Meter Signatures
- Intervals
- Major Scales
- Key Signatures

www.sonicfit.com

This is an excellent website that offers great tutorials on all basic music theory concepts. It also has exercises as well as quizzes for each section to help you master your skills. Take time to listen to the lessons then spend time drilling note identification, key signatures etc. It works beautifully with solfege syllables and connecting your sight-singing/ ear-training and notation. A great user-friendly site.

Use these websites for review of all concepts: *the two sites below will be used extensively throughout the year.*

www.musictheory.net

This site has flash-based lessons for note reading, rhythms, key signatures, scales, triads and more. You can also find Trainers on these topics. You can select the settings button and customize each exercise as needed. *For example, when reviewing key signatures you can select only flat keys and then switch and do the same for sharp keys.* This site offers endless opportunities for review as well as the ability to build your speed at reading notes and key signatures. It is also great for ear training on intervals, triads and scales.

Use this site for the ear training review requested (customize as needed):

- Intervals – customize for Major & Perfect (if you wish to go further add minors)
- Scales – listen to the difference between Major & 3 types of minor
- Triads – listen to the differences between Major, minor, Augmented & diminished triads

www.teoria.com

This is a great website similar to MusicTheory.net but contains more exercises in a somewhat different format. Teoria also has a lot of ear training exercises which you should look at (interval recognition, chord sounds, melodic & harmonic dictation etc. . .) You can also customize exercises by selecting specific types of chords/interval/notes etc. . .

AP MUSIC THEORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

The following questions are listed by chapter based on the John Steffa website listed in your study materials.

Be Prepared to Identify the following:

Note names on the Grand Staff

Key Signatures (Major Keys)

Meter Signatures (understanding of each number)

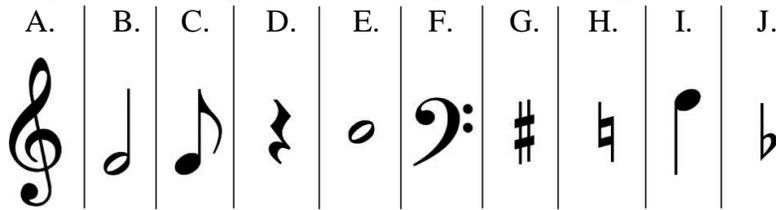
Rhythmic Duration (note values)

MUSICAL SYMBOLS

1. What are the names of the **four spaces** found on the TREBLE CLEF staff? _____
2. What are the names of the **five lines** found on the TREBLE CLEF staff? _____
3. As your hand moves to the **right** on the piano keyboard, do the pitches go **up** or **down**? _____
4. What is another name for the TREBLE CLEF sign? _____
5. What are the names of the **four spaces** found on the BASS CLEF staff? _____
6. What are the names of the **five lines** found on the BASS CLEF staff? _____
7. As your hand moves to the **left** on the piano keyboard, do the pitches go **up** or **down**? _____
8. What is another name for the BASS CLEF sign? _____
9. What is a **Meter Signature**? _____
10. What is a **Key Signature**? _____
11. What is an **Interval**? _____
12. What is the **smallest interval** in the Western European tradition of music? _____
13. What three symbols are placed at the beginning of a piece of music?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
14. Music is divided in to **rhythmic** units, what are they called? _____
15. What are rhythmic units separated by in music notation? _____
16. How far does a **double flat** lower a note? _____
17. Which two clefs are typically found on a **grand staff**? _____
18. In the **Alto clef** - what line or space becomes **Middle C**? _____
19. The purpose of **ledger lines** is to allow notes to be written _____
20. A diatonic half step is best defined as? _____

NOTE AND REST VALUES

Identify the following symbols (ie: quarter note, eighth rest, etc. . .)



- | | |
|----------|----------|
| A. _____ | F. _____ |
| B. _____ | G. _____ |
| C. _____ | H. _____ |
| D. _____ | I. _____ |
| E. _____ | J. _____ |

METER SIGNATURE

1. What meter signature would have **3 beats per measure**? _____
2. List a meter signature where the beat **naturally divides into 2 parts** _____
3. List a meter signature where the beat **naturally divides into 3 parts** _____
4. Which note represents the **beat in 6/8** meter? _____
5. Which note represents the **beat in 9/4** meter? _____

MAJOR SCALES

1. Which **church mode** contains the same whole/half-step pattern as the **Major scale**? _____
2. Between what **scale degrees** do half-steps occur in a **Major Scale**? _____
3. What is the patter of **whole-steps** and **half-steps** for a **Major Scale**? _____
4. Where do **natural half-steps** occur on the keyboard? _____

KEY SIGNATURES

1. What is the **order of sharps**? _____
2. What is the **order of flats**? _____
3. What is the **key name** for the following **Major key signatures**?

a. 4 sharps _____	e. 2 sharps _____
b. Nothing _____	f. 7 sharps _____
c. 7 flats _____	g. 1 flat _____
d. 5 sharps _____	h. 4 flats _____