

# Grade 6 Stage 1

E major  
A $\flat$  major  
9  
8

## Rhythmic exercises

Always practise the rhythmic exercises carefully before going on to the melodic exercises. Before you begin each exercise count two bars in – one out loud and one silently.

1

2

3

## Melodic exercises

### Set 1: Exploring E major and 9/8

Play the scale and arpeggio and improvise in the key. This will help you *think in the key*, which means having E major and its finger patterns strongly in your mind as you play.

1

2

## Prepared pieces

- 1 Play the scale in the character of the piece. Can you find any scale, triad or arpeggio patterns?
- 2 Sensing a crotchet pulse, clap the rhythm of the piece.
- 3 Think about the fingering in bar 6.
- 4 Why will it be important to feel a strong pulse when playing this piece?

Delicately

Have a rest

1

Musical score for 'Have a rest' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a dynamic of *mf* and a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff is marked *cantabile* and ends with a dynamic of *p*. The third staff features dynamics of *pp*, *mp*, and *mf*. The fourth staff ends with a dynamic of *p*. The piece includes several triplet markings and slurs.

- 1 Think about compound time. Does moving between  $\frac{9}{8}$  and  $\frac{6}{8}$  present any difficulty?
- 2 Play the scale and arpeggio of the key.
- 3 Read the piece in your head, hearing as much detail as you can.
- 4 Why are the leaps in bar 1 simple to play?

Wok's this?

Lightly stir-fried

2

Musical score for 'Wok's this?' in compound time, alternating between 9/8 and 6/8. The score consists of three staves. The first staff is marked *mp* and *f*. The second staff is marked *p* and *mp*. The third staff is marked *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. The piece includes slurs and dynamic markings.

# Grade 8 Stage 2

**D $\flat$  major**  
**Extending to F4**

$\frac{12}{8}$

## Rhythmic exercises

Compound time signatures may be felt against a  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  pulse. With experience, you will become adept at working out which pulse is the most appropriate.

1

2

3

## Melodic exercises

### Set 1: Exploring D $\flat$ major

Play the scale and arpeggio many times until you really know the patterns before going on.

1

2

3