



## DOROTHY SUTTON PERFORMANCE FESTIVAL THEORY TEST CONTENT

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Note: The knowledge tested on these exams are cumulative; exams at any given level will include music theory knowledge that has been introduced at the lower levels in this guide.

### PRIMER LEVEL

<b>KEY NAMES</b>	piano white key identification
<b>NOTE NAMES</b>	Piano - a 5th above and below middle C; Alto and Bass Clef Instruments – low G to C above the staff; Guitar, Treble Clef Instruments and Vocal Treble Clef – Middle C, up an octave; Vocal Bass Clef – second space C up to middle C
<b>NOTE VALUES</b>	quarter note, half note, dotted half note, whole note
<b>TIME SIGNATURES</b>	2/4, 3/4, 4/4
<b>INTERVALS</b>	2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th (white keys)
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	treble clef, [alto clef,] bass clef, forte, piano, double bar, staccato, legato, interval, tied notes, steps, skips, [one bow,] slurs, time signature, measures, beats, bar lines

### LEVEL 1

<b>KEY NAMES</b>	sharp and flat piano key identification, including white key sharps and flats
<b>NOTE NAMES</b>	Piano – all notes on the Grand Staff; Alto and Bass Clef Instruments – C below staff up to E above staff; Guitar, Treble Clef Instruments and Vocal Treble Clef – Middle C up to top line F; Vocal Bass Clef – second space C up to F above the staff
<b>NOTE/REST VALUES</b>	pair of eighth notes, quarter rest, half rest, whole rest
<b>TIME SIGNATURES</b>	2/4, 3/4, 4/4
<b>INTERVALS</b>	up to and including a 6th (white keys)
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	mezzo piano, mezzo forte, fermata, ritardando (rit.), flat, sharp, natural, whole step, half step, bar line, measure, repeat sign, key signature
<b>SOLFEGE IDENTIFICATION – VOCAL ONLY</b>	

### LEVEL 2

<b>NOTE NAMES</b>	Piano – all notes on the Grand Staff; Alto and Bass Clef Instruments, Vocal Bass Clef – C below staff up to high F; Guitar, Treble Clef Instruments and Vocal Treble Clef – Middle C up to top line F
<b>NOTE/REST VALUES</b>	dotted quarter note, single eighth note, eighth rest
<b>TIME SIGNATURES</b>	6/8
<b>INTERVALS</b>	7th, octave (8th)
<b>KEY SIGNATURES</b>	recognition of C, F, and G major keys
<b>SCALES</b>	be able to write C, F, and G major scales
<b>CHORDS</b>	identification of white key major triads in root position
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	a tempo, crescendo, diminuendo, transpose, ff, pp, 8va, D.C. al fine, allegro, moderato, andante, accent, triad, tempo, pianissimo, arpeggio
<b>SOLFEGE IDENTIFICATION – VOCAL ONLY</b>	

### LEVEL 3

<b>NOTE NAMES</b>	Piano – two ledger lines above and below the Grand Staff; Alto and Bass Instruments, Vocal Bass and Treble Clefs – C below staff to C above staff; Guitar, Treble Clef Instruments – Middle C to C above the staff
<b>NOTE/REST VALUES</b>	eighth note triplet, sixteenth notes
<b>TIME SIGNATURES</b>	C, 3/8, 9/8, 12/8
<b>INTERVALS</b>	recognition of perfect or major intervals in a white key major scale
<b>KEY SIGNATURES</b>	recognition of D, A, E, and B major keys
<b>SCALES</b>	be able to write D, A, E, and B major scales
<b>CHORDS</b>	identification of major triads in root position: Db, Eb, F#, Ab, and Bb
<b>TRANSPOSING</b>	be able to write 4 measures up or down 1 whole step in the treble clef
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	phrase, tonic note, D.S., ledger line, common time, dolce, adagio, allegretto, molto, poco

### LEVEL 4

<b>NOTE NAMES</b>	Piano – Inner ledger lines of Grand Staff; Alto and Treble Instruments, Guitar, Vocal Treble – G below the staff up to high F; Bass Clef Instruments, Vocal Bass Clef – C below the staff up to C above the staff
<b>NOTE/REST VALUES</b>	dotted eighth-sixteenth, sixteenth rest
<b>TIME SIGNATURES</b>	cut time (2/2)
<b>INTERVALS</b>	perfect 4th, 5th, 8th; Major 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th; in black key majors: Db, Eb, F#, Ab, Bb
<b>KEY SIGNATURES</b>	F# (Gb), Db, Eb, Ab, Bb major keys; be able to write sharps/flats in the correct order
<b>SCALES</b>	be able to write all major scales up to 6 sharps/flats
<b>CHORDS</b>	identification of all minor triads in root position
<b>TRANSPOSING</b>	be able to transpose 4 measures up or down a 5th from C major
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	con moto, non troppo, simile, subdominant note, dominant note, alla breve, cantabile, leggiero, largo, vivace, [tablature]

### LEVEL 5

<b>NOTE VALUES</b>	eighth note-two sixteenth notes
<b>INTERVALS</b>	minor 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 7th
<b>KEY SIGNATURES</b>	relative minors (e.g. C Major <-> a minor)
<b>SCALES</b>	write a, e, d, c, and g minor scales; recognize the 3 minor scale forms (no writing)
<b>CHORDS</b>	identification of any major or minor triad in 1st and 2nd inversion
<b>TRANSPOSING</b>	be able to transpose 4 measures between the keys of Bb, Eb, and Ab
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	tenuto, senza, meno mosso, una corda, sequence, portato, cadence, presto, prestissimo

### LEVEL 6

<b>NOTE VALUES</b>	sixteenth note triplet, thirty-second notes
<b>INTERVALS</b>	augmented and diminished all
<b>KEY SIGNATURES</b>	parallel minors (e.g. G Major <-> g minor)
<b>SCALES</b>	be able to write and identify all 3 forms of minor scales
<b>CHORDS</b>	augmented and diminished chords in root position
<b>TRANSPOSING</b>	be able to write 4 measures up or down a 5th from an Ab major melody
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	subito, accelerando, agitato, rubato, risoluto, sans ralentir, con forza, m.d. (main droit), m.g. (main gauche), modulate, lento, prestissimo, atonal, parallel chords
<b>MUSIC HISTORY</b>	characteristics and notable composers for all styles of Western European music: Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Contemporary, Impressionist

## LEVEL 7 – Piano Only!

<b>INTERVALS</b>	Maj, Per, min, Aug, and dim intervals, including double sharps and double flats
<b>KEY SIGNATURES</b>	all major and minor scales; relative minors and parallel minors
<b>CHORDS</b>	Maj, min, Aug, and dim triads in root position, 1st and 2nd inversion positions; dominant or diminished 7th chords in root position e.g. (C 7 or C dim7)
<b>TRANSPOSING</b>	from any key to any other key
<b>HARMONIC ANALYSIS</b>	be able to analyze a simple passage of music in a major key, identify and write the chord symbols using Roman Numerals – the following chords will be used: I, I 6, I 6/4, ii, ii 6, ii 6/4, IV, IV6, IV6/4, V, V6, V6/4 or V7
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	authentic cadence, half cadence, plagal cadence, articulation, cadenza, canon, con fuoco, counterpoint, enharmonic key, maestoso, marcato, morendo, piu, poco a poco, sforzando, spiritoso, syncopation, transcription, binary form, ternary form, homophony, polyphony

## LEVEL 8 – Piano Only!

<b>CHORDS</b>	major seventh, dominant seventh, minor seventh, and diminished seventh including all inversions e.g. (F7, C Maj 6/5, D min 4/3, or A dim 4/2)
<b>MODES</b>	Ionian, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, and Locrian. Be able to write any mode starting on any key. (e.g. C Dorian: C D Eb F G A Bb C)
<b>CADENCES</b>	authentic, plagal, half, and deceptive
<b>METER</b>	identify simple or compound, duple, triple, or quadruple
<b>ORNAMENTS</b>	identify appoggiatura, trill, turn, mordent and grace note
<b>HARMONIC ANALYSIS</b>	these additional chords may be used: V 6/5, V 4/3, V 4/2, vi, vi 6, and vi 6/4
<b>NONHARMONIC TONES</b>	be able to identify the following: anticipation, appoggiatura, lower neighbor, upper neighbor, passing tone and suspension
<b>MUSIC HISTORY: VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL FORMS, DANCES AND OCCASIONAL PIECES</b>	be able to match the following to their appropriate definition: aria, ballade, berceuse, bolero, cantata, capriccio, chamber music, etude, fugue, impromptu, invention, lied, madrigal, mazurka, minuet, musette, nocturne, oratorio, opera, overture, partita, polonaise, prelude, recitative, rhapsody, rondo, scherzo, solo concerto, sonata, symphony, suite, tarantella, theme and variations, toccata and waltz, serenade
<b>VOCABULARY</b>	a cappella, ad libitum, allargando, assai, C clef, doloroso, episode (as in a fugue), 15ma, glissando, grave, hemiola, leading tone, leitmotiv, libretto, l'istesso, loco, mediant, monophony, ostinato, pedal point, peu á peu, Picardy third, pizzicato, rinforzando, rubato, secondary dominant, sequence, simile, slentando, smorzando, solfege, sotto voce, stretto, subject (as in a fugue), submediant, supertonic, timbre, vibrato