



Sample Test Questions

Music: Instrumental



SAMPLE TEST QUESTIONS

The sample test questions in this document are designed to give you an introduction to the nature of the questions included in the Washington Educator Skills Tests—Endorsements (WEST–E). They represent the various types of questions you may expect to see on an actual test in this test field; however, they are *not* designed to provide diagnostic information to help you identify specific areas of individual strength or weakness or to predict your performance on the test as a whole.

Work through the sample questions carefully before referring to the answer key that follows. The answer key provides the correct response for each question and lists the objective within the test framework to which each question is linked. When you are finished with the sample questions, you may wish to review the test objectives and descriptive statements provided in the test framework for this test field.

In addition to reading and answering the sample questions, you should also utilize the following preparation materials available on the WEST Web site:

- Read **WEST–E Test-Taking Strategies** to understand how test questions are designed to measure specific test objectives and to learn important test-taking strategies for the day of the test.
- Review the **Test Summary and Framework** for your test field to familiarize yourself with the structure and content of the test. This document contains general testing information as well as the percentage of the total test score derived from each content domain described in the test framework.

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SAMPLE MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following accurately represents the second chord of this example? (The example will be played twice.)

(The examinee listens to a recording of the two chords shown below played on the piano:

Lento

A.

Lento

B.

Lento

C.

Lento

D.

Lento



3. This excerpt was most likely composed during which of the following periods?

(The examinee listens to a 25-second excerpt from a concerto composed by Antonio Vivaldi.)

- A. Renaissance
- B. Baroque
- C. Classical
- D. Romantic

4. Use the score below and listen to the excerpt to answer the question that follows.



In which of the following measures does the performer make an error in rhythm?
 (The excerpt will be played twice.)

(The examinee listens to a recorded performance of the musical score shown above. The flautist plays two sixteenth notes and an eighth note in measure 4.)

- A. measure 2
- B. measure 3
- C. measure 4
- D. measure 5

5. Which of the following musical examples should be played at a quick and lively tempo?

A.

Lento



B.

Vivace



C.

Allegro

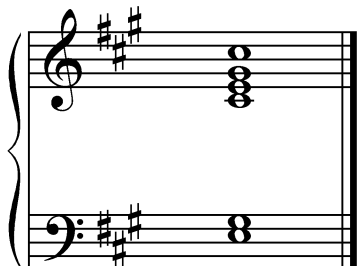


D.

Moderato



6. Use the example below to answer the question that follows.



Which of the following is the best description of the chord shown above?

- A. iii^6
- B. V^6
- C. V^7
- D. vii°

7. Use the example below to answer the question that follows.

The musical score consists of four staves: Violin, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The time signature is 3/4. The Violin part begins with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4 in measures 1-2, which are then slurred together. In measure 3, it continues with eighth notes G4, F4, E4, D4, which are also slurred. In measure 4, it plays eighth notes C4, B3, A3, G3, which are slurred. The Viola part plays a half note G3 in each of the four measures. The Cello part plays a half note G2 in each of the four measures, with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking above the first measure. The Double Bass part plays quarter notes G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1 in measures 1-4, with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking below the first measure and an accent (>) over each note.

In measure 1, the symbol over each note in the treble clef indicates that the notes should be played in which of the following ways?

- A. smoothly connected
- B. suddenly louder
- C. gradually faster
- D. crisply detached

8. Use the example below to answer the question that follows.



Which of the following represents an augmentation of the melody shown above?

A.



B.



C.



D.





9. Which of the following string instruments was widely used in the music of the Renaissance period?
- A. lyre
 - B. harp
 - C. mandolin
 - D. lute
10. Which of the following U.S. composers was preeminent in the field of band music in the twentieth century?
- A. Scott Joplin
 - B. John Philip Sousa
 - C. Louis Armstrong
 - D. George M. Cohan
11. Which of the following instruments was most likely recreated in Central America by Africans who were taken as slaves?
- A. panpipes
 - B. scraper
 - C. steel drums
 - D. marimba

12. Use the example below to answer the question that follows.



Which of the following represents the retrograde of the melody shown above?

A.



B.



C.



D.





13. When looking at a string orchestra from the conductor's perspective, which of the following instruments is traditionally placed at the end of the semicircle on the left?
- A. first violin
 - B. second violin
 - C. viola
 - D. cello
14. For saxophone players, which of the following is the most common cause of poor staccato?
- A. Too much of the mouthpiece is in the mouth.
 - B. Too little of the mouthpiece is in the mouth.
 - C. Too much of the lower lip is over the teeth.
 - D. Too little sustained breath support is used.
15. For brass players, which of the following is the most common cause of poor staccato?
- A. improper tongue position
 - B. insufficient breath support
 - C. excessive mouthpiece pressure
 - D. too much pressure on upper lip
16. When playing the bass drum, a percussionist can best produce strong accents by striking:
- A. the center of the drumhead with a beater.
 - B. a glancing blow with timpani sticks.
 - C. a perpendicular blow with a rubber mallet.
 - D. the center of the drumhead with a soft mallet.



17. Which of the following components of the human voice generates the sound for singing?
- A. the pharynx, mouth, and nasal cavity
 - B. the respiratory muscles
 - C. the tongue, teeth, and lips
 - D. the vocal cords
18. Which of the following elements of music would a composer typically consider first when creating a new work?
- A. rhythm
 - B. form
 - C. harmony
 - D. texture
19. A music teacher can best support a science teacher's presentation about sound wavelengths and frequencies by demonstrating the:
- A. installation of a complete set of strings on a string instrument.
 - B. attachment of a reed to a mouthpiece.
 - C. relationship between pitch and string length.
 - D. effects of using various mallet types on a keyboard percussion instrument.
20. Which of the following areas of college course work would be most important to an individual who wants to be a music journalist?
- A. technology
 - B. music theory
 - C. English
 - D. music history



ANSWER KEY

Question Number	Correct Response	Test Objective
1	B	0001
2	A	0002
3	B	0003
4	C	0004
5	B	0005
6	A	0006
7	D	0007
8	C	0008
9	D	0009
10	B	0010
11	D	0011
12	A	0012
13	A	0013
14	D	0014
15	A	0015
16	A	0016
17	D	0017
18	B	0019
19	C	0020
20	C	0021