
AP[®] Music Theory

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

Inside:

Free Response Question 4

- ☒ **Scoring Guideline**
- ☒ **Student Samples**
- ☒ **Scoring Commentary**

AP[®] MUSIC THEORY 2019 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 4

f: i ii^{o6} V i VI V₃⁶/V V V⁷ i

0–24 points

I. Pitches (16 points)

- A. Award 1 point for each correctly notated pitch. Do not consider duration. (An accidental placed *after* the notehead is not considered correct notation.)
- B. Award full credit for octave transpositions of the correct bass pitch. (Octave transpositions of soprano pitches are *not* allowed.)
- C. No enharmonic equivalents are allowed.

II. Chord Symbols (8 points)

- A. Award 1 point for each chord symbol correct in both Roman and Arabic numerals.
- B. Award ½ point for each correct Roman numeral that has incorrect or missing Arabic numerals.
- C. Accept the correct Roman numeral, regardless of its case.
- D. Award no credit if an accidental is placed before a Roman numeral.
- E. Secondary functions must be indicated with any symbol that means “of” or “applied.” Accept any symbol that means “of” or “applied” at chord six (e.g.: V[#]/V, [V[#]], V[#]→V, V[#] of V, etc.).

III. Rounding Fractional Scores

Half-point totals round up with one exception: A total score of 23½ rounds down to 23.

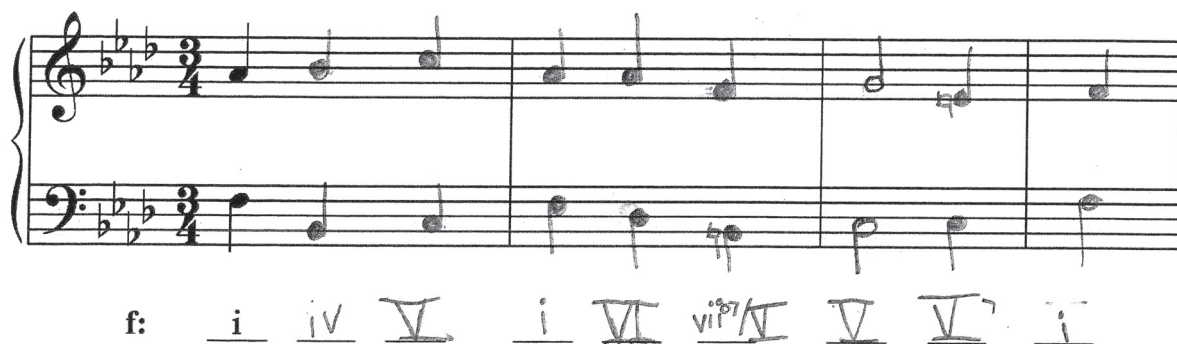
IV. Scores with Additional Meaning

- 0 This score is used for a response that represents an unsuccessful attempt to answer the question or a response that is off-topic or irrelevant.
- The dash is reserved for blank responses.


Question 4. Before listening to the first playing, please look at the staff below. Notice that there are nine chords in the progression; the soprano and bass notes and the Roman numeral of the first chord are given.


Remember to notate only the soprano and bass voices and to write, in every blank, the numerals indicating the chords and their inversions.


Now listen to the progression for the first time and begin working. 



f: i iv V i VI vi⁷/V V V⁷ i

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a second time. 

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a third time. 

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a final time. 

The remaining free-response questions for the music theory test are without audio prompts. You may answer them in the order you choose. You have a total of 45 minutes to complete free-response questions 5–7. A suggested time for each question is printed in your test booklet. Read the three questions carefully and use your time effectively. Now turn the page and begin working.


Question 4. Before listening to the first playing, please look at the staff below. Notice that there are nine chords in the progression; the soprano and bass notes and the Roman numeral of the first chord are given.


Remember to notate only the soprano and bass voices and to write, in every blank, the numerals indicating the chords and their inversions.


Now listen to the progression for the first time and begin working. 



f: i V⁷ V⁶ iv V⁶ V/V V⁷ V i

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a second time. 

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a third time. 

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a final time. 

The remaining free-response questions for the music theory test are without audio prompts. You may answer them in the order you choose. You have a total of 45 minutes to complete free-response questions 5–7. A suggested time for each question is printed in your test booklet. Read the three questions carefully and use your time effectively. Now turn the page and begin working.


Question 4. Before listening to the first playing, please look at the staff below. Notice that there are nine chords in the progression; the soprano and bass notes and the Roman numeral of the first chord are given.


Remember to notate only the soprano and bass voices and to write, in every blank, the numerals indicating the chords and their inversions.


Now listen to the progression for the first time and begin working. 



f: i ii iii iv v i ii iii iv

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a second time. 

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a third time. 

The progression for **Question 4** will now be played a final time. 

The remaining free-response questions for the music theory test are without audio prompts. You may answer them in the order you choose. You have a total of 45 minutes to complete free-response questions 5–7. A suggested time for each question is printed in your test booklet. Read the three questions carefully and use your time effectively. Now turn the page and begin working.

AP[®] MUSIC THEORY

2019 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 4

Overview

This question assessed students' ability to:

- hear a four-part progression in a minor key and notate the outer voices;
- hear and notate triads and seventh chords in root position and in inversion;
- hear and notate the secondary dominant chord and provide an appropriate Roman numeral analysis;
- demonstrate a knowledge of common chord progressions;
- provide the correct Roman numeral analysis of the chords; and
- hear, notate, and analyze a perfect authentic cadence.

Sample: 4A

Score: 20

This represents a very good response. The student correctly notates six soprano notes and earned 6 points. All of the bass notes are correct; 8 points were awarded. The Roman numeral analysis is correct for six chords and 6 points were awarded. The Roman numerals are incorrect for chord two and chord six, which is incorrectly labeled as a secondary leading-tone chord, rather than a secondary dominant chord. (Soprano: 6; Bass: 8; Roman numerals: 6; Total = 20)

Sample: 4B

Score: 12

This represents a fair response. The student correctly notates four soprano pitches; 4 points were awarded. The student correctly notates five bass pitches and was awarded 5 points. Roman numeral nine is correct and earned 1 point. The analysis for chords three, six, seven, and eight were awarded $\frac{1}{2}$ point each because the Arabic numerals are incorrect. (Soprano: 4; Bass: 5; Roman numerals: 3; Total = 12)

Sample: 4C

Score: 5

This represents a weak response. The student correctly notates the second soprano pitch; 1 point was awarded. The student correctly notates the fifth and last bass pitches and earned 2 points. The Roman numeral analysis for chord nine is correct and earned 1 point. The Roman numeral for chord two was awarded $\frac{1}{2}$ point because the Arabic numeral indicating the inversion is missing. (Soprano: 1; Bass: 2; Roman numerals: $1\frac{1}{2}$; Total = $4\frac{1}{2}$, rounded up to 5)