
AP[®] Music Theory

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

Inside:

Free-Response Question 2

- Scoring Guidelines**
- Student Samples**
- Scoring Commentary**

III. Scores with Additional Meaning

- 1** This score may also be used for a response that does not have one segment correct in both pitch and rhythm but has two or more redeeming qualities. (Do not award the additional point.) Redeeming qualities may include good contour, or multiple correct pitches or rhythms that do not comprise a complete segment.
- 0** This score is used for a response that demonstrates an attempt to answer the question but has no redeeming qualities (or only one) or a response that is off-topic or irrelevant.

NR Reserved for blank responses.

IV. Scoring Notes

- A.** The following notations will *not* receive credit: enharmonic equivalents; octave transpositions; dots *before* the notehead; accidentals *after* the notehead.
- B.** If you use an alternate scoring guide, do not award the extra point to the total.
- C.** If you try both regular and alternate scoring guides, award the higher of the scores if there is a difference.
- D.** Scores from one guide may *not* be combined with those from another guide.


The melody is given below without bar lines and beams to assist in identifying segments (a segment is any half measure of the original melody, i.e., any set of two contiguous quarter-note beats):



Question 2

Write your response to QUESTION 2 on this page.

Question 2. The melody will be played four times. There will be a pause of 30 seconds after the first playing and a one-minute pause after each subsequent playing. The melody you will hear uses all four of the measures provided below and contains no rests. The melody will be played on a bassoon.

The pitch of the first note has been provided. Be sure to notate the rhythm of that note. Now listen to the melody for the first time and begin working. 

Moderato



The melody for Question 2 will now be played a second time. 

The melody for Question 2 will now be played a third time. 

The melody for Question 2 will now be played a final time. 


PLEASE GO ON TO THE NEXT SET OF QUESTIONS.

Use a pencil only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

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Question 2

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

The question overviews can be found in the “Chief Reader Report on Student Responses” on [AP Central](#).

Sample: 2A

Score: 8

This represents an excellent response. Seven of the eight segments are correct in pitch and rhythm (segments one, three, four, five, six, seven, and eight), and 7 points were awarded. Segment two is correct in rhythm, but the B-flat (instead of B-natural) did not receive credit for pitch. Following the Regular Scoring Guide, 1 point was added to the score of 7 for a total score of 8.

Sample: 2B

Score: 5

This represents a fair response. Four of the eight segments are correct in both pitch and rhythm (segments one, three, four, and eight) and 4 points were awarded. Segments two, six, and seven are incorrect in pitch. Segment five is incorrect in both pitch and rhythm. Following the Regular Scoring Guide, 1 point was added to the score of 4 for a total score of 5.

Sample: 2C

Score: 2

This represents a poor response. Segment eight is correct in pitch and rhythm, and 1 point was awarded. Segment one is incorrect in pitch. Segments two, three, four, five, six, and seven are incorrect in both pitch and rhythm. Following the Regular Scoring Guide, the response earned an additional 1 point. The Alternate Scoring Guide does not award more points for this response; therefore 1 point was added to the score of 1 for a total score of 2.