



AP Music Theory Student Score Distributions – Global AP Exams - May 2010

Aural Subscore

Exam Score	Music Theory	
	N	% At
5	3,372	19.5
4	3,006	17.4
3	4,093	23.7
2	4,553	26.4
1	2,243	13.0
Number of Students	17,267	
3 or Higher / %	10,471	60.6
Mean Score	3.04	
Standard Deviation	1.32	

Exam Score	Music Theory Aural Subscore	
	N	% At
5	3,387	19.6
4	3,054	17.7
3	4,036	23.4
2	4,553	26.4
1	2,237	13.0
Number of Students	17,267	
3 or Higher / %	10,477	60.7
Mean Score	3.05	
Standard Deviation	1.32	

Nonaural Subscore

Exam Score	Music Theory Nonaural Subscore	
	N	% At
5	3,468	20.1
4	3,027	17.5
3	4,068	23.6
2	4,420	25.6
1	2,284	13.2
Number of Students	17,267	
3 or Higher / %	10,563	61.2
Mean Score	3.06	
Standard Deviation	1.33	

Two subscores are reported based on students' performance on the aural and nonaural portions of the exam. The aural component includes multiple-choice questions related to recorded musical examples, two melodic dictation questions, two harmonic dictation questions, and two sight-singing questions. The nonaural component includes multiple-choice questions requiring score analysis and other multiple-choice questions not related to recorded musical examples. It also includes free-response questions calling for realization of a figured bass, realization of a chord progression from Roman numerals, and composition of a bass line to fit a given melody. The subscores help music departments make appropriate decisions about credit and placement when they offer separate courses for written theory and aural skills. It is recommended that, for students continuing study in music, subscores be considered along with the overall score. It is further recommended that the college or university use the overall score to set policy for students seeking general humanities credits.