

# AP<sup>®</sup> MUSIC THEORY 2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 2

*Moderato*



### SCORING: 9 points

Always begin with the regular scoring guide. Try an alternate scoring guide *only* if necessary. (See **I.D.**)

#### I. Regular Scoring Guide

- A.** Award 1 point for each segment correct in both pitch and rhythm.
- A “segment” is any set of two contiguous quarter-note beats of the original melody, even if occurring over a bar line or beginning on a metrically weak pulse.
  - To receive credit, a segment must not overlap with any other segment receiving credit.
  - Do not subdivide a note to identify a segment.
  - To receive credit, a segment *may* be metrically shifted from its original position.
  - Give no credit for the final half note if notation of pitches continues thereafter.
- B.** If at least one segment is correct in pitch and rhythm, add 1 point to the total. For example, a response that is correct in all aspects receives a score of 8 + 1, or 9. Exception: Do not award a 9 unless all measures have the correct number of beats. Award an 8 (i.e., do not award the extra point) to an otherwise perfect response that does not use bar lines correctly.
- C.** Record any score of 4 or higher, and ignore the alternate scoring guides.
- D.** If after applying **I.A.** and **I.B.** the score is less than 4, try an alternate scoring guide.

#### II. Alternate Scoring Guides (Do *not* add the extra point to the total.)

- A.** Award  $\frac{1}{2}$  point per segment of correct pitches. (Maximum of 4 points)  
OR
- B.** Award  $\frac{1}{4}$  point per segment of correct rhythm. (Maximum of 2 points)

#### III. Rounding Fractional Scores

- A.** Half-point totals round down with one exception: A total score of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  rounds up to 2.
- B.** Quarter points should be rounded to the closest integer.


#### IV. 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 add the extra point!)
- 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.
- The dash is reserved for blank responses.


#### V. Notes


- A.** No enharmonic equivalents or octave transpositions are permitted.
- B.** If you use an alternate scoring guide, do *not* add the extra point to the total.
- C.** If you try both regular and alternate scoring guides, record the higher of the scores if there is a difference.
- D.** Scores from one guide may *not* be combined with those from another guide.


**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 to notate it. 



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.**


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*Moderato*

minor

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# AP<sup>®</sup> MUSIC THEORY

## 2012 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Question 2

#### Overview

The intent of this question was to test students' ability to:

- hear a minor melody in simple meter;
- hear and properly notate the raised 4th scale degree;
- hear and properly notate the raised 6th and 7th scale degrees of melodic minor;
- notate accidentals correctly;
- recognize and properly notate dotted rhythms;
- hear and notate leaps of a perfect fifth and ascending and descending sixths;
- hear scalar patterns in a minor key; and
- notate pitches correctly in bass clef.

#### Sample: 2A

##### Score: 8

This represents a very good response. Seven segments are correct in both pitch and rhythm and were awarded 7 points. The second segment is correct in rhythm but not in pitch (the end of the second segment has the pitch G instead of A) and so was not awarded credit. 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. Segments five, six, seven, and eight are all correct in both pitch and rhythm and were awarded 4 points. In segments one through four, although the rhythm is correct, there are pitch errors in each segment. Segment one has a flat added on the pitch B, segment two has the pitch C instead of A at the end, segment three is missing the sharp to raise the fourth scale degree D, and segment four is missing the sharps to raise the sixth and seventh scale degrees of the ascending melodic minor scale. With the added point in the regular scoring guide, the response earned a total score of 5.

#### Sample: 2C

##### Score: 2

This represents a weak response. Only the first segment is correct in both pitch and rhythm. With the added point in the regular scoring guide, this response earned a score of 2. Trying the alternate scoring guide for pitch, the pitches in measure one and the beginning of measure two are correct for segments one and two, the pitches A-B-A-G in the third measure are correct for segment five, the first three notes of the fourth measure constitute two contiguous quarter-note beats of correct pitch, and the final pitch is correct for segment eight. Awarding  $\frac{1}{2}$  point for each segment of correct pitches yielded a total score of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points, which rounded down to 2 points; the score was the same using either the regular scoring guide or the alternate scoring guide.