

Dictation

Part I: Rhythm

Developing Aural-Oral Translation Skills

Practice chanting and naming patterns (Section 14.3) using the three-step process with your instructor or student partner, or individually via the MP3 files of the rhythm patterns for Part I, Chapter 14 located on the companion website.

Rhythm Shorthand

Suggested shorthand symbols for Part I, Chapter 14 are illustrated below.

Simple Meter: Quarter Note = Beat Unit; More Rhythms with Borrowed Beat Division; Chapter 14, Part I

Dictation Shorthand

Quarter Note = Beat Unit

The image displays three musical staves, each representing a different rhythm shorthand pattern. Above each staff are shorthand symbols, and below each staff is the corresponding musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff shows shorthand symbols: a vertical line with '1' above it, a vertical line with '3' above it, a vertical line with 'r' and '3' above it, a vertical line with '3' above it, and a vertical line with 'r' and '3' above it. The musical notation below consists of quarter notes and eighth notes with beams, with '3' above groups of three notes. The second staff shows shorthand symbols: a vertical line with '2' and '3' above it, a vertical line with 'r' and '3' above it, a vertical line with 'r' and '3' above it, a vertical line with '3' above it, and a vertical line with '3' above it. The musical notation below consists of quarter notes and eighth notes with beams, with '3' above groups of three notes. The third staff shows shorthand symbols: a vertical line with '3' and '2' above it, a vertical line with '3' and '1' above it, a vertical line with '3' and '1' above it, a vertical line with '3' and '2' above it, and a vertical line with '3' and '2' above it. The musical notation below consists of quarter notes and eighth notes with beams, with '3' above groups of three notes.

Rhythm Shorthand Procedure

Write with one hand and quietly patsch/tap the beat with the other hand. Following the down-up motion of each beat can be an aid in determining the rhythm. Isolate each beat and mark the appropriate shorthand. If the rhythm on a particular beat or two cannot be determined, continue to move forward focusing on the ensuing beats. On the second playing, readdress the missing beats. Make any necessary adjustments during the third playing and then transcribe the rhythm shorthand into notation.

As your skills improve, gradually increase the length of each dictation exercise. All or part of each reading exercise in Chapter 14 as well as the additional reading exercises available on the companion website can be used for dictation.

Rhythm Shorthand Templates — Chapter 14, Part I

Short Hand	1.		2.	
Notation	$\frac{2}{4}$		$\frac{2}{4}$	
Short Hand	3.		4.	
Notation	$\frac{2}{4}$		$\frac{2}{4}$	
Short Hand	5.			
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$			
Short Hand	6.			
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$			
Short Hand	7.			
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$			
Short Hand	8.			
Notation	$\frac{3}{4}$			
Short Hand	9.			
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$			
Short Hand	10.			
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$			
Short Hand	11.			
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$			
Short Hand	12.			
Notation	$\frac{4}{4}$			