Chapter 5

Beat, Meter, and Rhythm: Compound Meters

BASIC ELEMENTS

Meter signatures

A. Provide the correct meter signature for the example below. Beneath the staff, write the meter type (e.g., compound triple). For now, disregard pitch elements and focus only on the rhythm and meter.

Chopin, Nocturne in Eb Major, Op. 9, No. 2, mm. 1–2

Meter type: __________________________
B. Simple meter review. For each of the following meters, write in the meter type, beat unit, division and subdivision, and borrowed division (triplets). See the example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meter</th>
<th>Meter Type</th>
<th>Beat Unit</th>
<th>Beat Division</th>
<th>Beat Subdivision</th>
<th>Borrowed Division (Triplets)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{3}{2}$</td>
<td>simple triple</td>
<td>$\downarrow$</td>
<td>$\bullet \bullet$</td>
<td>$\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$</td>
<td>$\frac{3}{3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{4}{8}$</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{3}{8}$</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>$\frac{4}{4}$</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
WRITING EXERCISES

I. Incomplete measures

Add one rest to any measure below that has too few beats. Then perform each rhythm while conducting the meter.

(a) \( \frac{6}{8} \)

(b) \( \frac{12}{4} \)

(c) \( \frac{9}{16} \)

(d) \( \frac{3}{4} \)

(e) \( \frac{4}{2} \)
II. Inserting bar lines: Simple and compound meters

Note the meter signature given, then add bar lines to the melody. This melody has an anacrusis, so the first bar line is given, and the last bar is shortened to account for the upbeat. Note that some rhythms feature triplets.

Chopin, Nocturne in G minor, Op. 37, No. 1, mm. 1–6 (melody only)