

Music Notation Assessment: Grade 4

Learning objective: To understand and apply knowledge of musical notation, including note values, time signatures, and the staff.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of rhythm and pitch to answer. Max, our math-loving monkey, reminds you to check your counting for the rhythmic values!

Music is a language written down on a staff. Just like in math, every note has a specific value. A semibreve lasts for four beats, a minim for two, a crotchet for one, and a quaver for half a beat. Composers use time signatures to tell us how many beats go into each bar, and bar lines to keep our rhythm organized.

Word bank: Staff · Treble Clef · Minim · Crotchet · Quaver · Time Signature · Bar Line · Semibreve

1. Identify two features of a musical staff that help a musician know which notes to play. (2 marks)

2. If a time signature is 4/4, how many crotchets can fit into one single bar? Explain your answer. (3 marks)

3. Match the note to its duration: Semibreve, Minim, Crotchet, Quaver. Assign the correct number of beats (4, 2, 1, 0.5) to each. (4 marks)

4. Why is it important for a composer to use bar lines in their musical notation? (3 marks)

5. Look at a rhythm containing two minims and four quavers. Calculate the total number of beats in this sequence and show your working out. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Zara the zebra is composing a short piece of music. Describe how she would use a stave, a time signature, and a variety of note values to ensure her piece is easy for others to play. Include why accurate notation is essential for sharing music. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a treble clef on a five-line stave and place a minim on the middle line (B).



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a 4-beat rhythm using a mix of crotchets and quavers, then write the equivalent rhythm using only minims and rests.