

Max's Musical Notation Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and understand musical notation, including note values, rests, and the musical stave.

Max the monkey is busy counting rhythms! Answer these 10 questions to see if you can keep up with the beat. Read each question carefully before choosing your answer.

Answer Key: 1. C (Stave), 2. False, 3. Crotchet, 4. B (Minim), 5. True, 6. Treble clef, 7. A (Semibreve), 8. False, 9. Quaver, 10. True.

Word bank: Stave · Minim · Crotchet · Semibreve · Quaver · Rest · Bar line · Treble clef

1. 1. What is the name for the set of five horizontal lines and four spaces where music is written? A) Grid, B) Staff, C) Stave*, D) Frame (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: A crotchet rest lasts for the same amount of time as a semibreve rest. (1 mark)

3. 3. Which note value is typically worth one beat in 4/4 time? (1 mark)

4. 4. Which note looks like a crotchet but has an open, white note head? A) Quaver, B) Minim*, C) Semibreve, D) Semi-quaver (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: A bar line is a vertical line used to divide music into equal sections. (1 mark)

6. 6. What is the name of the symbol placed at the beginning of the stave to indicate the pitch of the notes? (1 mark)

7. 7. Which note has the longest duration, usually lasting for four beats? A) Semibreve*, B) Minim, C) Crotchet, D) Quaver (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: A quaver is worth more beats than a crotchet. (1 mark)

9. 9. Which note value is often written with a 'flag' or a 'tail' on its stem? (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: A musical 'rest' tells the performer to be silent for a specific amount of time. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a musical stave and place three different types of notes on it. Label your notes (e.g., Crotchet, Minim, Semibreve) and draw a treble clef at the start of the stave.



Extension challenge: Max the monkey wants to compose a rhythm! Create a 4-beat pattern using a mix of crotchets and minims. If a crotchet costs £1 to 'write' and a minim costs £2, how much would your 4-beat rhythm cost in total?