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Basic Elements of Reading and Writing Music

Stephen Hill
K-12 Band and Orchestra
Whittier Christian Schools and California High School


SARAHTIM Music Publishing




This series of 40 videos and accompanying worksheets was designed to introduce my students to the basic vocabulary and fundamental elements of reading and writing music. It is not intended as an in-depth study of all that Music Theory entails.

Though written with my students in mind and from the perspective of how I presented the concepts, the videos and worksheets are available to anyone who may find them helpful.

You can view the video tutorials and download the PDF worksheets from my website at www.stephenhillcomposer.com under *Resources*. The videos are also viewable on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@stephenhillcomposer>.

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About the Composer...**Stephen Hill** (b. 1958) was born and raised in Southern California. He studied composition with Philip Westin at Cerritos College (CA), W. Francis McBeth at Ouachita Baptist University (Arkansas), and Byong Kon Kim at California State University, Los Angeles. Stephen's studies with these composers connect him to a lineage that includes their teachers, Roy Harris, Ingolf Dahl, Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, Bernhard Heiden, and Howard Hanson. Stephen composes for the simple joy of it.

For over 40 years, Stephen taught K-12 instrumental music in the Private Christian School (Whittier Christian) and Public School (California High School) settings. Although semi-retired, Stephen continues to work with students by teaching part-time at California High School and maintaining his private music studio, where he plays and teaches Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, and Piano. Stephen also plays with the church orchestra where he attends. When teaching full-time, he was primarily a "summer" composer. No longer teaching full-time, Stephen has the privilege of composing beyond just the summer months and publishes through his company, SARAHTIM — a title that comes from simply combining the names of his daughter, Sarah, and son, Timothy. (*Notes by Dr. John Burdett, Azusa Pacific University*)

“Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence.” J.S.Bach

“The Lord is my shepherd...” (Psalm 23)

*To listen to Stephen's music, view pdf and video scores visit:
www.stephenhillcomposer.com*


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Basic Elements of Reading and Writing Music

13. Music Rests and Math

Stephen Hill
K-12 Band and Orchestra
Whittier Christian Schools and California High School


SARAHTIM Music Publishing


Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Rests) - Speed Sheet 1

 - Whole Rest = 4 beats  - Half Rest = 2 beats

 - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

1.  +  = _____

13.  +  = _____

2.  +  = _____

14.  +  = _____

3.  +  = _____

15.  +  = _____

4.  +  = _____

16.  +  = _____

5.  +  = _____

17.  +  = _____

6.  +  = _____

18.  +  = _____

7.  +  = _____

19.  +  = _____

8.  +  = _____

20.  +  = _____

9.  +  = _____

21.  +  = _____

10.  +  = _____

22.  +  = _____

11.  +  = _____

23.  +  = _____

12.  +  = _____

24.  +  = _____

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Rests) - Speed Sheet 2

— - Whole Rest = 4 beats — - Half Rest = 2 beats

♪ - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

1. ♪ + ♪ + — = _____ 13. — + — + ♪ = _____

2. — + ♪ + ♪ = _____ 14. — + ♪ + ♪ = _____

3. — + ♪ + — = _____ 15. ♪ + — + ♪ = _____

4. — + — + ♪ = _____ 16. ♪ + ♪ + — = _____

5. — + — + ♪ = _____ 17. — + ♪ + — = _____

6. — + — + ♪ = _____ 18. — + ♪ + — = _____

7. ♪ + — + — = _____ 19. ♪ + — + — = _____

8. ♪ + ♪ + — = _____ 20. — + — + ♪ = _____

9. — + ♪ + ♪ = _____ 21. — + ♪ + ♪ = _____

10. ♪ + — + ♪ = _____ 22. ♪ + ♪ + — = _____

11. — + ♪ + — = _____ 23. — + — + ♪ = _____

12. — + — + ♪ = _____ 24. — + ♪ + — = _____

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Rests) - Speed Sheet 3

 - Whole Rest = 4 beats  - Half Rest = 2 beats

 - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

1. + = 2 beats 13. + = 6 beats

2. + = 4 beats 14. + = 5 beats

3. + = 3 beats 15. + = 8 beats

4. + = 6 beats 16. + = 3 beats

5. + = 8 beats 17. + = 5 beats

6. + = 5 beats 18. + = 4 beats

7. + = 4 beats 19. + = 2 beats

8. + = 3 beats 20. + = 6 beats

9. + = 6 beats 21. + = 8 beats

10. + = 8 beats 22. + = 4 beats

11. + = 5 beats 23. + = 8 beats

12. + = 2 beats 24. + = 6 beats

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Notes and Rests) - Speed Sheet 4

1.  +  +  = _____

2.  +  +  = _____

3.  +  +  = _____

4.  +  +  = _____

5.  +  +  = _____

6.  +  +  = _____

7.  +  +  = _____

8.  +  +  = _____

9.  +  +  = _____

10.  +  +  = _____

11.  +  +  = _____

12.  +  +  = _____

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Rests) - Subtraction Speed Sheet

 - Whole Rest = 4 beats  - Half Rest = 2 beats

 - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

1.  -  = _____

13.  -  = _____

2.  -  = _____

14.  -  = _____

3.  -  = _____

15.  -  = _____

4.  -  = _____

16.  -  = _____

5.  -  = _____

17.  -  = _____

6.  -  = _____

18.  -  = _____

7.  -  = _____

19.  -  = _____

8.  -  = _____

20.  -  = _____

9.  -  = _____

21.  -  = _____

10.  -  = _____

22.  -  = _____

11.  -  = _____

23.  -  = _____

12.  -  = _____

24.  -  = _____

Time _____

Name Answer Key

Music Math (Rests) - Speed Sheet 1

 - Whole Rest = 4 beats  - Half Rest = 2 beats - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

1.  +  = 2

13.  +  = 4

2.  +  = 3

14.  +  = 3

3.  +  = 5

15.  +  = 5

4.  +  = 4

16.  +  = 2

5.  +  = 6

17.  +  = 3

6.  +  = 8

18.  +  = 5

7.  +  = 3

19.  +  = 5

8.  +  = 2

20.  +  = 6

9.  +  = 5

21.  +  = 5

10.  +  = 5

22.  +  = 2

11.  +  = 3

23.  +  = 8

12.  +  = 6

24.  +  = 6

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Rests) - Speed Sheet 2

 - Whole Rest = 4 beats  - Half Rest = 2 beats - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

1.  +  +  = 4

13.  +  +  = 9

2.  +  +  = 4

14.  +  +  = 4

3.  +  +  = 7

15.  +  +  = 4

4.  +  +  = 9

16.  +  +  = 4

5.  +  +  = 7

17.  +  +  = 7

6.  +  +  = 9

18.  +  +  = 9

7.  +  +  = 7

19.  +  +  = 7

8.  +  +  = 6

20.  +  +  = 7

9.  +  +  = 6

21.  +  +  = 6

10.  +  +  = 6

22.  +  +  = 6

11.  +  +  = 7

23.  +  +  = 9

12.  +  +  = 7

24.  +  +  = 7

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Rests) - Speed Sheet 3

■ - Whole Rest = 4 beats ■ - Half Rest = 2 beats

♪ - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. ___ + ___ = <u>2 beats</u> | 13. ___ + ___ = <u>6 beats</u> |
| 2. ___ + ___ = <u>4 beats</u> | 14. ___ + ___ = <u>5 beats</u> |
| 3. ___ + ___ = <u>3 beats</u> | 15. ___ + ___ = <u>8 beats</u> |
| 4. ___ + ___ = <u>6 beats</u> | 16. ___ + ___ = <u>3 beats</u> |
| 5. ___ + ___ = <u>8 beats</u> | 17. ___ + ___ = <u>5 beats</u> |
| 6. ___ + ___ = <u>5 beats</u> | 18. ___ + ___ = <u>4 beats</u> |
| 7. ___ + ___ = <u>4 beats</u> | 19. ___ + ___ = <u>2 beats</u> |
| 8. ___ + ___ = <u>3 beats</u> | 20. ___ + ___ = <u>6 beats</u> |
| 9. ___ + ___ = <u>6 beats</u> | 21. ___ + ___ = <u>8 beats</u> |
| 10. ___ + ___ = <u>8 beats</u> | 22. ___ + ___ = <u>4 beats</u> |
| 11. ___ + ___ = <u>5 beats</u> | 23. ___ + ___ = <u>8 beats</u> |
| 12. ___ + ___ = <u>2 beats</u> | 24. ___ + ___ = <u>6 beats</u> |

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Notes and Rests) - Speed Sheet 4

1.  +  +  = 6

2.  +  +  = 7

3.  +  +  = 10

4.  +  +  = 7

5.  +  +  = 4

6.  +  +  = 10

7.  +  +  = 9

8.  +  +  = 9

9.  +  +  = 10

10.  +  +  = 8

11.  +  +  = 9

12.  +  +  = 7

Time _____

Name _____

Music Math (Rests) - Speed Sheet 3

 - Whole Rest = 4 beats  - Half Rest = 2 beats - Quarter Rest = 1 beat

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1.  +  = <u>2 beats</u> | 13.  +  = <u>6 beats</u> |
| 2.  +  = <u>4 beats</u> | 14.  +  = <u>5 beats</u> |
| 3.  +  = <u>3 beats</u> | 15.  +  = <u>8 beats</u> |
| 4.  +  = <u>6 beats</u> | 16.  +  = <u>3 beats</u> |
| 5.  +  = <u>8 beats</u> | 17.  +  = <u>5 beats</u> |
| 6.  +  = <u>5 beats</u> | 18.  +  = <u>4 beats</u> |
| 7.  +  = <u>4 beats</u> | 19.  +  = <u>2 beats</u> |
| 8.  +  = <u>3 beats</u> | 20.  +  = <u>6 beats</u> |
| 9.  +  = <u>6 beats</u> | 21.  +  = <u>8 beats</u> |
| 10.  +  = <u>8 beats</u> | 22.  +  = <u>4 beats</u> |
| 11.  +  = <u>5 beats</u> | 23.  +  = <u>8 beats</u> |
| 12.  +  = <u>2 beats</u> | 24.  +  = <u>6 beats</u> |