

Cello Standards: Sight Reading and Memorization

SIGHT READING

BEFORE PLAYING:

Read the _____. Read the _____.
Read the _____. Read the _____. Read the _____.
_____ through the music. Look for _____ changes, _____
changes, _____ changes, _____ changes, and _____
_____.

AS YOU PLAY:

_____ and _____ on the task at hand. Tune out _____ thoughts.
_____ as you play.
Get the _____ and _____ in your head before you play.
Find where the _____ falls in each measure. _____ and _____. Recognize rhythmic patterns.
Look for ascending and descending _____ and _____.
Use _____ so you don't lose your spot and get lost.
_____ even if you mess up. Keep going and jump back in.

MEMORIZATION

SUGGESTIONS FOR MEMORIZING:

Be _____ and _____. Other people may memorize faster than you.
Wanting to play the piece can help with memorizing the music.
First learn the piece and grasp the _____ and overall picture.
Play with a _____. Rhythmic _____ and _____ encourages correct placement of notes.
Repetition. Repetition. Repetition. Get the _____.
Get the music in your ear. Listen to many different _____ (aural learners).
Know the music inside and out. Know how your part _____ in with the _____.
Recognize and identify where _____ start and end.
Look for _____ and _____ in the music.
Practice _____ and the _____ into the phrases.
_____ the melodic progression and chord progression (study the score).
_____ the chord progression.
Hear the notes before you play (_____); know where the music goes to next.
_____ along (melody and harmony) as you play: (solfege or note names)
_____ to the music, musical phrases, and harmonic elements.
_____ the music without the instrument.
Have an _____ picture in your head to know how you want the phrase/piece to be shaped.
Trust your body will respond in a way to _____ the aural picture in your head.
Begin with learning the _____ first adding measures/phrases/systems as you go.
Memorize _____ measure at a time beginning with the last measure.
Play a line _____ times perfect, then cover up the music, play it _____ times perfect.
_____ the music and notes.
Play without a _____; put the music on a _____ and refer to the music when needed.
Play with your _____ closed.
Play in the _____ (heightened senses).
Do a _____ without the instrument to see how much you know.

What do you do about memory slips?

_____ the piece many times before the big concert. Get comfortable and relaxed performing for others.

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SIGHT READING

BEFORE PLAYING:

Read the TITLE. Read the TEMPO MARKING.

Read the CLEF. Read the KEY SIGNATURE. Read the TIME SIGNATURE.

SPEED READ through the music. Look for CLEF changes, KEY SIGNATURE changes, TIME SIGNATURE changes, TEMPO changes, and DIFFICULT PLAYING PASSAGES.

AS YOU PLAY:

CONCENTRATE and FOCUS on the task at hand. Tune out DISTRACTING thoughts.

LOOK AHEAD as you play.

Get the PULSE and RHYTHM in your head before you play.

Find where the BEAT falls in each measure. COUNT and SUBDIVIDE. Recognize rhythmic patterns.

Look for ascending and descending LINES and PHRASES.

Use TRACKING so you don't lose your spot and get lost.

DON'T STOP even if you mess up. Keep going and jump back in.

MEMORIZATION

SUGGESTIONS FOR MEMORIZING:

Be POSITIVE and PATIENT. Other people may memorize faster than you.

Wanting to play the piece can help with memorizing the music.

First learn the piece and grasp the GENERAL CONCEPTS and overall picture.

Play with a METRONOME. Rhythmic ACCURACY and ORGANIZATION encourages correct placement of notes.

Repetition. Repetition. Repetition. Get the MUSCLE MEMORY.

Get the music in your ear. Listen to many different RECORDINGS (aural learners).

Know the music inside and out. Know how your part FITS in with the WHOLE.

Recognize and identify where PHRASES start and end.

Look for PATTERNS and VARIATIONS in the music.

Practice PHRASES and the TRANSITIONS into the phrases.

SUMMARIZE the melodic progression and chord progression (study the score).

HEAR the chord progression.

Hear the notes before you play (AUDIATE); know where the music goes to next.

SING along (melody and harmony) as you play: (solfege or note names)

CONNECT to the music, musical phrases, and harmonic elements.

RECITE the music without the instrument.

Have an AURAL picture in your head to know how you want the phrase/piece to be shaped.

Trust your body will respond in a way to MATCH the aural picture in your head.

Begin with learning the END first adding measures/phrases/systems as you go.

Memorize ONE measure at a time beginning with the last measure.

Play a line THREE times perfect, then cover up the music, play it FIVE times perfect.

VISUALIZE the music and notes.

Play without a STAND; put the music on a CHAIR and refer to the music when needed.

Play with your EYES closed.

Play in the DARK (heightened senses).

Do a RUN THROUGH without the instrument to see how much you know.

What do you do about memory slips?

-PERFORM the piece many times before the big concert. Get comfortable and relaxed performing for others.