

Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition – 9th & 10th Grade Music Theory Study Guide

Topic: Tone Durations, Rhythm and Meter, Tempi, Instruments (Written Theory)

Students identify meters as simple or compound, and as duple, triple, and quadruple. Students also have to set bar lines in a given rhythm, know the proportions of various tone durations, and complete measures by adding one or more rests. Students may also be asked about common instruments.

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1f6foY1ws5M>

Review Tempi: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tempo>

Topic: Major and Minor keys and scales (Written Theory)

Students identify key signatures for major and minor keys, and students identify major scales and minor scales (natural, harmonic, and melodic).

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agB3H1lpPUQ>

Topic: Intervals (Written Theory)

Students identify notated intervals in music.

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I0N1kfQ12Lo>

Topic: Chords (Written Theory)

Students identify notated triads and seventh chords (in root position)

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I79XqSrtLiU>

Topic: Major and Minor Scales (Aural Skills)

Students identify aurally (by listening) major scales and minor scales (natural, harmonic, melodic).

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PEJfzKGvKXQ>

Topic: Intervals (Aural Skills)

Students identify aurally (by listening) intervals (all intervals from m2 to P8).

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KIo7H9GAy1M>

Topic: Chords (Aural Skills)

Students identify aurally (by listening) chords (all common triads and seventh chords).

Instructional Video: Triads <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRKOUJC2iUw>

Seventh Chords <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GI00L2Ia-4c>

Topic: Meters / Time Signatures (Aural Skills)

Students listen to excerpts of recorded music and will need to identify the meter (time signature).

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3KSalcSoyK0>

Topic: Melodic Dictation (Aural Skills)

Students listen to a recorded melody and will have to notate it.

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oaAm30PTPlw>