

## Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition – 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Theory Study Guide

To obtain links to the forthcoming instructional videos, please email  
[nico.schuler@txstate.edu](mailto:nico.schuler@txstate.edu).

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: Rewriting a 6/8 Rhythm in 3/4 and Vice Versa (Written Theory)

Students are given several measures of rhythm in 6/8 (3/4) meter and have to re-write it in 3/4 (6/8) meter, observing the rules of beaming / rhythmic grouping.

Instructional Video: [forthcoming]

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

Students write key signatures for major and minor keys on music staff, and students write major scales and minor scales (natural, harmonic, and melodic) on music staff. Students also need to know the concepts of parallel and relative keys.

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

Instructional Video: [forthcoming]

Topic: Intervals (Written Theory)

Students notate intervals on music staff above or below a given note.

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

Instructional Video: [forthcoming]

Topic: Chords (Written Theory)

Students notate triads and seventh chords (in root position) on a given root note.

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l79XqSrtLiU>

Instructional Video: [forthcoming]

Topic: Roman Numeral Analysis (Written Theory)

Students have to provide a Roman Numeral (harmonic) analysis for a short (given) piece of music. Roman Numerals must include chord inversions, when necessary.

Instructional Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKSCR2prgyQ>

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=Klo7H9GAy1M>

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=mRK0UJC2iUw>

Seventh Chords <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GI00L2la-4c>

Topic: Meters / Time Signatures (Aural Skills)

Students listen to a 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>