

## ABRSM Grade 1 Clarinet Pieces

### GREY SECRETS – Jeffery Wilson

Here are some tips to help you work through your Grade 1 clarinet song!

#### Things to keep in mind:

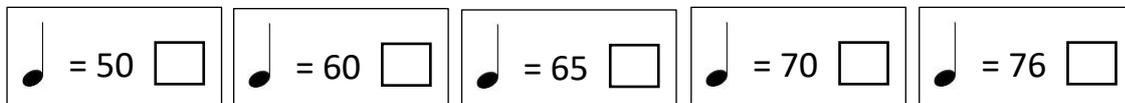
1. **Time signature:**  This tells us that there are 4 crotchet beats per bar.

2. There are different note lengths in this piece. Make sure you count each note correctly:



3. **Speed: Relaxed**

This is a steady song, but don't worry if it is a little fast to start with. Try building up to the correct speed:



You can find these different speeds by downloading a "metronome" app on a phone or tablet.

4. **Difficult rhythms** – It may help you by using the words "tea" and "coffee" to work out the rhythms in this piece. I have an example below:



5. **Dynamics**

There are different dynamics in this piece. You can master these by blowing harder and softer into your clarinet.

*mf* = Moderately Loud      *f* = Loud      *p* = Quiet      *dim.* = Gradually Getting Quieter

6. **Slurs**

There are some long slurs in this piece. Make sure you have taken a big breath to master them. Always tongue the first note of a slur. Here are some examples:



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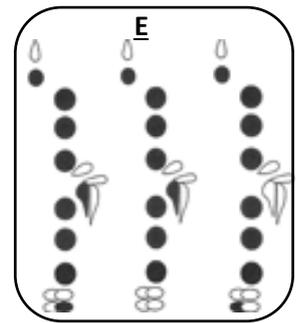
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#### 8. Extra things to note

Breathing – in this piece, you should be breathing at the rests. Make sure you take a big breath so you can play the longer sections.



The last note of this piece has a staccato sign on it. This means that you need to make the note short and crisp.



**Mastering the song:** Tick off each task once you can do it:

- I can play all the notes confidently
- I can play the notes with the correct lengths (you will need to count the beats in your head)
- I can play the whole song from start to finish
- I can play the music and make it flow
- I can play the song with the correct breathing
- I can play each slurred section with confidence – don't forget to tongue the first note of every slur
- I can play the song with the correct dynamics
- I can play the song with a piano accompaniment – you can download this from your exam pack, or search on YouTube
- I have performed this to my family

