

ABRSM Grade 1 Clarinet Pieces

ECKINGTON STOMP – Martin Yates

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

Things to keep in mind:

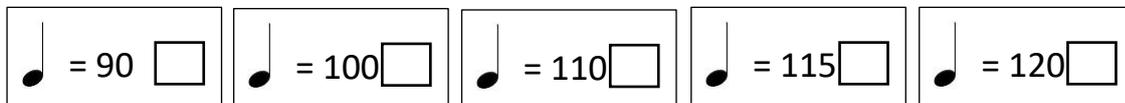
1. **Time signature:**  This tells us that there are 4 crotchet beats per bar.

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



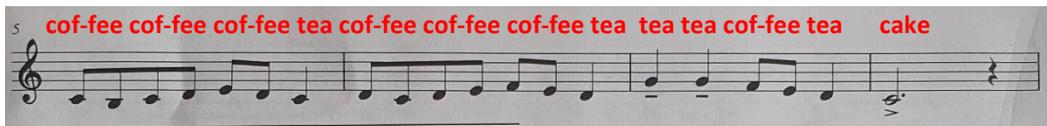
3. **Speed: With a strong beat**

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. Here is an example below:



Counting out the rhythms can also help.

5. **Dynamics**

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

mf = Moderately Loud *mp* = Moderately Quiet

 or *cresc.* = Gradually Getting Louder

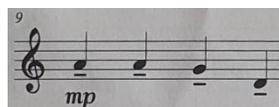
6. **Different ways of tonguing**



This is a staccato – you need to play the note short and crisp



This is an accent – also known as an "angry note". You need to force the air out of your clarinet to "accent the note".



This note is to be played "tenuto" meaning played to its full value.

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8. **Breathing** – in this piece, you should be breathing:

- At the end of each phrase – every four bars
- At the rests

Make sure you take a big breath to master the longer sections without running out of breath.

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 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