

## ABRSM Flute Grade 2

### Piece C1- Silver Riddle

You will find this piece in the ABRSM grade 2 Flute book. It is the 1st piece on list C. There is a link and a picture below to show you which book you will need if you are unsure. Remember to purchase the 'Exam pack' edition, as this contains the flute part, Piano part, Scales, Sight reading and Audio tracks for you to practice along with!

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Flute-Exam-2018-2021-ABRSM-Grade/dp/1848497776/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=abrs+grade+2+flute+exam+pack&qid=1587480055&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Flute-Exam-2018-2021-ABRSM-Grade/dp/1848497776/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=abrs+grade+2+flute+exam+pack&qid=1587480055&sr=8-1)



### Where to start!?!?

It can feel like quite a challenge to get going on a new exam piece without any face to face help from your teacher. Hopefully everything you will need will be contained in this worksheet!

### Key signature

The very first thing to do is recognise the key signature. The key is F major, which you will have studied for grade 1. In grade 2 we play this scale to what is known as "A twelfth". All this means is we play the first 12 notes of the scale, so for F major we would play;

F G A B $\flat$  C D E F G A B $\flat$  C

From the bottom F, to the high C, and back down again, if you count all of those notes above, there are 12!

Practice this before you begin to make sure you recognise and put into practice the F major scale.

Below is a picture of the F Major 12<sup>th</sup> Scale and arpeggio to help you to start.



## Time Signature

The time signature of this piece is 4/4, which you will be familiar with from grade 1.

Here is a link to the piece on YouTube. Why not put it on and clap the pulse along with it, or even have a go walking around the room to the pulse! You should have a loud clap or stomp on beat 1 of the bar and beat 3, as these are the strongest beats.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sysr2wSwqvM>

## Split the piece up!

Don't put pressure on yourself to learn all of the piece in one go! Mark out some suitable sections that you could start with, that won't feel overwhelming.

I would start with line 1 of the piece, which is pictured below.



Just like any other piece, I would go through the notes, saying them to yourself and doing the fingers on your flute. This will highlight any finger changes that you may find tricky.

Make sure you understand the rhythm too. You could clap through it using tea for the 1 beats and Coffee for the half beats (example below).



Tea

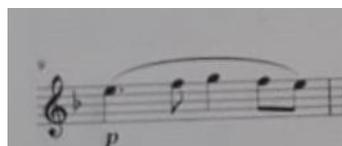


Cof- fee

You can then start putting the rhythm and notes together! Make sure you go back and correct any mistakes, and ensure that if there is a certain bar that you find hard, you work on that separately.

Split the rest of the piece up like this, the next section; line 2, then line 3 and finally adding in line 4.

You will Notice that in line 3 there is a different Rhythm, which you may not have seen before in grade 1 (see picture below). This is called a dotted Rhythm! The E at the beginning has a dot next to it, meaning we have to hold it for 1 and a half beats. We can count it like this;

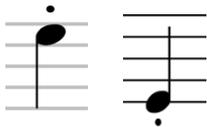


When you listen to a recording of this piece, make sure you listen out for this part and follow along with your music. You can then try tapping along with the rhythm or even saying the notes in time. When you feel confident, give it a go on your flute and add in the rest of line 3 !

## Articulation

There are a few different articulations to pay attention to in this piece that you may not have come across in grade 1. The first is;

- **Staccato** - A note that is played short and sharply detached.



- **Legato** – A note held for its full time value or slightly more ( so make it nice and long, but still in time!)

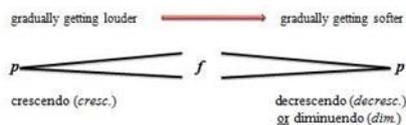


## Dynamics

There is a range of dynamics in this piece, just like you will have seen in your grade 1 pieces. Below is a table to help you work out any dynamics that you may not be familiar with;

### **Music Dynamics Chart**

<i>ppp</i>	<i>pianississimo</i>	Very, very soft.
<i>pp</i>	<i>pianissimo</i>	Very soft.
<i>p</i>	<i>piano</i>	Soft.
<i>mp</i>	<i>mezzo piano</i>	Moderately soft.
<i>mf</i>	<i>mezzo forte</i>	Moderately loud.
<i>f</i>	<i>forte</i>	Loud.
<i>ff</i>	<i>fortissimo</i>	Very loud.
<i>fff</i>	<i>fortississimo</i>	Very, very loud.



Don't rush to add your dynamics in straight away, but when you feel confident to do so, follow some of the following steps;

- Play through the first section at the starting dynamic, so for this piece that is F.
- Physically feel what you have to do, to produce this dynamic. It wants to project nice and loud, so make sure you are blowing nice and hard across your flute to make it lovely and loud!

- You can then start to add in some of the other dynamics, such as the *P* in bar 3, make it a really big contrast to how you started, so it will sound like a big dramatic change!
- Add the dynamics in one by one, so they become really natural and happen without you thinking about them.

## Tempo

Tempo is usually the last thing that you will work on. Getting your piece up to speed for an exam or performance, requires you to feel super confident with all of the other elements of the piece first.

You will probably have a good steady 'practice speed', of around 90 BPM. Make sure that you can play the piece all the way through at this speed, and then you can work through the following tempos. If you have a metronome at home, set it to this speed (remember this piece has 4 beats per bar so needs to be in 24/4!). Listen to the beat and hear how the piece will fit into this faster pulse. You can always have a go at clapping the rhythm along with it. If you do not have a metronome you can download them for free on a smart phone or there are lots of websites you can access which has a free metronome for you to use!

