

# Ab Major, Articulation, Texture (Gr. 5)

Content Area: **Instrumental Music**  
Course(s): **Generic District Course, Instrumental Music**  
Time Period: **Week 23**  
Length: **6 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

---

Students will be introduced to key of Concert Ab Major, various articulations (legato, staccato, and tenuto), and musical texture in terms of melody vs. counter melody.

## Standards

---

VPA.3-5.1.1.5.B.1	Identify the elements of music in response to aural prompts and printed music notational systems.
VPA.3-5.1.1.5.B.2	Demonstrate the basic concepts of meter, rhythm, tonality, intervals, chords, and melodic and harmonic progressions, and differentiate basic structures.
VPA.3-5.1.3.5.B.1	Sing or play music from complex notation, using notation systems in treble and bass clef, mixed meter, and compound meter.
VPA.3-5.1.3.5.B.4	Decode how the elements of music are used to achieve unity and variety, tension and release, and balance in musical compositions.
VPA.3-5.1.4.5.B.1	Assess the application of the elements of art and principles of design in dance, music, theatre, and visual artworks using observable, objective criteria.
VPA.3-5.1.4.5.B.2	Use evaluative tools, such as rubrics, for self-assessment and to appraise the objectivity of critiques by peers.
VPA.3-5.1.4.5.B.3	Use discipline-specific arts terminology to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

## Essential Questions

---

- 1) Why are there different ways to articulate notes?
- 2) How is texture approached in terms of melody vs. counter melody?

## Application of Knowledge and Skills...

---

## Students will know that...

---

- 1) how to play in the key of Concert Ab Major.
- 2) how to play using the following articulations: legato, staccato, and tenuto.
- 3) how to approach musical texture in terms of melody and counter melody.

## **Students will be skilled at...**

---

- A) play in the key of Concert Ab Major.
- B) play using legato, staccato, and tenuto articulations.
- C) approach melody or counter melody appropriately based on the knowledge of musical texture.

## **Assessments**

---

- Ab Major Examples Formative: Exhibition Students will play examples in the key of Concert Ab Major. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2 1.3.5.B.1 1.3.5.B.4 1.4.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2 1.4.5.B.2
- Articulation Examples Formative: Exhibition Students will play examples that contain the following articulations: legato, tenuto and staccato. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2 1.3.5.B.1 1.3.5.B.4 1.4.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2 1.4.5.B.3
- Musical Texture Examples Formative: Exhibition Students will play examples using texture (melody/counter melody). 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2 1.3.5.B.1 1.3.5.B.4 1.4.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2 1.4.5.B.3
- Pre-Assessment: What is Articulation Diagnostic: Other written assessments Students will define the term "articulation" based on their prior knowledge. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2
- Pre-Assessment: What is texture in the musical sense? Diagnostic: Other written assessments Students will define texture. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2
- Pre-Assessment: What is your Concert Ab Major Scale? Diagnostic: Other written assessments Students will use prior knowledge of transposition to determine their Concert Ab Major Scale. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2
- Unit Test Summative: Exhibition Students will complete a performance assessment on all unit content. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2 1.3.5.B.1 1.3.5.B.4 1.4.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2 1.4.5.B.3

## **Activities**

---

- Ab Major Examples: Ab Major Scale, "Greased Lightning" (Technical Exercise), "Oh Susana".
- Articulation Examples: "Shenandoah", "Mache Slav", "Greensleeves", (Legato/ Tenuto), "Theme From Symphony No. 94", "Parade of the Tin Soldiers" (Staccato)
- Examples using texture(melody/counter melody): "The British Grenadiers", "Hey Ho" (Round)

## **Activities to Differentiate Instruction**

---

- Tempo Variation - Students will play at slower tempo, written tempo, or faster tempo based on ability.
- Varied length of demonstrated examples - A student experiencing difficulty will play a segment of an example, while a student who excels will be given challenging examples to play.

## **Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction**

---

- Sound production and Pitch (Vocal Music, Science)
- Note Reading (Vocal Music)
- Note Values (Vocal Music, Math)

## **Resources**

---

Standard of Excellence, Book 2

*Neil A. Kjos Music Company*