

Lesson 38

DYNAMICS

pp	pianissimo - very soft
p	piano - soft
mp	mezzo piano - medium soft
mf	mezzo forte - medium loud
f	forte - loud
ff	fortissimo - very loud

Ritardando or Rallantando (rit. or rall.) = play gradually slower
Accelerando (accel) = play gradually faster.
A Tempo = play at the original tempo indicated; resume strict time
Fermata (♯) = pause or hold the note longer than its normal value

crescendo (cresc.) gradually play louder

decrescendo (decresc.) gradually play softer

diminuendo (dim.) same as decrescendo

Adagio = very slow **Andante** = slow; **Moderato** = moderate

Allegro = fast, lively; **Presto** and **Vivace** = very fast

Staccato: detached or separate. It is indicated by placing a dot directly above or below the note.

Legato or tenuto: sustain for full value. This sign is indicated by placing lines directly above or below the note.

Accent: stress or emphasize. It is indicated by placing the following mark (>) above or below the note.

Marcato: a heavy accent. Indicated by placing the following mark (^) above the note.

Slur: to play in a smooth, connected style. It is indicated by a curve line above or below two to more notes.



ASSIGNMENT

In the following musical example, many musical signs and symbols are used to indicate how the piece is to be played. Next to each one is a number. Identify or write the definition of each of the musical markings in the numbered spaces provided below.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

1. *Moderato*

2. *mf*

3. *p*

4. *f*

5. *p*

6. *f*

7. *f*

8. *cresc.*

9. *cresc.*

10. *A*

11. *dimin.*

12. *mp*