



Band Sight Reading Composition Criteria

The composition criteria for MSHSAA sight reading selections were **revised** in 2013-14. As a result, the committee determined that it would be beneficial to music directors throughout the state to have this criterion available to assist in preparations for sight reading. With this information in hand, directors will have a better understanding of the difficulty of the selection that will be used and will know what to expect in regard to rhythms, ranges, time signatures, etc. **Selections should not reflect any patriotic or sacred context.**

Class 1 – Instrumentation

- 1 Flute/Oboe/Mallets parts
- 2 Bb Clarinet parts
- 1 Bb Bass Clarinet/Bassoon (doubled in bass part)
- 1 Eb Alto Saxophone
- 1 Tenor Saxophone
- 1 Eb Baritone Saxophone
- 2 Bb Trumpet parts
- 1 French horn in F part (doubled in other parts)
- 1 Trombone part (doubled in Tenor Saxophone)
- 1 Baritone (treble and bass clef parts provided)
- 1 Bass part (doubled in Bassoon, Bb Bass Clarinets, Baritone Sax and TC & BC Baritone)
- 1 Percussion (snare drum, bass drum, cymbals and optional timpani)

Fundamental Skills: The piece may include **any** of the following but should not include **all** of the listed fundamental skills. The piece should contain two contrasting styles. A fundamental understanding of **staccato, marcato, legato, accents** and full complement of **dynamic range including sfz, crescendo and decrescendo**.

The selection should be approximately 2 1/2 minutes or less in length.

Ranges	Octave and a third (within the established key signature)
Keys	F, Bb, Eb, and relative minors
Meters	2/4, 3/4, 4/4
Rhythms	Dotted quarter/eighth; straight 16ths; simple syncopation at m.m. 88-92
Percussion	Bass drum, snare drum, cymbal is required. Optional timpani and mallets are doubled in the flute/oboe parts.

Class 2 – Instrumentation

- 1 Flute part
- 1 Oboe/Mallet part
- 1 Bassoon (doubled in other parts)
- 2 Bb Clarinet parts
- 1 Bb Bass Clarinet (doubled in other parts)
- 1 Eb Alto Saxophone (some divisi)
- 1 Bb Tenor Saxophone (doubled in other parts)
- 1 Eb Baritone Saxophone (doubled in other parts)
- 2 Bb Trumpet parts
- 1 French horn in F (double in other parts)
- 2 Trombone parts
- 1 Baritone (treble and bass clef parts provided)
- 1 Bass
- 1 Percussion (snare drum, bass drum, cymbal, mallet and timpani)

Fundamental Skills: The piece may include **any** of the following but should not include **all** of the listed fundamental skills. The piece should contain two contrasting styles. A fundamental understanding of **staccato, marcato, legato, accents** and full complement of **dynamic range including sfz, crescendo and decrescendo**.

The selection should be approximately 2 1/2 minutes or less in length.

Ranges	Octave and a third (within the established key signature)
Keys	F, Bb, Eb, and relative minors
Meters	2/4, 3/4, 4/4
Rhythms	Dotted quarter/eighth; straight 16th; dotted 8 th and 16ths, 8 th and 2 16ths, 2 16ths and 8 th , simple syncopation at m.m. 92-100.
Percussion	Bass drum, snare drum, cymbal and timpani are required. Mallets are doubled in the oboe part.

Class 3 – Instrumentation

- 2 Flute parts
- 1 Oboe part
- 1 Bassoon (doubled in Bass)
- 3 Bb Clarinet parts
- 1 Bb Bass Clarinet (doubled in Bass)
- 2 Eb Alto Saxophone parts
- 1 Tenor Saxophone (doubled in Baritone)
- 1 Baritone Saxophone (doubled in Bass)
- 3 Bb Trumpet parts
- 2 French horn in F
- 2 Trombone parts
- 1 Baritone (bass and treble clefs available, doubled in Tenor Saxophone)
- 1 Bass

Percussion: snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, mallet and timpani

Fundamental Skills: The piece may include **any** of the following but should not include **all** of the listed fundamental skills. The piece may contain up to three contrasting styles. A fundamental understanding of **staccato, marcato, legato, accents** and full complement of **dynamic range including sfz, crescendo and decrescendo**.

The selection should be approximately 3 minutes or less in length.

Ranges	Octave and a third (within the established key signature)
Keys	F, Bb, Eb, Ab and relative minors
Meters	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, and Cut Time
Rhythms	Dotted quarter/eighth; straight 16th; dotted 8th and 16ths, 8th and 2 16ths, 2 16ths and 8th, simple syncopation at m.m. 92-100; ties over bar lines and one beat triplets.

Class 4 – Instrumentation

- 2 Flute part
- 1 Oboe part
- 1 Bassoon part
- 3 Bb Clarinet parts
- 1 Bb Bass Clarinet (doubled in Bass)
- 2 Eb Alto Saxophone parts
- 1 Tenor Saxophone (doubled in Baritone)
- 1 Baritone Saxophone (doubled in Bass)
- 3 Bb Trumpet parts
- 2 French horn in F (some divisi)
- 3 Trombone parts
- 1 Baritone (treble and bass clefs available)
- 1 Bass
- 1 String Bass (double the bass line)

Percussion: snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, mallet and timpani

Fundamental Skills: The piece may include **any** of the following but should not include **all** of the listed fundamental skills. The piece may contain up to three contrasting styles. A fundamental understanding of **staccato, marcato, legato, accents** and full complement of **dynamic range including sfz, crescendo and decrescendo**.

The selection should be approximately 3 minutes or less in length.

Ranges	Two octaves (within the established key signature)
Keys	F, Bb, Eb, Ab, C, and relative minors, and some chromaticism.
Meters	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, and Cut Time
Rhythms	Dotted quarter/eighth; straight 16th; dotted 8th and 16ths, 8th and 2 16ths, 2 16ths and 8th, simple syncopation at m.m. 92-100; ties over bar lines and one beat triplets.

Class 5 – Instrumentation

- 2 Flute part
- 1 Oboe part
- 1 Bassoon part
- 3 Bb Clarinet parts
- 1 Bb Bass Clarinet part
- 2 Eb Alto Saxophone parts
- 1 Bb Tenor Saxophone
- 1 Eb Baritone Saxophone
- 3 Bb Trumpet parts
- 4 French horn in F
- 3 Trombone parts
- 1 Baritone (treble and bass clefs available)
- 1 Bass
- 1 String Bass (double in bass line)

Percussion: snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, mallet and timpani

Fundamental Skills: The piece may include **any** of the following but should not include **all** of the listed fundamental skills. The piece may contain up to three contrasting styles. A fundamental understanding of **staccato, marcato, legato, accents** and full complement of **dynamic range including sfz, crescendo and decrescendo**.

The selection should be approximately 4 minutes or less in length.

Ranges	Two octaves, extended range (within the established key signature)
Keys	F, Bb, Eb, Ab, C, relative minors, and some chromaticism.
Meters	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, and Cut Time
Rhythms	Dotted quarter/eighth; straight 16th; dotted 8th and 16ths, 8th and 2 16ths, 2 16ths and 8th, simple syncopation at m.m. 92-100; ties over bar lines, one and two beat triplets and more independent part playing.