

INTERVALS

The help sheet below gives a list of well-known songs or tunes that can be used to work out each given interval. The bottom note of the interval is the first note of the tune, and the top note is the pitch which you sing on the underlined word/syllable.

Have a listen to the accompanying audio track to hear each of the intervals followed by the tune in which they can easily be found. Try singing along or in your head, so you get used to pitching the intervals.

Once you have learned which tune fits with which interval, you can use this in two different ways.

- 1. Sight-singing** – when trying to pitch notes at sight, first work out what the interval between the two notes is (don't forget to check your key signature). Use the relevant tune to then pitch the interval correctly.
- 2. Dictation** – when trying to write down a melody you have heard, sing the two notes making up the interval you are working on. Try to match this to one of the tunes and in turn you will find the interval. Work out the note needed by counting the interval up from the given note.

The ABRSM website has sample sight-singing questions you can try, from Grade 4 up to Grade 8. The sample notation can be downloaded as a PDF. To hear how the test will be structured in the exam, and to check your answers, click the test B link for the appropriate grade.

<https://gb.abrsm.org/en/exam-support/preparation-for-exams/mock-aural-tests/>

INTERVALS

Minor 2 nd	Jaws
Major 2 nd	Kookaburra <u>sits</u> on the old gum tree
Minor 3 rd	Supercalafra <u>g</u> ilistic
Major 3 rd	While <u>shepherds</u> watched
Perfect 4 th	Here <u>comes the bride</u>
Augmented 4 th	Maria
Perfect 5 th	Twinkle, <u>twinkle</u> little star
Minor 6 th	When <u>Israel</u> was in Egypt Land
Major 6 th	My <u>bonnie</u> lies over the ocean
Minor 7 th	There's <u>a</u> place for us
Major 7 th	Somewhere <u>o</u> ver the rainbow
Perfect 8 ^{ve}	Somewhere <u>o</u> ver the rainbow

For alternative examples and tunes for descending intervals, have a look on the following website:

<https://www.musicnotes.com/now/tips/musical-intervals-train-your-ear-with-these-easy-songs/>