

Day Eight: Alternating Hands

Tip for Today:

When sight reading, as your examples get harder you will not be able to examine and name every note before you start playing. Instead, look for the familiar clues of where your hand position should be, the starting note, the finishing note, and then patterns like steps and skips.

Preparation:



Which hand starts first? Where does the right hand play? Where does the left hand play? Where will your right hand go? What is the first note it plays? What is the first note in bar 3? Where will your left hand go? What is the first note? What is the first note in bar 4? Can you spot any steps? Any skips?

Let's Try:

Try tapping out the rhythm, with right hand tapping treble clef notes and left hand tapping bass. Now try playing the example.

Evaluate:

Did you keep a steady beat? Now you can think about the notes you played – were there any mistakes? You can reflect using the questions you asked earlier.

More Practice:

Play the next example, after asking yourself the questions listed above.



(In Piano Preliminary Grade AMEB exams, the sight reading examples are a single line, while Grade One examples have alternating hands.)