

94 CREATIVE STUDY

WRITING A MELODY FOR A NAMED INSTRUMENT

Compose a melody for a violin, flute or clarinet, using the given opening. Indicate the tempo and other performance directions, including any which may be required for the instrument chosen. The complete melody should not be more than 8 bars long.

Chosen instrument: VIOLIN

tempo

- exactly 8 bars is easiest. Space them out and number them. End with a double bar line

METHOD (always work in pencil first)

- Plan the rhythm. Pencil it in faintly above the bars. (You can use the *quick formula* p. 92) Revise 'Standard groupings' (see p. 71)
- Plan the MELODY. Decide the key (See *At-a-Glance* chart p. 28) B♭ major or G minor – which?

- bar 1 all given notes but one are the tonic triad of G minor – G, B♭, D
- bar 2 most given notes are the dominant triad of G minor. The F♯ (raised leading note) is the clearest possible indication for the key to be G minor
- bar 8 put key note G, either 2 beats (♩) or one beat and a beat's rest – as shown
- bar 4 (half way bar) select 2 notes of the dominant triad (D F♯ A) – as shown
- bar 3 must take the melody from C (last note of bar 2) to A (first note of bar 4). Pencil in a convenient route – as shown
- bar 5 should start up near top D (last note of bar 4)
- bars 5 & 6 plan to relate these two bars by using *sequential phrases*. These employ the same rhythms, same shaped tonal patterns, *different* notes
- bar 7 the last note could be the leading note; before that the dominant. The three first notes could imitate the last three of bar 6



String Playing

Down bow ▣ usual on a first-beat opening note.

Up bow √ for an up-beat opening, or for a phrase starting on a weak beat (e.g. bar 4)

Legato is indicated by slurs

Staccato is indicated by dots

Performance directions:

choose suitable (foreign) words suggesting tempo and style.

Study the dynamic markings suggested