



# CURRICULUM: GMAT Theory Achievement Tests 2008-2009

## LEVEL I

Level I only: students must choose which single clef they will take the test in: treble, bass, or alto.

Topic	Section	Description
<b>Key Signatures</b>	W	ID: C, F, G
<b>Notation &amp; Calligraphy</b>	W	Notes & Rests: Draw notes on a line or space; match notes with names: 
	W	Rests: write quarter, half, & whole (on correct lines)
	W	ID: # b b
	W	Pitch ID: Name notes on a staff up to 1 ledger line above or below.
<b>Intervals</b>	ET	Melodic ID: up, down, repeat
	ET	ID: High & low
	W	ID: 2nd-8th (number only, not quality)
<b>Scales</b>		N/A
<b>HARMONY: Triads/Chords</b>	ET	ID: Major or minor triads (root position only, played broken, ascending, descending, then blocked)
<b>RHYTHM: Time Signatures / Meter</b>	ET	Recognition & Comparison: multiple choice, using 8-beat patterns of quarter notes and pairs of eighth notes ("Circle the rhythm that you hear.")
	W	Time signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$
	W	Values:  and rests (NOTE: eighth notes are pairs only)
<b>Terms</b>		[crescendo sign]: Gradually getting louder
		[diminuendo sign]: Gradually getting softer
		[fermata]: Hold or pause
		[repeat sign]: Indicates to repeat a section
		Adagio: A slow tempo
		Allegro: A fast tempo
		<b>f</b> : Loud
		Legato: Smooth & connected
		<b>p</b> : Soft
		Staccato: Short & separated
	Tempo: Speed	

**Explanation of Abbreviations:**

- W This item will be in the Written section.
- ET This item will be in the Ear Training section.
- ID Student will be asked to Identify the material indicated.
- [ ] In Terms section, square brackets are used to indicate that the symbol for that term will be used, not the words inside the brackets.

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## LEVEL II

Starting at Level II, the test will include examples in both treble and bass clefs but will NOT include examples in alto clef. All of Level I, plus the following:

Topic	Section	Description
<b>Key Signatures</b>	W	ID: Major up to 4 sharps & flats (C, G, D, A, E, F, B $\flat$ , E $\flat$ , A $\flat$ )
	W	Write order of sharps & flats using letter names, e.g., "F-C-G-etc."
<b>Notation &amp; Calligraphy</b>	W	Draw clefs: Treble/G, Bass/F
	W	Accidentals: Draw $\sharp$ $\flat$ $\natural$ on lines or spaces
	W	Stem direction on note heads (no flags); draw stems
	W	Enharmonic pitches (only $\sharp$ $\flat$ $\natural$ but not $\times$ or $\flat\flat$ ); These pairs only (C $\sharp$ -D $\flat$ , D $\sharp$ -E $\flat$ , F $\sharp$ -G $\flat$ , G $\sharp$ -A $\flat$ , A $\sharp$ -B $\flat$ )
	W	Draw notes on the staff
<b>Intervals</b>	ET	ID: 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th (student does not have to ID the interval's quality; the example will only be M or P; all examples will be in the same key; first pitch will be tonic; will play ascending, descending, & harmonic for each example; will set tonal center by playing pentachord in the relevant key)
	W	Write 2nd-8th (number only, ascending or descending)
	W	ID & Write: Whole & Half Steps
<b>Scales</b>	W	Add accidentals to given notes to create a Major scale without writing a key signature (taken from keys tested at this level)
	W	Major scales, e.g., "What is the 6th note of an A $\flat$ major scale?"
<b>HARMONY: Triads/Chords</b>	W	Draw Major tonic triads (with root as tonic) from key signatures at this level
	W	ID: Major key I, IV, & V triads in root position from key signatures at this level.
<b>RHYTHM: Time Signatures / Meter</b>	ET	Recognition & comparison using written concepts from Level I
	ET	Recognition & Comparison: multiple choice, using 8-beat patterns of quarter notes and pairs of eighth notes ("Circle the rhythm that you hear.")
	W	Time signatures: $\frac{6}{8}$ $\frac{9}{8}$ $\frac{12}{8}$
	W	Values:  &  & rests
	W	Upbeat, e.g., "What beat does this pickup note begin on?"
	W	Dotted rhythm in 4:
<b>Terms</b>		<b>All of Level I, plus:</b>
		[accent] — Accent
		[slur] — Slur
		[tie] — Tie
		8va — Indicates to play notes an octave higher
		A tempo — Return to the original speed or tempo
		Crescendo — Gradually getting louder
		D.C. al Fine — Repeat from the beginning to the Fine
		D.S. al Fine — Repeat from the sign to Fine
		Diminuendo — Gradually getting softer; decrescendo
		ff — Very loud
		mf — Moderately loud
		mp — Moderately soft
		pp — Very soft
		Ritardando — Gradually slowing down

Explanation of Abbreviations:

W This item will be in the Written section.

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## LEVEL III

All of Levels I-II, plus the following:

Topic	Section	Description
<b>Key Signatures</b>	W	ID: Major keys up to 7 sharps & flats
	W	Write order of sharps & flats in standard placement on the Grand Staff
	W	ID: Minor keys up to 4 sharps & flats (a, e, b, f#, c#, d, g, c, f)
<b>Notation &amp; Calligraphy</b>	W	Rewrite a melody in the other clef (treble vs. bass), one octave higher or lower, respectively.
	W	Draw stems, flags, & beams on note heads (both single and in groups), up or down
<b>Intervals</b>	ET	ID: 6th, 7th, & 8th/octave (student does not have to ID the interval's quality; the example will only be M or P; all examples will be in the same key; first pitch will be tonic; will play ascending, descending, & harmonic for each example; will set tonal center by playing scale in the relevant key)
	ET	ID Whole & Half steps (examples will be played ascending, descending, & harmonic)
	ET	Melodic ID: "Circle the melody that you hear." Examples will be 1-2 measure diatonic melodies in a Major key, using rhythms tested in Levels I-II.
	W	Write 2nd-8th (number only, not quality; ascending or descending)
	W	ID: Perfect Unison (PU), 2nd-8th; Major, minor, or Perfect (The lower note will be tonic for a Major key tested at this level.)
<b>Scales</b>	ET	Differentiate between Major vs. Harmonic Minor
	W	Draw Major scales (student may be asked to draw a key signature or draw accidentals)
<b>HARMONY: Triads/Chords</b>	W	Major & minor triads in root position, taken from key signatures tested at this level
	W	Draw Major key I, IV, & V triads in root position from key signatures tested at this level.
	W	ID root in inverted triads
	W	ID: Secondary triads of the Major scale in root position (ii, iii, & vi)
	W	Cadences: ID Authentic (V-I) and Half (I-V or IV-V) from triads in root position
	W	<b>NOTE: Triads must be in root position. Commonly used inversions of IV and V7 are not acceptable.</b>
<b>RHYTHM: Time Signatures / Meter</b>	ET	Recognition & comparison using written concepts from Levels I-II
	W	Time signatures: $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{4}{8}$ $\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$
	W	Values: simple    or  and compound
	W	Common time  and Cut time
	W	Values:  and
<b>Terms</b>		<b>All of Levels I-II, plus:</b>
		[common time] — $\frac{4}{4}$
		[cut time] — $\frac{2}{2}$ , alla breve
		Adagio — Slow
		Allegro — Fast
		Andante — Moderate or walking speed
		Cantabile — In a singing manner
		Fortissimo — Very loud
		Largo — Very slow
		Mezzo forte — Moderately loud
		Mezzo piano — Moderately soft
		Molto — Much
		Pianissimo — Very soft
		Poco — Little
		Presto — Very fast

Explanation of Abbreviations:

W This item will be in the Written section.

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


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**LEVEL IV**

All of Levels I-III, plus the following:

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Key Signatures</b>	W	Write all major key signatures
	W	Write minor key signatures, up to 4 sharps & flats
	W	ID: all minor key signatures
	W	Circle of Fifths: write all major
	W	Parallel, Enharmonic, & Relative keys
<b>Notation &amp; Calligraphy</b>	W	Accidentals: write $\times$ $\flat$
	W	Transposition: diatonic melody
	W	Rebeam  etc. in 6/8 time, etc. "Instrumental Beaming"
<b>Intervals</b>	ET	ID: all Major, minor, and Perfect intervals (will play ascending, descending, and harmonic; will establish tonic by playing a Major scale, and will play all examples from that tonic; TT can be labeled 4th or 5th or TT)
	ET	Melodic ID: "Circle the melody that you hear." Examples will be 1-2 measure diatonic melodies in a Major or minor key (using raised leading tone), using rhythms tested in Levels I-III.
	W	Write all Major, minor, or Perfect (including PU & TT/+4/°5); ascending only). Tritone may be tested as +4 or °5.
	W	ID: all Augmented (+) & diminished (°) intervals
<b>Scales</b>	ET	All scales: Major, 3 forms of minor
	W	Draw minor scales or add accidentals to form minor scales (natural, harmonic, & melodic)
	W	Given a key signature, write the Major or minor scale associated with the key signature
<b>HARMONY: Triads/Chords</b>	W	Major key primary triads (I, IV, V, V7) in root position and inversions
	W	Major key secondary diatonic triads (ii, iii, vi, vii°; root position only)
	W	ID: diminished (°) and augmented (+) triads in root position
	W	Minor key primary triads (using harmonic minor form: i, iv, V, V7)
	W	Cadences: Plagal (IV-I), Deceptive (V-vi)
	ET	ID: Authentic vs. Half [use 4-bar phrases, play PAC if intend Authentic]
<b>RHYTHM: Time Signatures / Meter</b>	ET	Recognition & comparison using written concepts from Levels I-III
	W	Simple & compound; duple, triple, & quadruple
	W	Values: in $\frac{6}{8}$ 
	W	Write time signature (for given example)
<b>Terms</b>	W	ID: beats in simple and compound meters. NOTE: For testing purposes, in compound meter, the dotted note gets the beat.
		<b>All of Levels I-III, plus:</b>
		[tenuto mark over or under a  ] – Tenuto; hold for full value, indicating an emphasis
		AB – Binary
		ABA – Ternary
		Coda – Tail or ending section
		Dolce – Sweetly
		Leggiero – Lightly
		Meno – Less
		Non troppo – Not too much
		Pesante – Heavy, forceful
		Piú – More
		Sforzando, sfz – Suddenly loud accent
		Simile – In the same manner
		Subito – Suddenly

Explanation of Abbreviations:

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**LEVEL V**

All of Levels I-IV, plus the following:

Topic	Section	Description
<b>Key Signatures</b>	W	Write all major & minor key signatures
	W	Circle of Fifths: all Major & minor keys
<b>Notation &amp; Calligraphy</b>	W	ID notation errors from a given example
	W	Transposition: melody with chromatic notes (accidentals)
<b>Intervals</b>	ET	ID: All intervals without a tonal reference (i.e., the first note played may change with each example)
	ET	Melodic ID: "Circle the melody that you hear." Examples will be 1-4 measure melodies in a Major or minor key (all three forms), using rhythms tested in Levels I-IV. Examples may include accidentals.
	W	New: write descending intervals, including number and quality
	W	Write: All intervals (1st-8th), including Augmented, & diminished (ascending or descending)
<b>Scales</b>	W	All major and minor scales
<b>HARMONY: Triads/Chords</b>	W	ID triads: M m <sup>o</sup> + (all inversions)
	W	Minor key secondary diatonic triads (ii <sup>o</sup> , III, VI, vii <sup>o</sup> , vii <sup>o7</sup> )
		All triads are taken from the harmonic minor form except the III chord, which does not raise scale degree 7. No III+ chord.
	W	Cadences: Authentic --Imperfect & Perfect
	W	Harmonic Analysis (but no recording or performance of the given example)
	W	Scale degree names
	ET	Cadence: Deceptive & Plagal
	ET	ID all triad qualities in root position (Major, minor, diminished, and augmented)
<b>RHYTHM: Time Signatures / Meter</b>	ET	Recognition & comparison of written concepts from Levels I-IV
	W	Time signatures: asymmetrical (5s & 7s), including $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{7}{8}$
	W	Quintuple
	W	Syncopation
<b>Terms</b>		<b>All of Levels I-IV, plus:</b>
		Accelerando — Gradually grow faster
		Allargando — Broadening
		Con brio — Brightly
		Espressivo — With expression
		Grazioso — Gracefully
		Maestoso — Majestically
		Moderato — Moderately
		Morendo — Dying away
		Poco a poco — Little by little
		Rallentando — Holding back
		Rubato — Give & take within a tempo
		Sempre — Always
	Vivace — Lively	

Explanation of Abbreviations:

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Each level includes not only on the terms listed at that level, but also all terms appearing in lower levels. Items in square brackets [ ] indicate the use of a symbol, not words.

### TERMS LIST BY LEVEL

Term	Definition	Level
[crescendo sign]	Gradually getting louder	Level I
[diminuendo sign]	Gradually getting softer	Level I
[fermata]	Hold or pause	Level I
[repeat sign]	Indicates to repeat a section	Level I
Adagio	A slow tempo	Level I
Allegro	A fast tempo	Level I
<b>f</b>	Loud	Level I
Legato	Smooth & connected	Level I
<b>p</b>	Soft	Level I
Staccato	Short & separated	Level I
Tempo	speed	Level I
[accent]	Accent	Level II
[slur]	Slur	Level II
[tie]	Tie	Level II
8va	Indicates to play notes an octave higher	Level II
A tempo	Return to the original speed or tempo	Level II
Crescendo	Gradually getting louder	Level II
D.C. al Fine	Repeat from the beginning to the Fine	Level II
D.S. al Fine	Repeat from the sign to Fine	Level II
Diminuendo	Gradually getting softer; descrescendo	Level II
<b>ff</b>	Very loud	Level II
<b>mf</b>	Moderately loud	Level II
<b>mp</b>	Moderately soft	Level II
<b>pp</b>	Very soft	Level II
Ritardando	Gradually slowing down	Level II
[common time]	4 4	Level III
[cut time]	$\frac{2}{2}$ , alla breve	Level III
Adagio	Slow	Level III
Allegro	Fast	Level III
Andante	Moderate or walking speed	Level III
Cantabile	In a singing manner	Level III
Fortissimo	Very loud	Level III
Largo	Very slow	Level III
Mezzo forte	Moderately loud	Level III
Mezzo piano	Moderately soft	Level III
Molto	Much	Level III
Pianissimo	Very soft	Level III
Poco	Little	Level III
Presto	Very fast	Level III
[tenuto mark over or under a ♯]	Tenuto; hold for full value, indicating an emphasis	Level IV
AB	Binary	Level IV
ABA	Ternary	Level IV
Coda	Tail or ending section	Level IV
Dolce	Sweetly	Level IV
Leggiero	Lightly	Level IV
Meno	Less	Level IV
Non troppo	Not too much	Level IV
Pesante	Heavy, forceful	Level IV
Piú	More	Level IV
Sforzando, <b>sfz</b>	Suddenly loud accent	Level IV
Simile	In the same manner	Level IV
Subito	Suddenly	Level IV
Accelerando	Gradually grow faster	Level V
Allargando	Broadening	Level V
Con brio	Brightly	Level V
Espressivo	With expression	Level V
Grazioso	Gracefully	Level V
Maestoso	Majestically	Level V
Moderato	Moderately	Level V
Morendo	Dying away	Level V
Poco a poco	Little by little	Level V
Rallentando	Holding back	Level V
Rubato	Give & take within a tempo	Level V
Sempre	Always	Level V
Vivace	Lively	Level V

## CURRICULUM: GMAT Theory Achievement Tests 2008-2009

Each level includes not only on the terms listed at that level, but also all terms appearing in lower levels. Items in square brackets [ ] indicate the use of a symbol, not words.

### GLOSSARY OF ALL TERMS

Term	Definition	Level
[accent]	Accent	Level II
[common time]	4 4	Level III
[crescendo sign]	Gradually getting louder	Level I
[cut time]	2 2 , alla breve	Level III
[diminuendo sign]	Gradually getting softer	Level I
[fermata]	Hold or pause	Level I
[repeat sign]	Indicates to repeat a section	Level I
[slur]	Slur	Level II
[tenuto mark over or under a ♯]	Tenuto; hold for full value, indicating an emphasis	Level IV
[tie]	Tie	Level II
8va	Indicates to play notes an octave higher	Level II
A tempo	Return to the original speed or tempo	Level II
AB	Binary	Level IV
ABA	Ternary	Level IV
Accelerando	Gradually grow faster	Level V
Adagio	A slow tempo	Level I
Adagio	Slow	Level III
Allargando	Broadening	Level V
Allegro	A fast tempo	Level I
Allegro	Fast	Level III
Andante	Moderate or walking speed	Level III
Cantabile	In a singing manner	Level III
Coda	Tail or ending section	Level IV
Con brio	Brightly	Level V
Crescendo	Gradually getting louder	Level II
D.C. al Fine	Repeat from the beginning to the Fine	Level II
D.S. al Fine	Repeat from the sign to Fine	Level II
Diminuendo	Gradually getting softer; decrescendo	Level II
Dolce	Sweetly	Level IV
Espressivo	With expression	Level V
<b>f</b>	Loud	Level I
<b>ff</b>	Very loud	Level II
Fortissimo	Very loud	Level III
Grazioso	Gracefully	Level V
Largo	Very slow	Level III
Legato	Smooth & connected	Level I
Leggiero	Lightly	Level IV
Maestoso	Majestically	Level V
Meno	Less	Level IV
Mezzo forte	Moderately loud	Level III
Mezzo piano	Moderately soft	Level III
<b>mf</b>	Moderately loud	Level II
Moderato	Moderately	Level V
Molto	Much	Level III
Morendo	Dying away	Level V
<b>mp</b>	Moderately soft	Level II
Non troppo	Not too much	Level IV
<b>p</b>	Soft	Level I
Pesante	Heavy, forceful	Level IV
Pianissimo	Very soft	Level III
Piú	More	Level IV
Poco	Little	Level III
Poco a poco	Little by little	Level V
<b>pp</b>	Very soft	Level II
Presto	Very fast	Level III
Rallentando	Holding back	Level V
Ritardando	Gradually slowing down	Level II
Rubato	Give & take within a tempo	Level V
Sempre	Always	Level V
Sforzando, <b>sfz</b>	Suddenly loud accent	Level IV
Simile	In the same manner	Level IV
Staccato	Short & separated	Level I
Subito	Suddenly	Level IV
Tempo	speed	Level I
Vivace	Lively	Level V