



Mini-Lesson: Rhythmic Accuracy

OVERVIEW

Two rhythmic ideas are present in the score: varying time signatures and triplet figures. Understanding them is essential to the preparation and performance of *The Golden Queen*.

LEARNING GOAL

Students will accurately perform note values and rhythm patterns as they appear in the score.

RESOURCES & MATERIALS

- *The Golden Queen* sheet music
- [Skill Builders Exercises: Rhythmic Accuracy](#) displayed or printed for each student

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

- Students can identify note values by name
- Student can count rhythms using basic note values and simple dotted patterns

PROCESS

1. Review time signatures in *The Golden Queen*, and how note values and counting change from duple to triple meter.
2. Project or hand out copies of the [Skill Builders Exercises](#) for the ensemble.
3. Have students clap and count each of the first set of patterns (#1), listening to the difference in sound. Keep the eighth note count the same.
4. When students have mastered exercises such as these, move to the score and practice similar patterns from the music.
5. Review rhythmic figure of the triplet (3 equal notes per beat or beats)
 - Identify where triplets occur in the music
 - Practice triplet rhythms in 4/4 meter using clapping and syllables. (#2 and #3) This exercise should be tapped separately, and then together using right and left hands
6. Return to *The Golden Queen* sheet music. Clap measures 47-51, counting and speaking the text.
7. Clap measures 52-53. How is the triplet different here?
8. Practice singing these sections.

ASSESSMENT

Students can correctly clap and sing rhythms correctly in both duple and triple meter.

EXTENSIONS

1. Using simple percussion instruments, have students select one instrument for each voice in the music. Students can double up on instruments as they are available. Perform the rhythm to one voice of the song.
2. If successful, students can expand to all 4 parts, creating an instrumental version of the piece.

SKILL BUILDERS EXERCISES: RHYTHMIC ACCURACY

1.

Exercise 1 consists of four staves of music. The first staff has three measures: 4/4 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter), 6/8 (quarter, quarter, quarter), and 4/4 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter). The second staff has two measures: 6/8 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter) and 4/4 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter). The third staff has three measures: 4/4 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter), 3/4 (quarter, quarter), and 4/4 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter). The fourth staff has two measures: 8/8 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter) and 6/8 (quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter).

2.

Exercise 2 consists of two measures of music in 4/4 time. Each measure contains a triplet of quarter notes followed by a quarter rest.

3.

Exercise 3 consists of two measures of music in 4/4 time. Each measure has a triplet of quarter notes followed by a quarter note. The lyrics are "not di - cult" for the first measure and "fi -" for the second measure.

not di - cult not di - cult

fi - fi -

