Rhythmic exercises

Always practise the rhythmic exercises carefully before going on to the melodic exercises. Before you begin each exercise count two bars in – one out loud and one silently.

1.

2.

3.

Melodic exercises

Set 1: Exploring E major and $\frac{9}{8}$

Play the scale and arpeggio and improvise in the key. This will help you think in the key, which means having E major and its finger patterns strongly in your mind as you play.
**Prepared pieces**

1. Play the scale in the character of the piece. Can you find any scale, triad or arpeggio patterns?
2. Sensing a crotchet pulse, clap the rhythm of the piece.
3. Think about the fingering in bar 6.
4. Why will it be important to feel a strong pulse when playing this piece?

**Have a rest**

1. Think about compound time. Does moving between $\frac{9}{8}$ and $\frac{6}{8}$ present any difficulty?
2. Play the scale and arpeggio of the key.
3. Read the piece in your head, hearing as much detail as you can.
4. Why are the leaps in bar 1 simple to play?

**Wok's this?**

1. Lightly stir-fried
Grade 8  Stage 2

Rhythmic exercises

Compound time signatures may be felt against a \( \cdot \) or \( \bullet \) pulse. With experience, you will become adept at working out which pulse is the most appropriate.

1

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{12}{8} & \quad \frac{12}{8} \\
\end{align*}
\]

2

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{12}{8} & \quad \frac{12}{8} \\
\end{align*}
\]

3

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{12}{8} & \quad \frac{12}{8} \\
\end{align*}
\]

Melodic exercises

Set 1: Exploring D\(_b\) major

Play the scale and arpeggio many times until you really know the patterns before going on.