MMEA Northeastern District

Senior Festival
Sight-Reading Guidelines

2025–2026 Non-Jazz Instrumental Auditions

New for This Year:
We are using **SightReadingFactory.com** (SRF) as the official resource for sight-reading preparation.

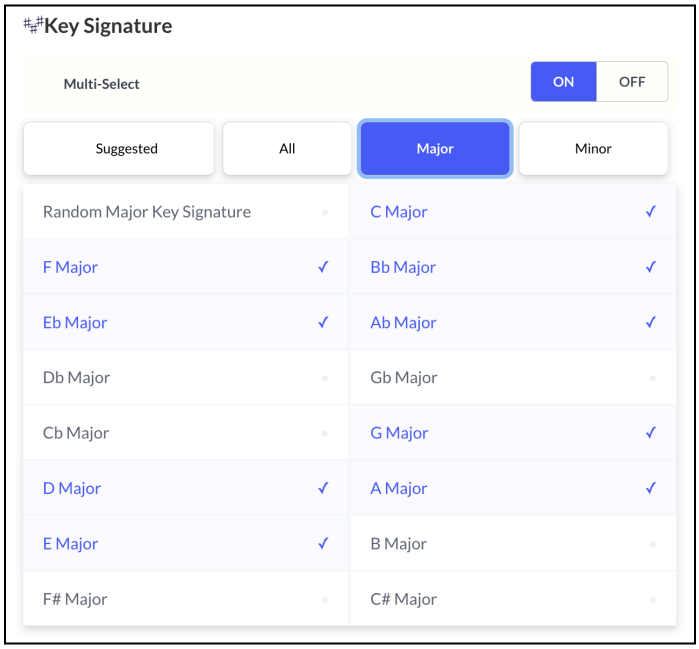
This tool is **free to use** for students and educators with limited access (20 exercises per device on the free version). We encourage all students and directors to explore the platform ahead of auditions.

Educators: Learn more about SRF for classroom use here: SRF for Educators

💻 To Use in Personal Practice

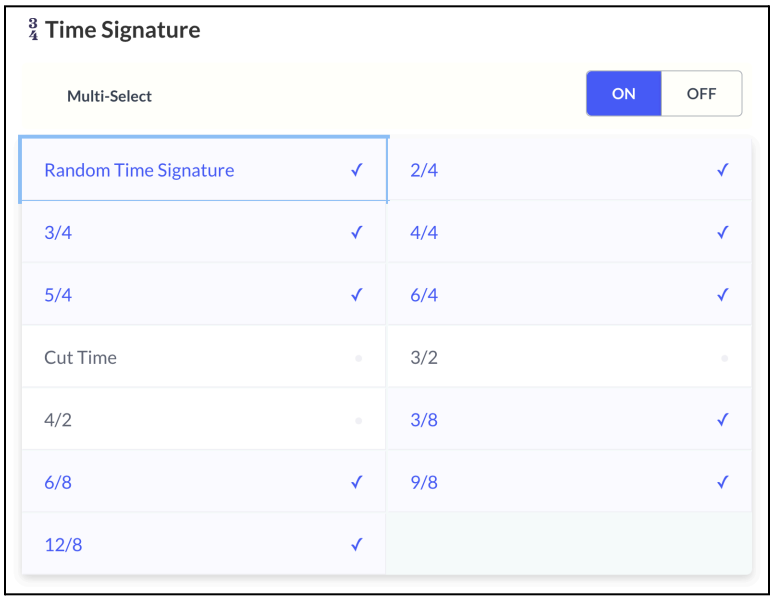
Use the following custom settings in **SightReadingFactory** to best replicate the audition experience:

- ☐ **Level:** Set to **Level 5** (applies to all Classical instruments)
- ☐ **Key Signatures:**
  - ☐ Choose **Multi-Select**
    Select all **Major** keys up to **4 sharps and 4 flats**



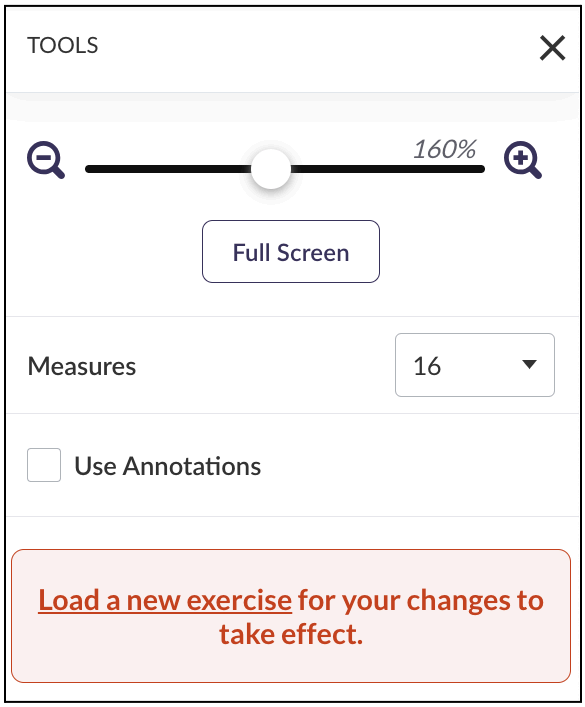
Edited September 2025

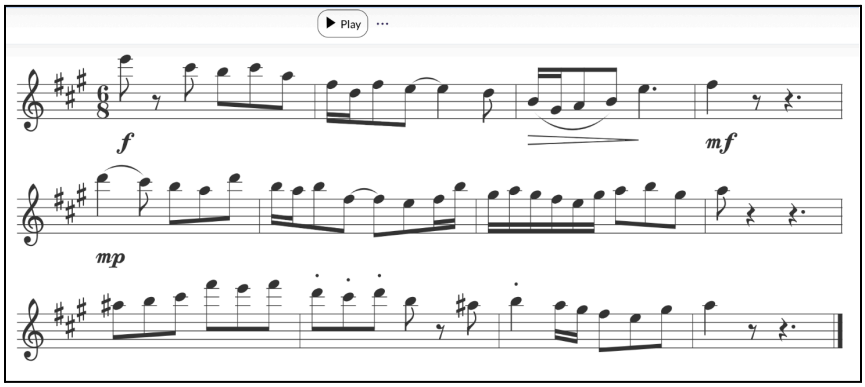
- ☐ **Time Signatures:**
  - ☐ Choose **Multi-Select**
    - ☐ Select: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4, 6/4, 3/8, 6/8, 9/8, 12/8



- ☐ **Tempo:** Use the top-right settings menu (cog wheel) to set the tempo

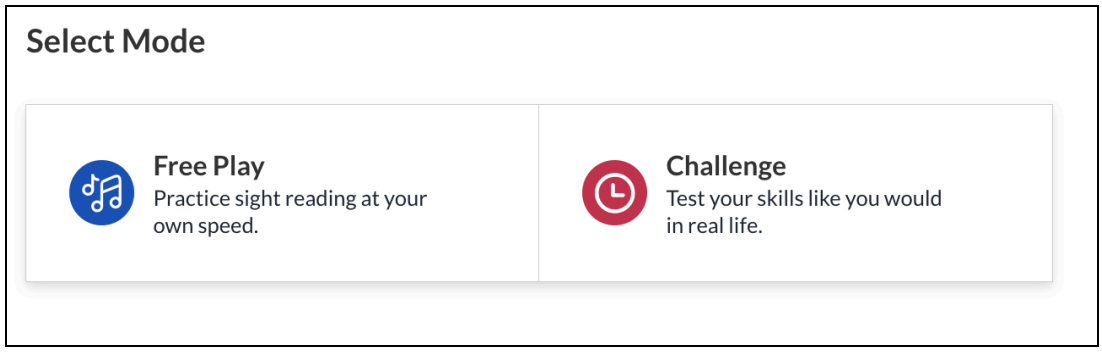
- ☐ **Excerpt Length:** Practice with excerpts **up to 16 measures**





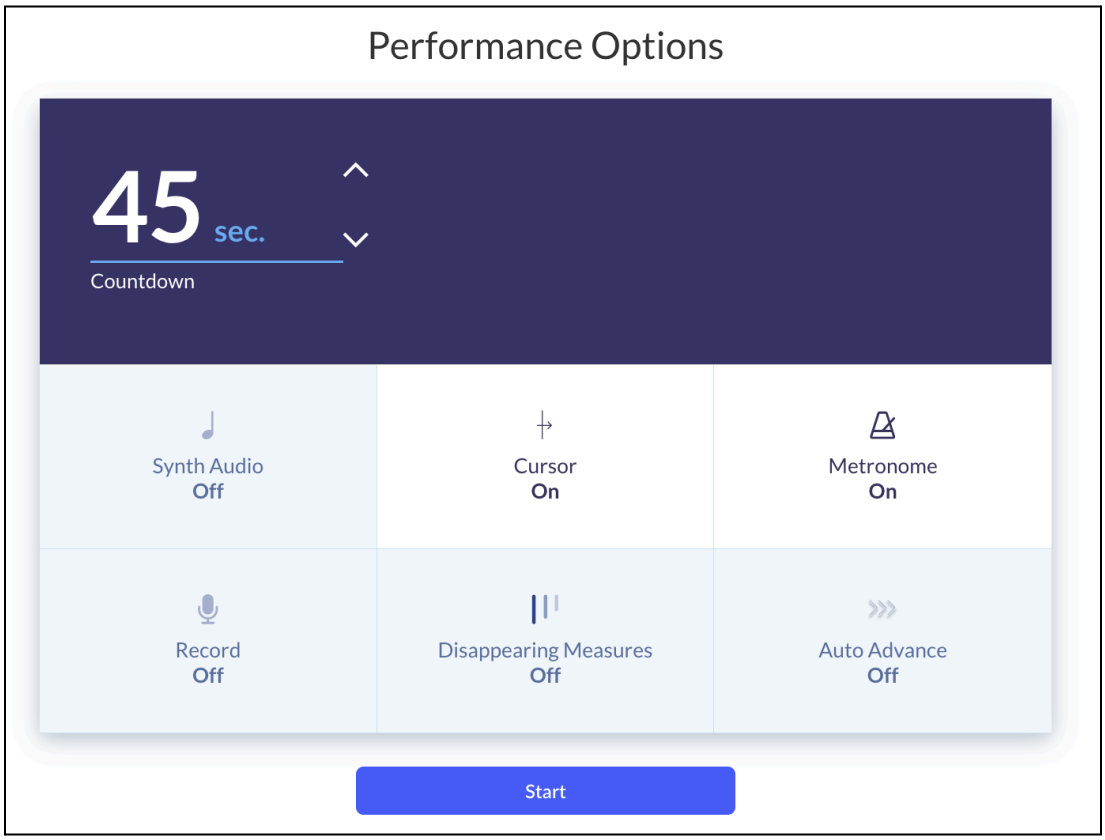
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☐ **Mode:** Select **“Challenge”**



☐ **Practice Timing:**

- ☐ Give the student **45 seconds** to silently review the excerpt before playing



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🎼 At the Audition

Here is what students can expect during the sight-reading portion of their audition:

- ☐ Students will receive a **printed excerpt** with a **tempo marking** (set by the Auditions Coordinator and Executive Board).
- ☐ The excerpt will be **taped to the music stand.**
- ☐ The adjudicator will explain that students have **45 seconds** to review the music.
- ☐ Before the 45-second review begins:
  - ☐ The adjudicator will provide the tempo (via a metronome).
  - ☐ The adjudicator will start a timer for **exactly 45 seconds.**
- ☐ **Important:** The adjudicator **will not count off** or assist in any way once the 45 seconds begin.
- ☐ Students will begin sight-reading **on their own** when ready after the time has elapsed.

Questions?

Please contact our Auditions Coordinator, **Jeffrey Daniels**, at: **auditions@northeasterndistrict.org**

We encourage all students to begin using SRF early and frequently.

Consistency in sight-reading practice improves confidence and accuracy.

Good luck to all students preparing for Senior Festival auditions!

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