

MTO 20.3 Examples: Anna Stephan–Robinson, Review of *Music Theory Skill Builder*

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online)
<http://www.mtosmt.org/issues/mto.14.20.3/mto.14.20.3.stephan-robinson.php>

Figure 1. Sections and assessments in *Music Theory Skill Builder*

Section	Number of written assessments	Number of aural assessments	Types of activities in default assessments
Notes on the Staff	6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and/or notate notes on bass and/or treble clef staff (grand staff also available) • Notate enharmonic equivalents
Rhythm and Meter	13		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the measure with one note or rest • Insert barlines • Identify meter (give time signature or choose simple/compound and duple/triple/quadruple)
Scales	6	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify (from notation or aurally) whole and half steps • Notate whole and half steps • Notate major and/or minor scales, given tonic or other scale degree • Identify (from notation or aurally) major and/or minor scales
Intervals	9	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and/or notate generic intervals • Identify and/or notate specific intervals • Identify the inversion of a given interval • Many other exercises focused on particular intervals (simple and compound intervals up to the 15th are available)
Key Signatures	7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and/or notate major and/or minor key signatures, given tonic or another scale degree • Complete the circle of fifths for major and/or minor keys
Chords	18	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify (aurally or from notation) triad and/or seventh chord qualities • Notate triads and/or seventh chords in root position and/or inversion (given root or other chord tone) • Identify (from notation) triads and/or seventh chords in inversion (given root or other chord tone) • Identify and/or notate chords in a key (Roman numerals, including figures)

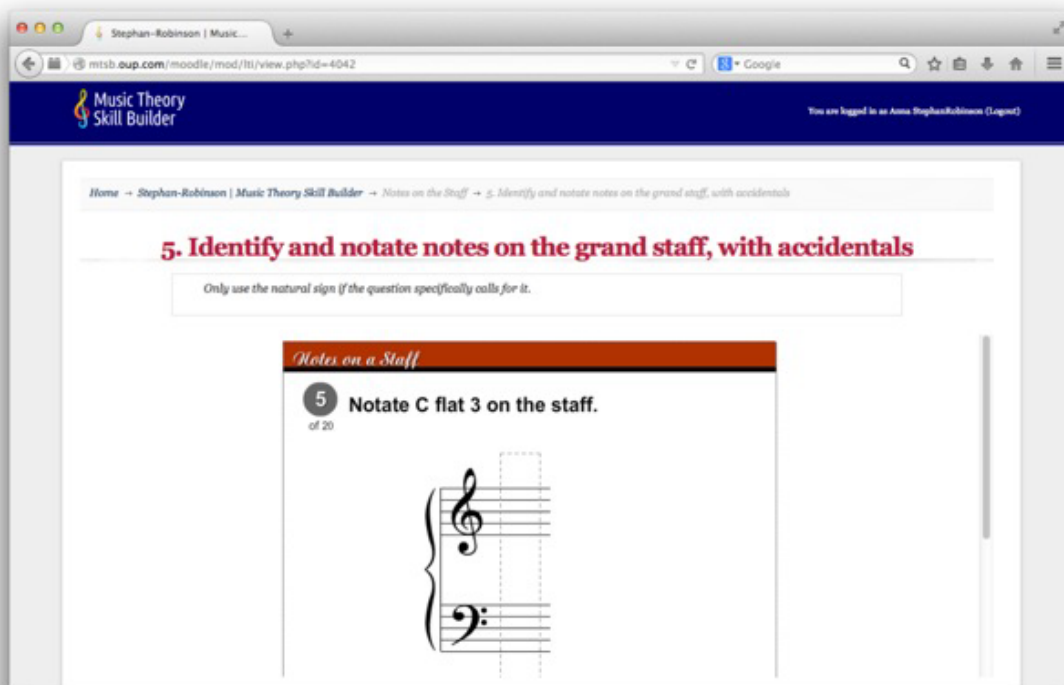
Figure 2. Steps to add an assessment to *Music Theory Skill Builder*

1. Click “Add or modify assessments”
2. Click “New”
3. Complete the first page of information for the assessment (its name, assessment type, quiz or mastery, time to complete, and percent correct to pass for mastery assessments)
4. Choose the specific types of exercises the assessment will contain (each type of assessment will have its own exercises to choose); some customization is possible here

Once the assessment has been created, the instructor must “Deploy” it in order for students to have access:

5. Turn editing on
6. Choose the new assessment and click “Deploy”
7. Copy the URL for the assessment (the screen says that the URL is automatically copied, but it is not)
8. Return to the main course page and make sure that “Turn editing on” is selected
9. Choose the Section in which to place the assessment (the headings for sections are the same as for assessment types, but the program would allow an instructor to mismatch these, for example by placing a note-reading assessment into the Rhythm section), and click “+Add an activity or resource”
10. Choose “External Tool” and click “Add”
11. Type in the name of the assessment (which may or may not be the same as the name chosen before)
12. Paste in the URL (from step 7) in the “Launch URL” box
13. Click “Save and return to course”

Example 1a. A *Music Theory Skill Builder* student exercise requiring scrolling



Example 1b. A *Music Theory Skill Builder* student exercise requiring scrolling

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a music theory exercise. The browser's address bar shows the URL `mitsb.oup.com/moodle/mod/lti/view.php?id=4042`. The page header includes the logo for "Music Theory Skill Builder" and a user login status: "You are logged in as Anna StephanRobinson (Logout)". The exercise title is "5. Identify and notate notes on the grand staff, with accidentals". Below the title is a instruction box: "Only use the natural sign (if the question specifically calls for it.)". The main content area features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. A dashed box highlights a note on the second line of the bass staff. Below the staff is a row of six buttons, each containing a different accidental: a double flat (bb), a single flat (b), a natural sign (o), a sharp (#), a double sharp (x), and a natural sign (o). A "Submit Answer" button is located below the buttons.

Example 2. An incorrectly graded answer in *Music Theory Skill Builder*

The image displays a question from a music theory assessment. The question number is 11, and it is the 11th of 20 questions. The question text is "Notate a pitch that is enharmonic with the given pitch." Below the question are two panels for comparison. The left panel, titled "Correct Answer", shows a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. A note is placed on the second line of the bass staff, and a blue double flat (bb) accidental is placed next to it. The right panel, titled "Your Answer", shows the same grand staff and note, but with a red double sharp (x) accidental placed next to it. A red 'x' icon is visible in the top left corner of the "Your Answer" panel, indicating that the student's answer is incorrect.

Example 3. A widely spaced chord graded as incorrect in *Music Theory Skill Builder*

23. Identify and notate all chords in major and minor keys

Chords

Assessment Results

Your score has been recorded. You can review your results below. When you are finished you can leave the page. To return to your course, click the course name in the link at the top of this window.

70%
Below Mastery

4

Notate a 1st inversion ii° triad in the key of **A minor**.

of 20

Correct Answer



This question contains multiple answers.

Your Answer



Prev

Next