

# Freight Train

## Learning Targets

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Read and perform tied notes
- Combine tied notes and dotted notes in context
- Perform Freight Train accurately while demonstrating principles of ergonomic technique

## What's New?

- Tied rhythms and syncopation
- Multiple dotted quarter rhythms in succession

## What's Challenging?

- In m. 2 and m. 4, accurately counting through the half notes that are tied to the eighth notes
- Accurately playing the series of dotted quarter + eighth note rhythms in mm. 5-6, and then transitioning to the quarter note and two eighth notes that occur at the end of m. 6

## Component Practice Suggestions

- Practice the syncopated tied rhythm in m. 2 and m. 4 by:
  - First ignoring the tie and counting and clap the rhythm as if the tie wasn't there:
    - 1 2 + 3 (4)
  - Next, observe the tie, which means that you will no longer clap on beat 3. Be sure to continue to think/feel beats 3 and 4.
    - 1 2 + (3 4)
  - Repeat these same steps but now with playing the written pitches rather than clapping.
- Practice mm. 5-8 by splitting them into two separate phrases: m. 5 through beat 3 of m. 6 and beat 4 of m. 6 through m. 8.
  - Count and clap the rhythm in m. 5 through beat 3 of m. 6, clapping only where highlighted below:
    - 1 (2) + 3 (4) + 1 (2) + 3
  - Next, count and clap the rhythm beginning on beat 4 of m. 6 and going to the end of m. 8:
    - (1 2 3) 4 + 1 (2) + 3 4 1 (2 3 4)
  - After getting comfortable with each of those phrases, combine them and count/clap all of mm. 5-8.
  - Repeat these steps with counting and playing the pitches rather than clapping.