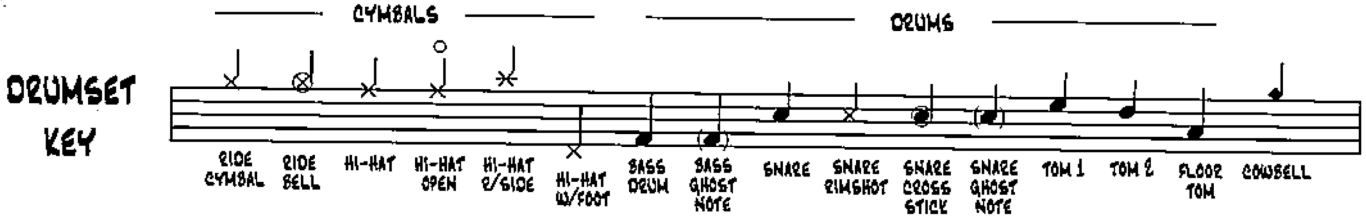
2015-2016 Jazz Band Audition Etudes

Drum Set

Schedule a time with Mr. Fairweather like you would a lesson. Going to both parts of this audition will give you credit for 1 lesson. Perform the Jazz Audition Scales along with these pieces of music. Tempos indicated are target tempos; if you're a little short that's okay. Phrasing and line (dynamic) shaping or shading is encouraged. Please ask the director questions before the audition so you can play better at your audition.

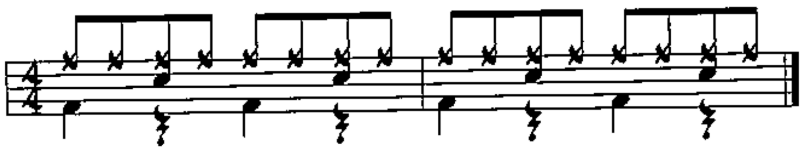
Part 1 Jazz Audition Grooves- read directions before playing

These are common grooves we use in jazz band. You show me what you can do for each groove by playing 3 measures of groove;,a measure of fill; then repeat. Choose between the stock groove or the variations.



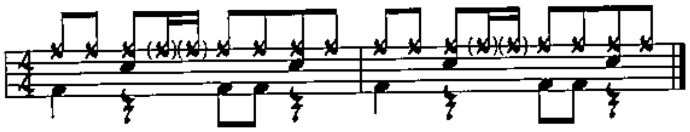
Slow Rock Grooves- Tempos are quarter note= 90-105

Rock Groove A

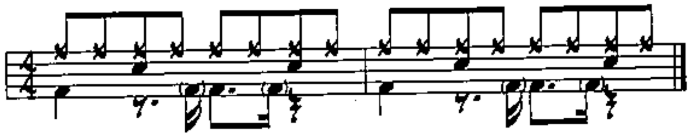


Grooves 1- 5 can be played on the Hi-Hat or Ride Cymbal

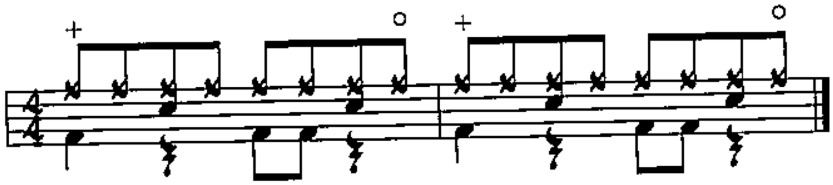
Variation A



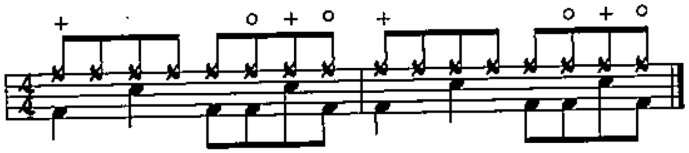
Variation B



Rock Groove B

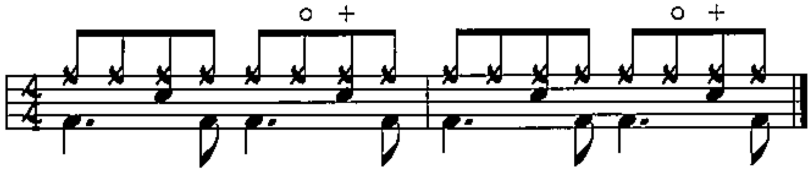


Variation A

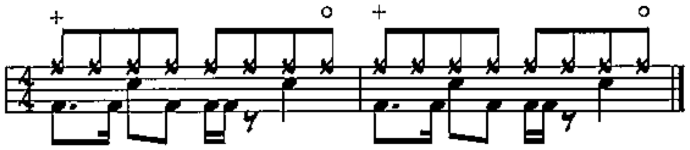


Variation B

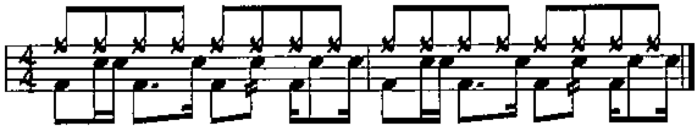
Rock Groove C



Variation A

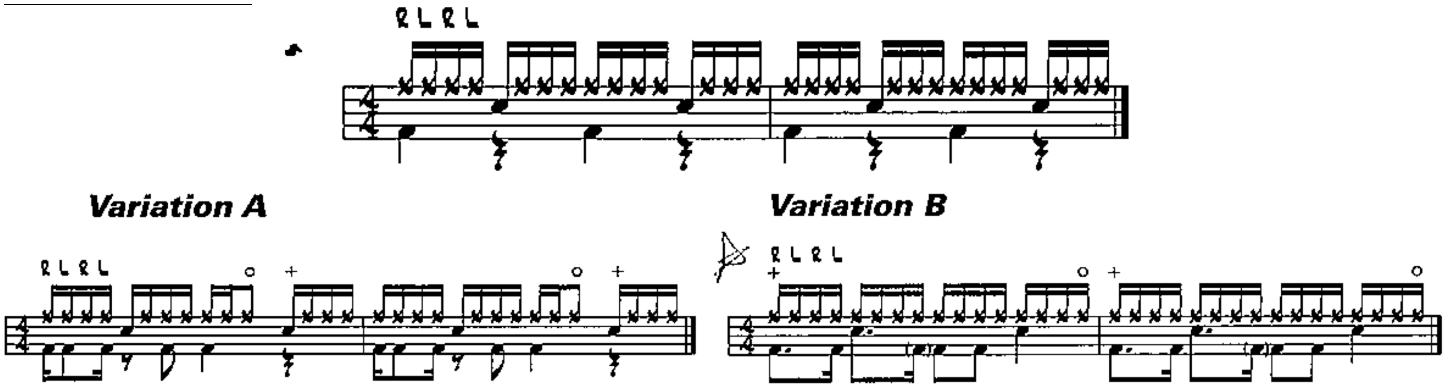


Variation B

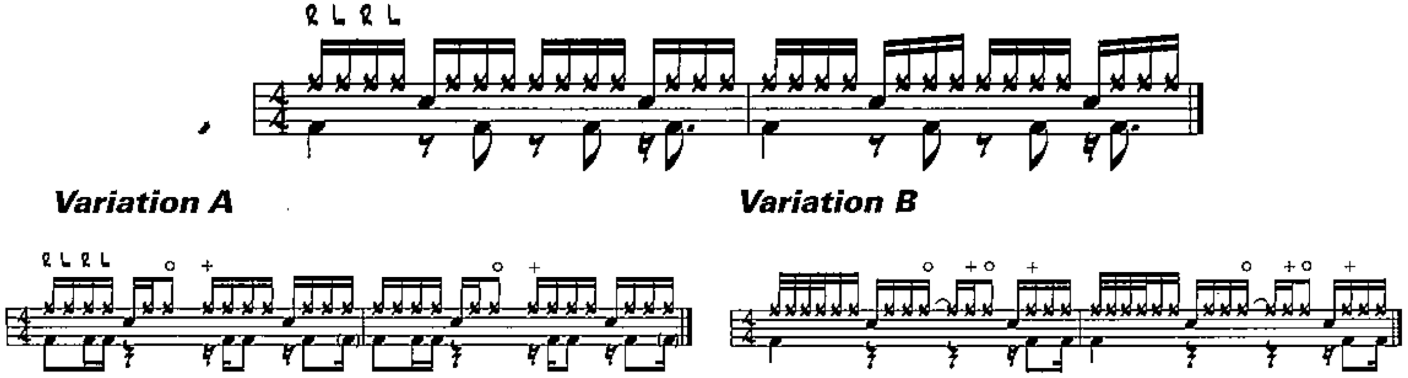


Your performance of these grooves will be rating: 1. Steady time kept during the pattern, 2. Steady time kept during fill-in during the transition to the next phrase, 3. If your 2,3,4 way coordination is working or not, and 4. creativity/variety/tastefulness of the fill-ins and 5. attempt/success at the stock groove or the trickier variations.

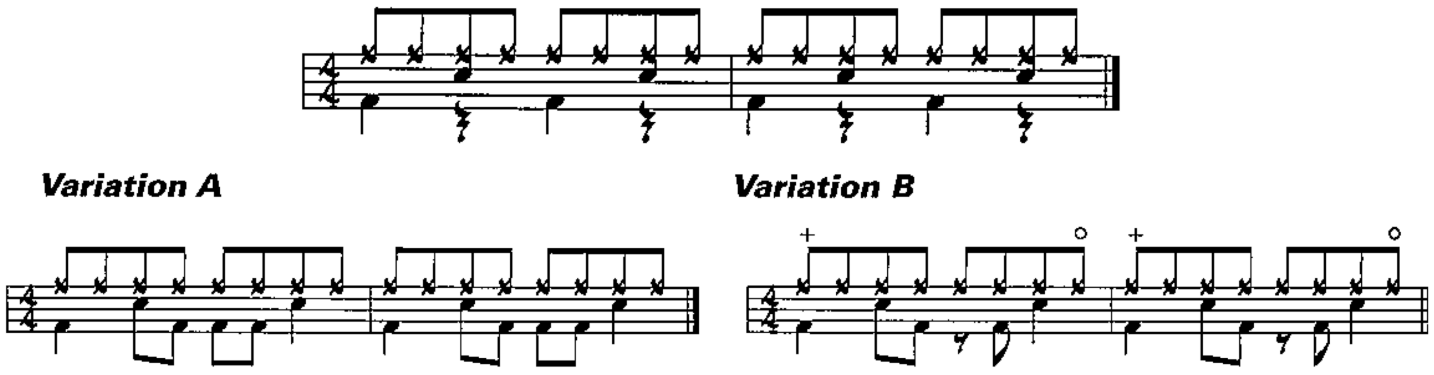
Rock Groove D



Rock Groove E



Fast Rock Groove- Tempo; Quarter note = 125-150



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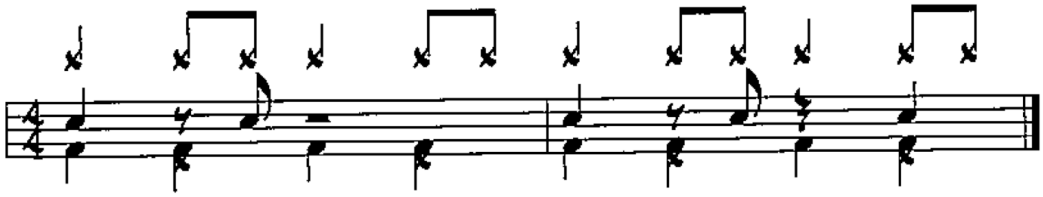
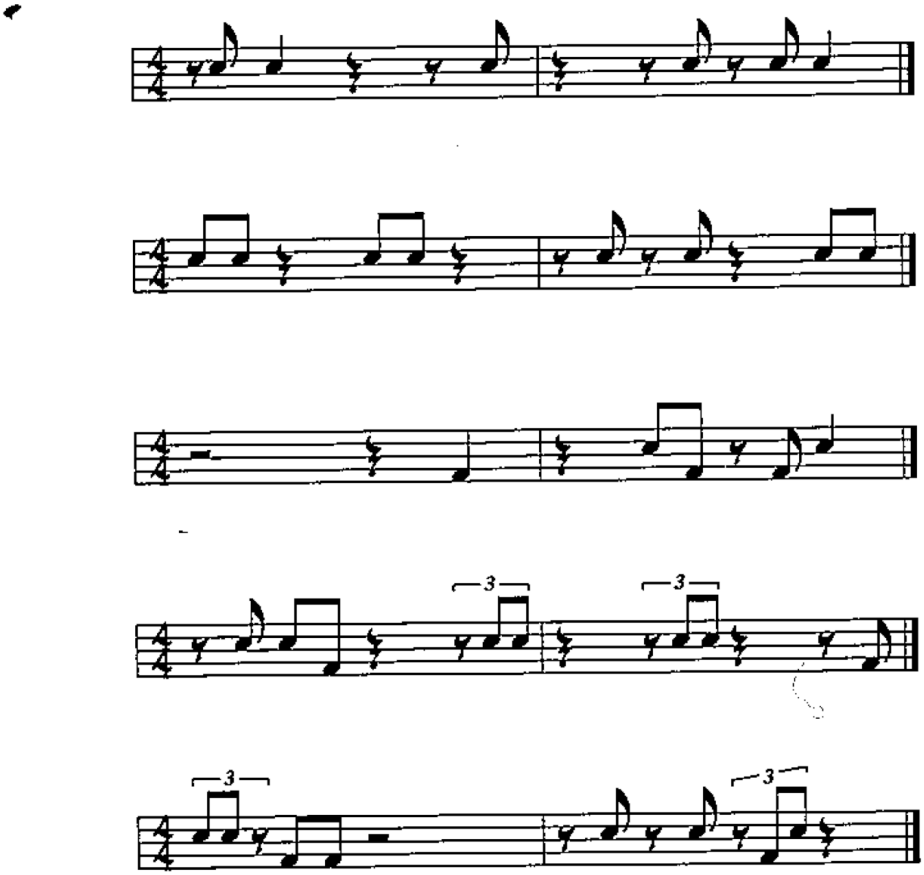
<u>Slow Swing Grooves-</u> Tempo; quarter note = 125-140

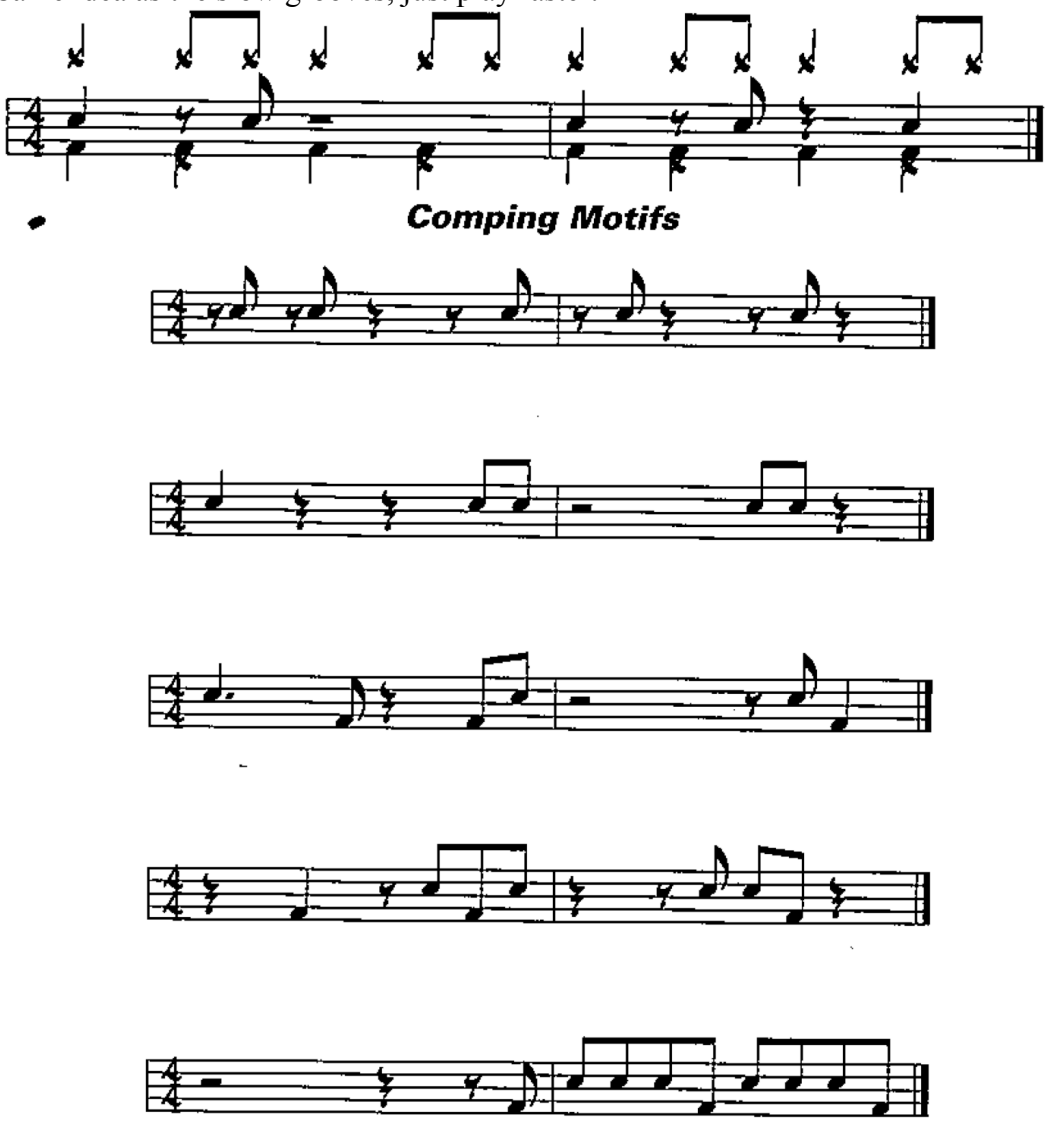
Use triplets to interpret the music for swing. Most importantly for the pattern is that the Left Foot for the Hi-Hat must always be strong on beats 2 & 4 and right hand plays the ride cymbal time. Left hand plays the "ensemble hits" on the snare drum. Switch ride pattern to quarter notes in case "spang, spang-a-lang" is too hard. Play the first example then change out the left hand for each of the Comping Motifs listed below—keep time going on the right hand. Treat each one as a separate etude—put a pause in between each 2-bar phrase.



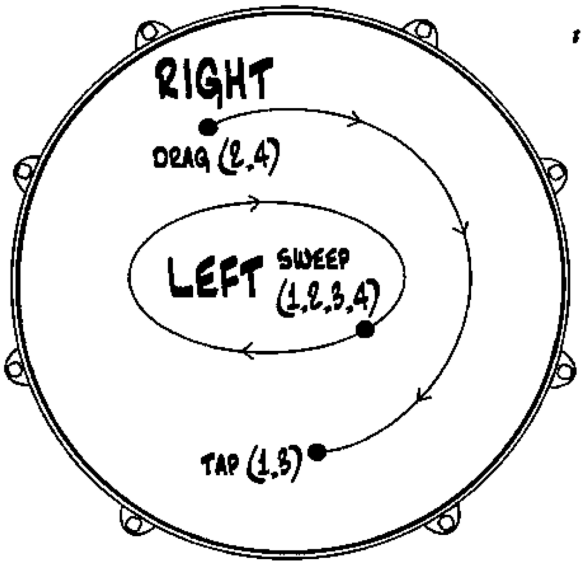
Comping Motifs



Fast Swing Grooves- Tempo; quarter note = 180-200
Same idea as the slow grooves, just play faster.



Ballad- Brushes needed here; Tempo; quarter note = 60-75
Even if you have never used brushes before, this is a great place to start for our jazz ballads.



Watch the demo on the DVD if this diagram is confusing. This pattern is a great place to start playing brushes. Start with getting that left hand to "whisper"—seamlessly, gently, gracefully. Your hand should look pretty as it makes the oval shape. If you look or feel tense, shake your arms by your side, breathe deeply and start again. Try the right hand with the "tap-drag" technique. Feel the time! And then try them together. Sound terrible? Of course it does. It always does the first time. This is new stuff! Try again; slowly, gracefully. No rush. Think about hitting your marks on the beats and soon you'll be smooth as silk.

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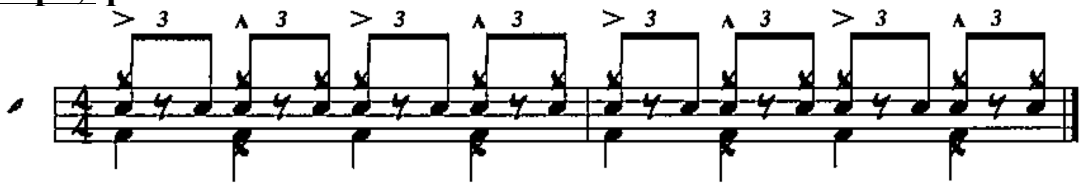
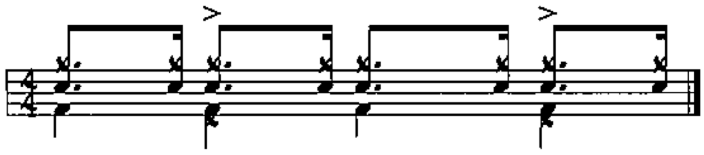
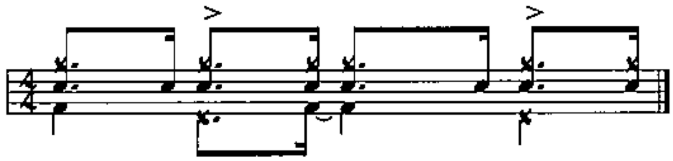
Shuffle- Tempo; quarter note around 120



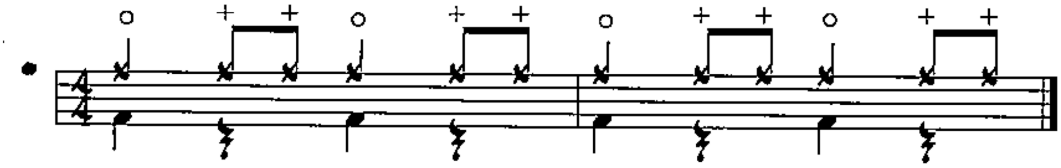
Variation A



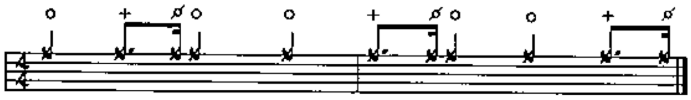
Variation B



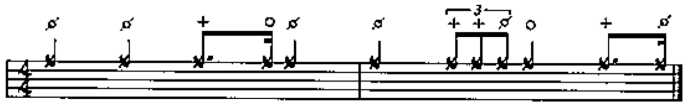
2-Beat Feel- Tempo; quarter note around 210



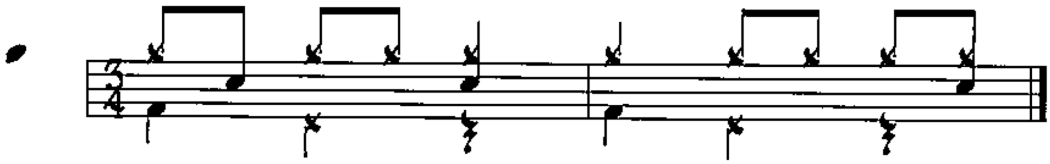
Variation A



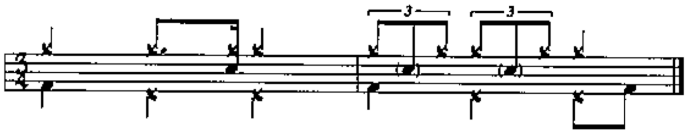
Variation B



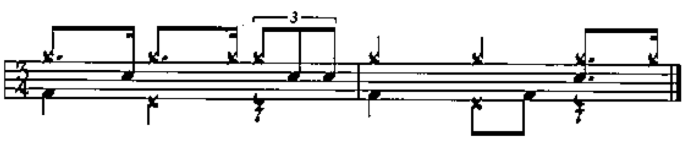
Jazz Waltz- Tempo; quarter note=160-175



Variation A

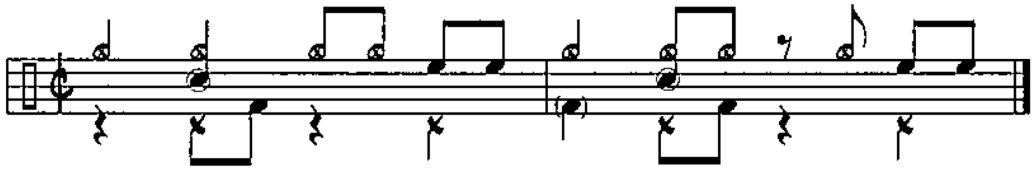


Variation B

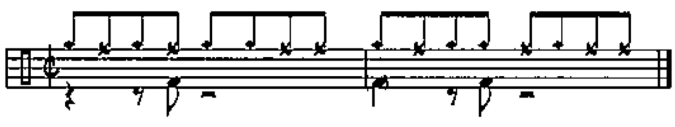


World Grooves

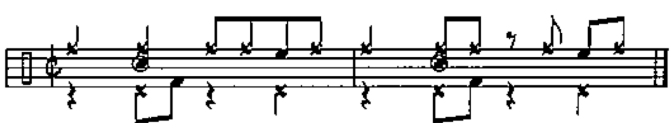
All Purpose Latin- tempo; HALF note = 100-115



Variation A



Variation B



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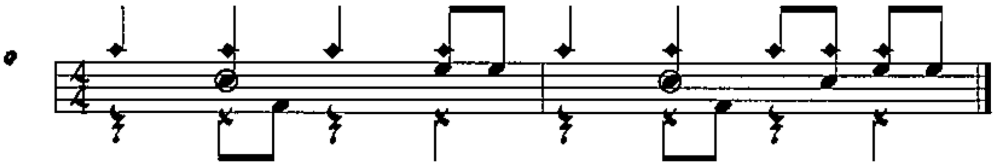
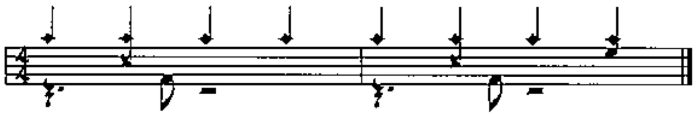
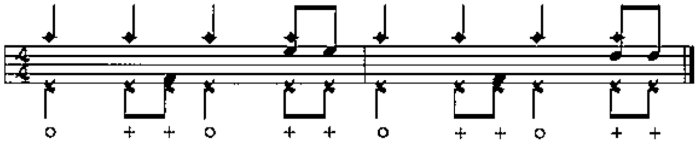
Cha- Cha- Tempo; quarter note= 110-125



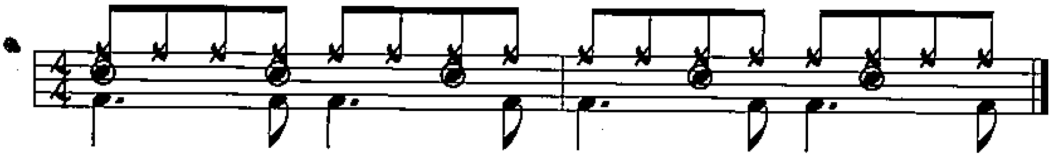
Variation A



Variation B



Bossa Nova-Tempo; quarter note= 130-145



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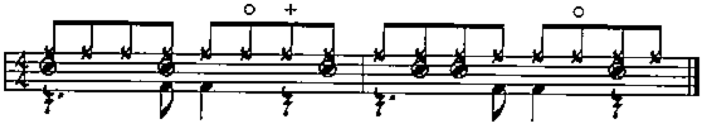

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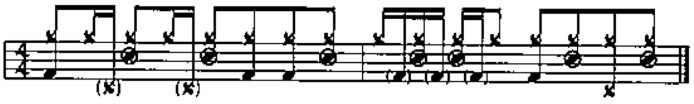
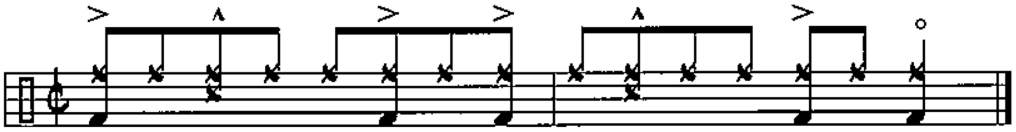
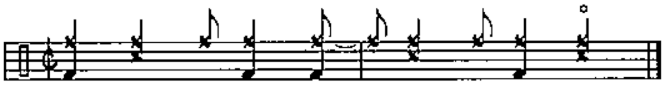


Partito Alto- Tempo; quarter note= 135-150



Variation A



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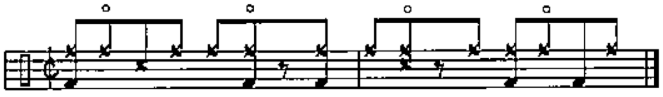
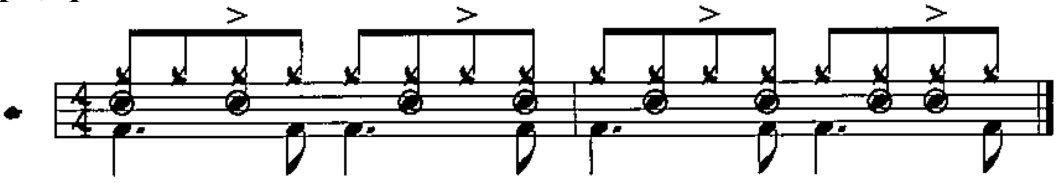
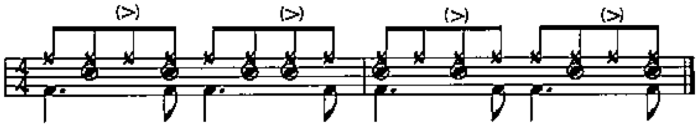


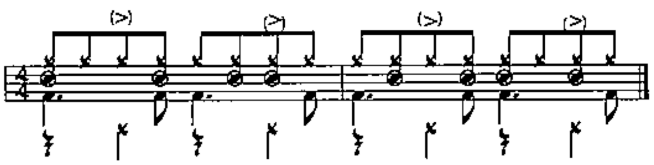
Samba- tempo; quarter note= 150-165



Variation A



Variation B



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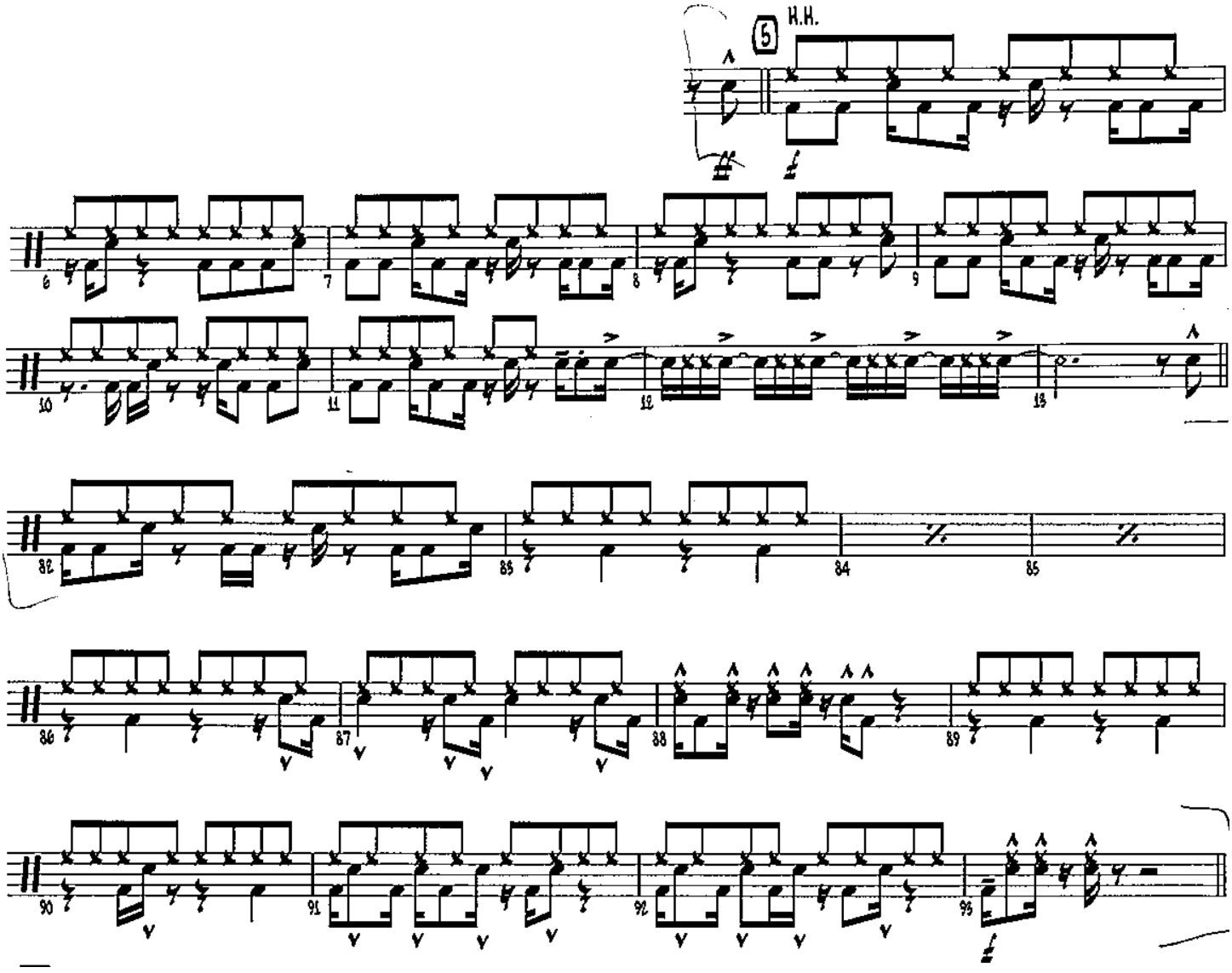
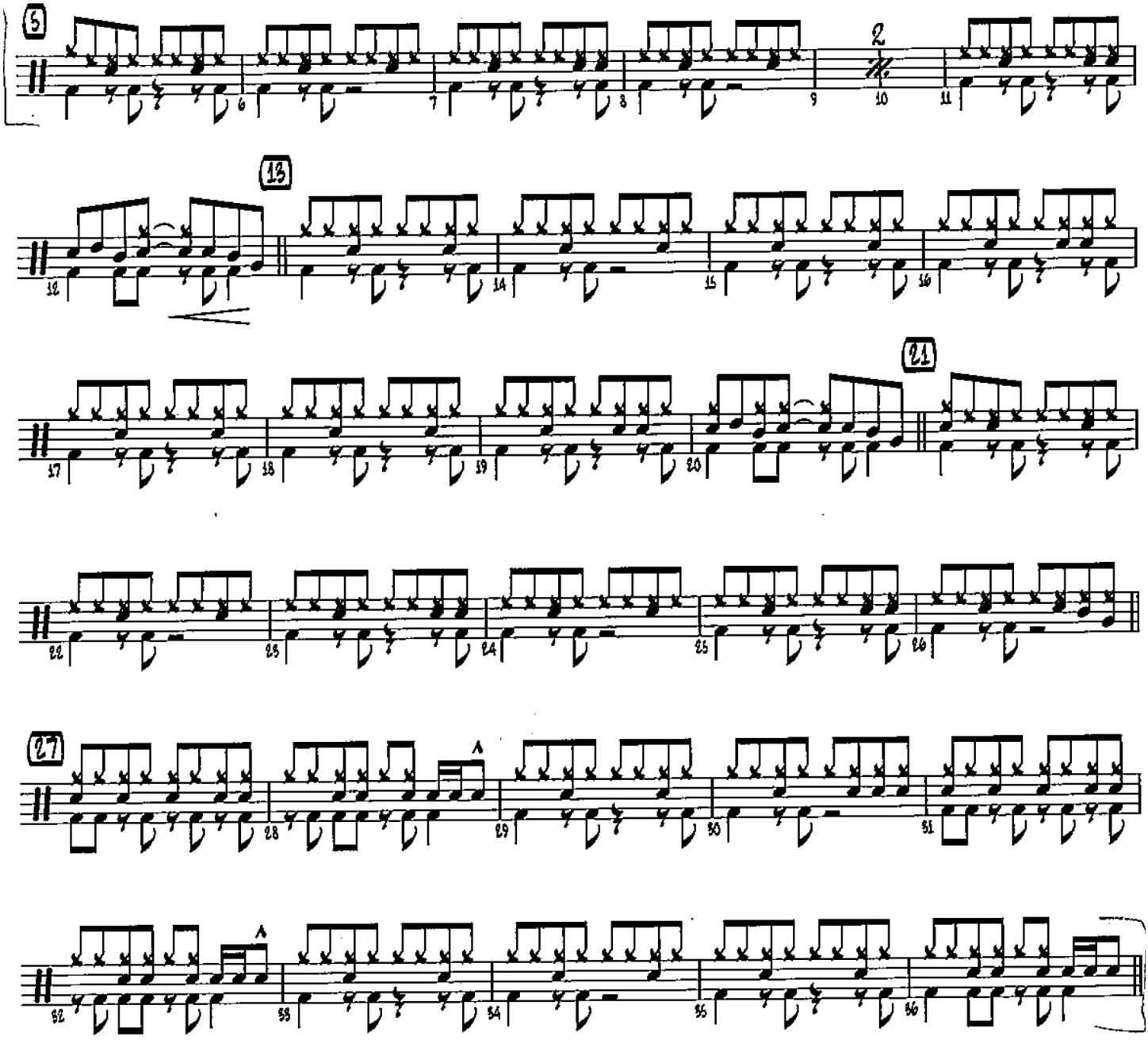
Part 2 Musical Excerpts
(Drum set parts sometimes only contain part of the information. Here they want you to not only catch the rhythms but also play along with the ensemble. You need to catch the ensemble figures and fill in the spaces with fills and time. Originally written as a Samba in cut time, you can treat it like that or as a Latin Rock style. Please make sure to reach the target tempo for the audition)

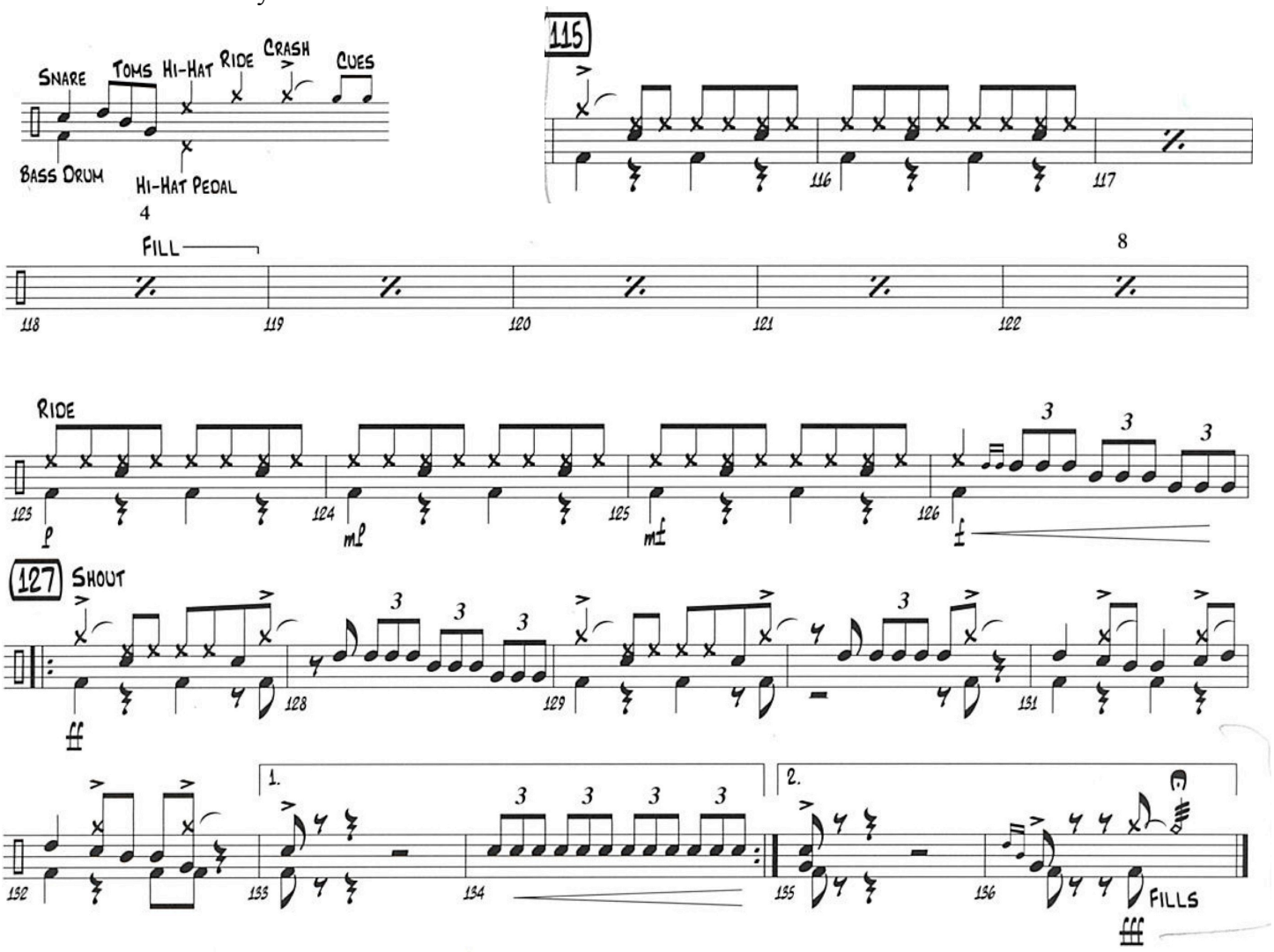
Straight 8th Note Style
Funky Rock, quarter note= 88
Play all of m. 11 on the snare drum.



Medium rock
Quarter note= 110



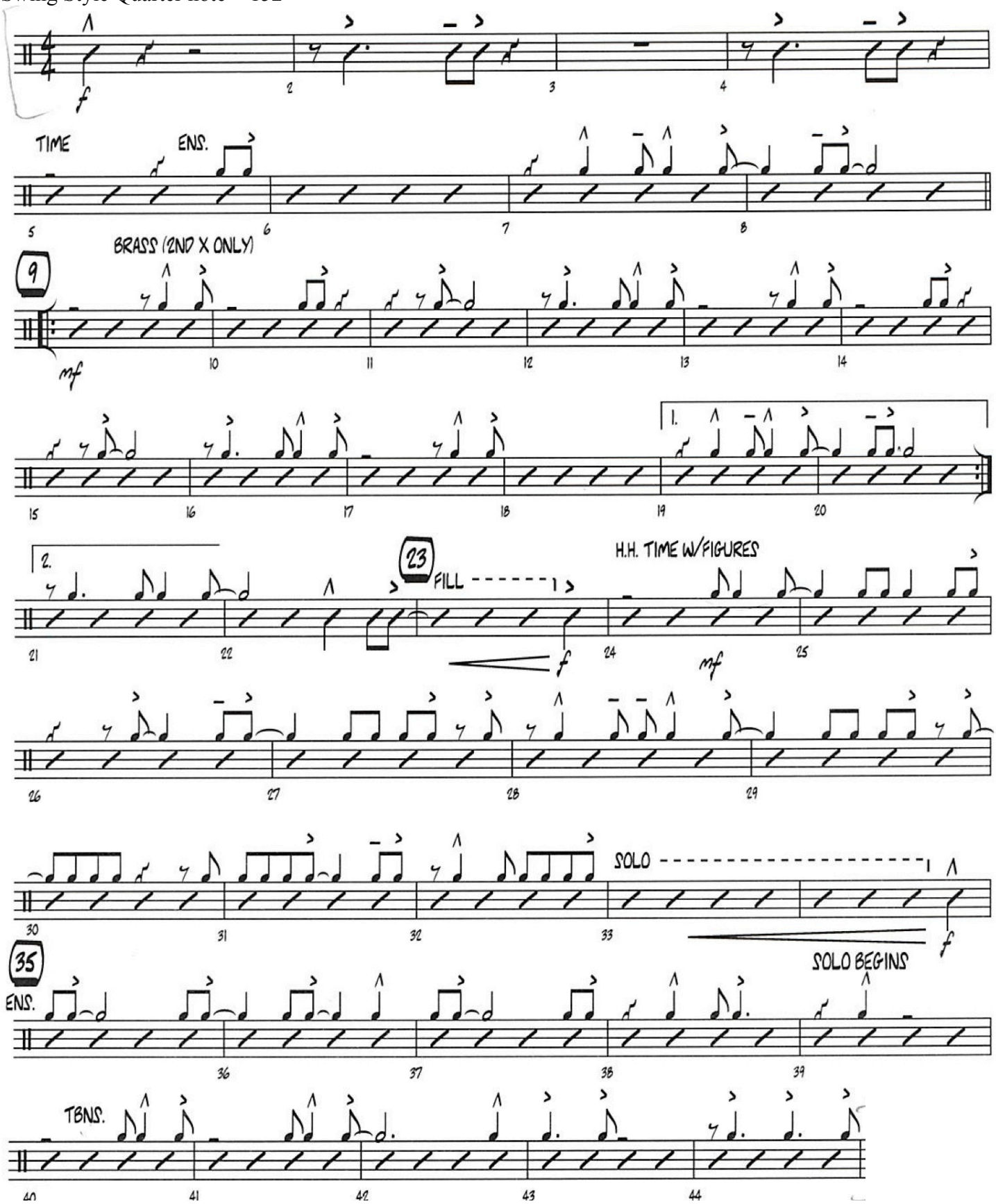
Swing Style Quarter note = 138
Drum Set Notation Key



Read this before you play the next page

(on the next page you will see slash rhythms; these are hits played with the ensemble; also you will see slashes with small rhythms above the music lines. Play the 1st-4 measures as written on the snare drum. Add the swing ride cymbal pattern when you see the slashes and try to catch the ensemble figures (ens.) written above the time.

Swing Style Quarter note = 152



Part 3 Group Audition

Please come to the group part of this audition. Be ready to sight-read tunes in a group setting.