

Piano Note Detective

First-Glance Sight Reading Missions

Thirty original short reading missions, in no other Piano Note Detective book: 20 for the right hand and 10 for the left. Look for one minute, check four things, then play once without stopping. Three levels, a reading record and a teacher library.



IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Case 1: Level 1 missions
- Ten short reading missions
- The one-minute look
- Answers



A sample like the missions: look for a minute, check four things, play once.

- 1** Look for one minute
- 2** Clef, beats, key, first note
- 3** Count one bar
- 4** Play once, keep going

Digital download · Print at 100% on US Letter · For students who read both staves in the C position · Short daily sittings
· With a piano or keyboard

How the case file works

Thirty missions: one or two a day.

For a student who reads both staves in the C position. Each mission is a short original piece written for this book: none of them appears in any other Piano Note Detective book. The student looks at it for about a minute, answers four quick questions (clef, beats in a bar, key, first note), counts one bar and plays it once without stopping. Then circle how it went: did the beat keep going, and were the notes mostly right? Show one mission at a time: cover the others on the page with a sheet of paper. Practice comes after the first try.

EACH CASE

The story	Read it aloud together. It says what the detective is looking for.
Learn	The rule for this case, with a picture. Point at it while you read it.
Tasks	Each mission: four quick look-first answers (they have one answer each), then one try at the piano (circle how it went).
Clue	The last task gives a clue for the final question.

YOU NEED

- A piano or keyboard
- A pencil
- A clock for the one-minute look
- A sheet of paper to cover the other missions

GOOD TO KNOW

- Never practice a mission before its first try: then it is no longer sight reading.
- Keep going after a slip; a steady beat matters more than every note.
- Level 3 uses the G position and the G major key signature (no F sharp appears in these pieces).

NOT A METHOD BOOK

Sight-reading practice for students, not piano lessons. Each mission is played once, unseen; the adult records how it went.

Case 1: Level 1 Missions

Two bars in the C position, treble or bass, 4/4

THE STORY

The Detective Agency sends a sealed envelope every day: a short piece to open and play once. Look for a minute, then play. Thirty missions earn the agency's secret word.

LEARN

- Ready for Level 1: quarter, half and whole notes in the C position, right hand on the treble staff or left hand on the bass staff.
- Look first: clef, time signature, key signature, first note. Then put your hand in position.
- Count one bar out loud, then play once without stopping.

1 Mission 1. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.

Clef Beats in a bar Key signature First note

First try, beat:

kept going

stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

2 Mission 2. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.

Clef Beats in a bar Key signature First note

First try, beat:

kept going

stopped or lost it

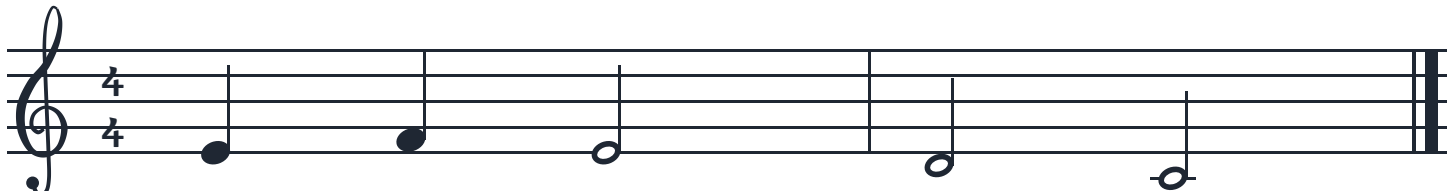
Notes:

mostly right

need work

Case 1: Level 1 Missions (continued)

3 Mission 3. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



A musical staff in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures. The first measure has a quarter note on G4. The second measure has a quarter note on A4. The third measure has a half note on B4. The fourth measure has a whole note on C5. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Clef Beats in a bar Key signature First note

First try, beat:

kept going

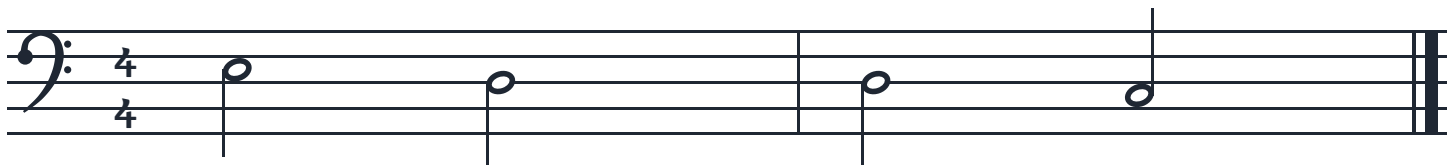
stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

4 Mission 4. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



A musical staff in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures. The first measure has a quarter note on F3. The second measure has a quarter note on E3. The third measure has a half note on D3. The fourth measure has a whole note on C3. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Clef Beats in a bar Key signature First note

First try, beat:

kept going

stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

5 Mission 5. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



A musical staff in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures. The first measure has a quarter note on G4. The second measure has a quarter note on A4. The third measure has a quarter note on B4. The fourth measure has a whole note on C5. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Clef Beats in a bar Key signature First note

First try, beat:

kept going

stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

Case 1: Level 1 Missions (continued)

6 Mission 6. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



Clef

Beats in a bar

Key signature

First note

First try, beat:

kept going

stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

7 Mission 7. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



Clef

Beats in a bar

Key signature

First note

First try, beat:

kept going

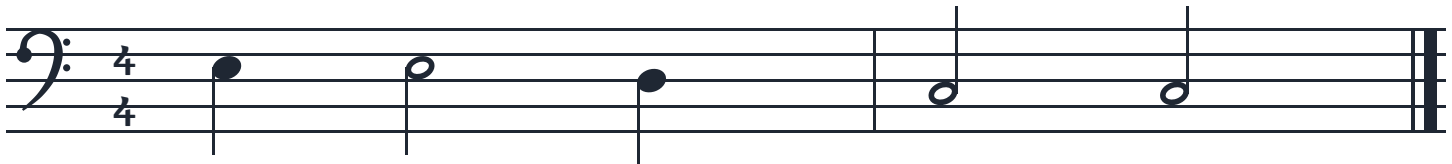
stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

8 Mission 8. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



Clef

Beats in a bar

Key signature

First note

First try, beat:

kept going

stopped or lost it

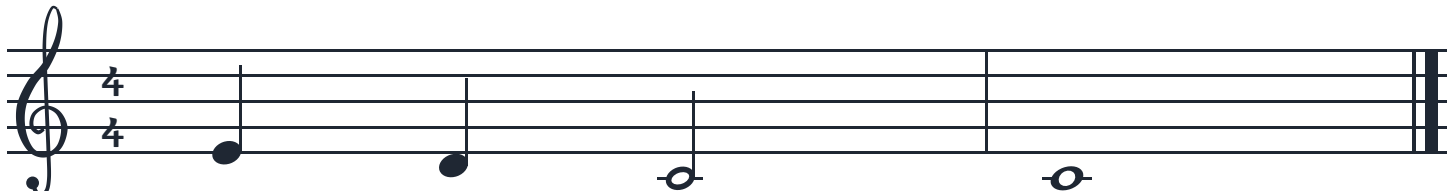
Notes:

mostly right

need work

Case 1: Level 1 Missions (continued)

9 Mission 9. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



A musical staff in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures. The first measure has a quarter note on G4. The second measure has a quarter note on F4. The third measure has a half note on E4. The fourth measure has a whole note on D4. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Clef Beats in a bar Key signature First note

First try, beat:

kept going

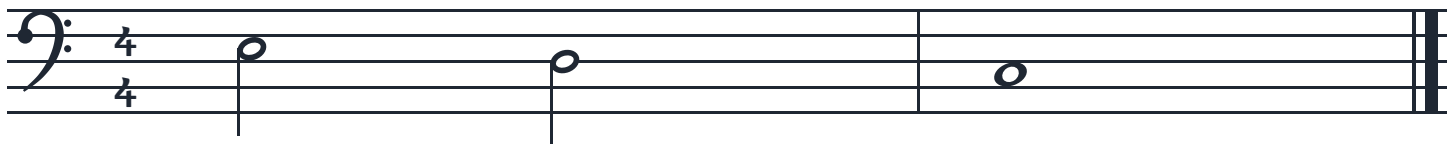
stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

10 Mission 10. Look for one minute, then play it once without stopping.



A musical staff in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures. The first measure has a half note on G2. The second measure has a half note on F2. The third measure has a half note on E2. The fourth measure has a whole note on D2. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Clef Beats in a bar Key signature First note

First try, beat:

kept going

stopped or lost it

Notes:

mostly right

need work

Case 1: Level 1 Missions (continued)

11 Choose the best answer.

1. Before playing a mission, what do you look at first?

- ☐ R the clef and time signature
- ☐ S the last note
- ☐ T the page number

CLUE 1



The first letter is the letter of your answer to the last task.

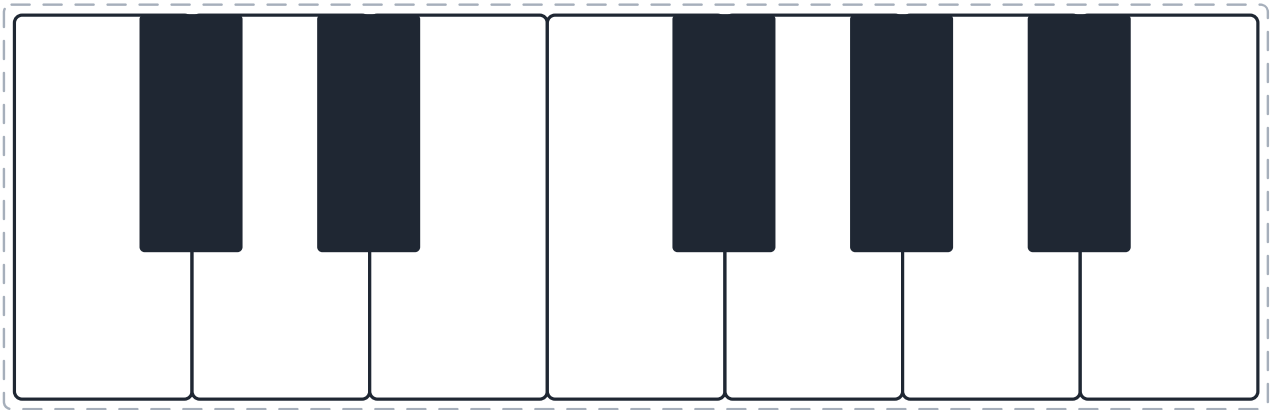
Clue:

Copy it onto the answer line of the final question.

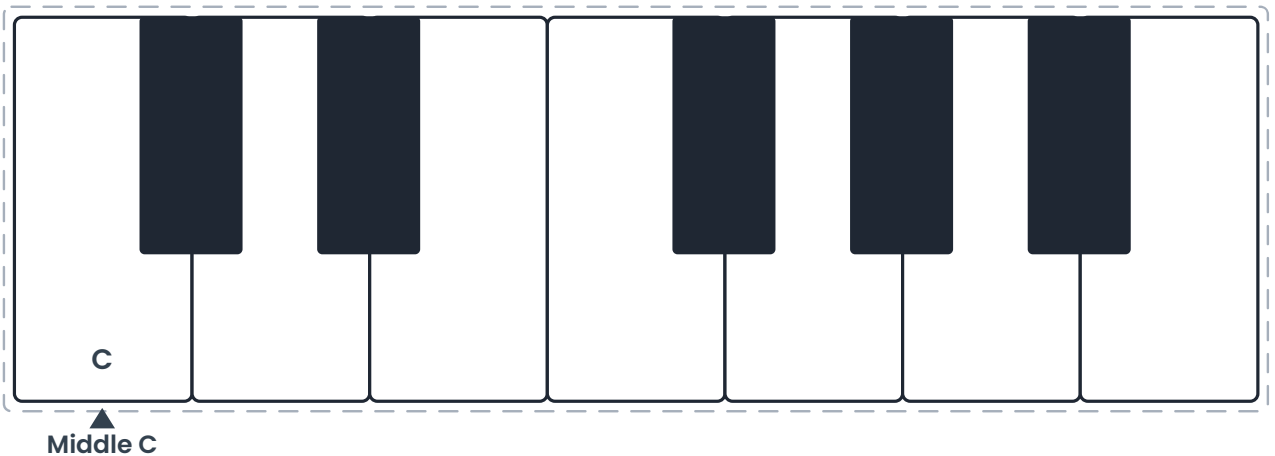
Paper keyboard

Cut out the rows and tape them in order, low to high. White keys are about as wide as a real piano's.

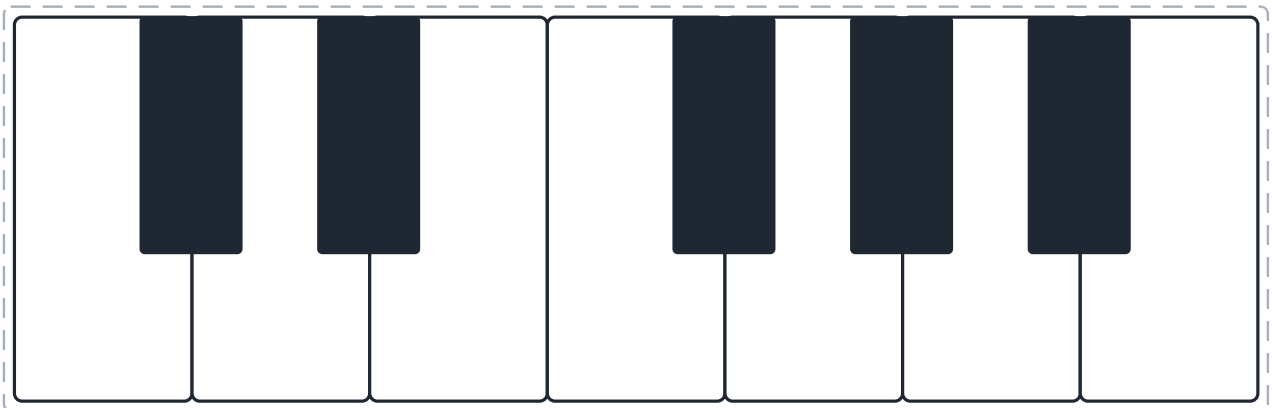
Low



Middle



High



Only Middle C is labeled: finding the other keys is the detective's job. Tape the rows edge to edge (low on the left) to make one long keyboard.

Case 1 answers

Every answer comes with its reason. Read the reasons aloud: they teach.

CASE 1 · LEVEL 1 MISSIONS

Task 1 PND49-C1-T1	Mission 1: treble clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · treble clef · 4/4 · C major · C4–E4 · quarters, halves, whole notes
Task 2 PND49-C1-T2	Mission 2: bass clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note C Level 1 · bass clef · 4/4 · C major · C3–E3 · quarters, halves
Task 3 PND49-C1-T3	Mission 3: treble clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · treble clef · 4/4 · C major · C4–F4 · quarters, halves
Task 4 PND49-C1-T4	Mission 4: bass clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · bass clef · 4/4 · C major · C3–E3 · halves
Task 5 PND49-C1-T5	Mission 5: treble clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · treble clef · 4/4 · C major · C4–E4 · quarters, halves, whole notes
Task 6 PND49-C1-T6	Mission 6: bass clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · bass clef · 4/4 · C major · C3–E3 · quarters, halves, whole notes
Task 7 PND49-C1-T7	Mission 7: treble clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · treble clef · 4/4 · C major · C4–E4 · quarters, halves
Task 8 PND49-C1-T8	Mission 8: bass clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · bass clef · 4/4 · C major · C3–E3 · quarters, halves
Task 9 PND49-C1-T9	Mission 9: treble clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · treble clef · 4/4 · C major · C4–E4 · quarters, halves, whole notes
Task 10 PND49-C1-T10	Mission 10: bass clef · 4 beats · key signature none · first note E Level 1 · bass clef · 4/4 · C major · C3–E3 · halves, whole notes
Task 11 PND49-C1-T11	1 R: the clef and time signature Clef and time signature tell you where the notes are and how to count.
Clue 1	R (the answer to item 1 of task 11)

THE FULL CASE FILE

The full First-Glance Sight Reading Missions has twenty more missions in Levels 2 and 3, a reading record, a notebook, the final question, a logged teacher library, hints and a certificate.