

Viola Audition Excerpts – JMU Ensembles – Fall 2026

Part 1: Scales

3-octave scales and arpeggios

Prepare all Major and minor scales up to 4 sharps and 4 flats. The committee will select one for you to play.

Part 2: Play Excerpts (on next pages)

*It is highly recommended to listen to various recordings of the excerpts to gain a sense of the style and orchestral texture.

Excerpt 1: Rimsky-Korsakov — Capriccio Espagnole, Op. 34

V. Fandango asturiano (in 2) (play top line)

starts at quarter = approx. 160, and accelerando into Presto in 1, with
half note = approx. 90

Excerpt 2: Brahms Symphony no. 2, mvt 1 (mm. 194-224)

in 3, quarter = approx. 110-115

Excerpt 3: Brahms Symphony no. 2, mvt 1 (rehearsal I section)

in 3, quarter = approx. 100-105

Excerpt 4: Beethoven Symphony no. 5, mvt 2 (Andante con moto) in 3/8

eight note = approx. 92

Excerpt 1: Rimsky-Korsakov — Capriccio Espagnole, Op. 34

V. Fandango asturiano (in 2) (play top line)

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Coda.
Vivo. (Tempo di comincio.)

The musical score is written for a single melodic line (top line) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 2/4. The score is divided into seven systems. The first system is the top line, which is the main melody. The second system is the second line. The third system is the third line, starting with a red bracket and a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The fourth system is the fourth line, starting with a red bracket and a forte (*fz*) dynamic. The fifth system is the piano part, with a red bracket on the left side, showing the left and right hands. The sixth system is the piano part, also with a red bracket on the left side. The seventh system is the piano part, with a red bracket on the right side, and is marked **Presto.**

Excerpt 2: Brahms Symphony no. 2, mvt 1 (mm. 194-224)
in 3, quarter = approx. 110-115

Brahms 2nd I, 194-224 Bratsche and 302-317 3

mp cresc. ff

START END

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Excerpt 3: Brahms Symphony no. 2, mvt 1 (rehearsal I section)
in 3, quarter = approx. 100-105

Bratsche

4 start slower I m p dolce mp espr. END

Excerpt 4: Beethoven Symphony no. 5, mvt 2 (Andante con moto) in 3/8
eight note = approx. 92

Beethoven 5^m II.
Andante con moto (♩ = 92)

8 *p dolce*

Viol. II

p cresc. f

23 *pp ff*

31 *sempre ff*

37 *sempre p* *cresc. f* *p dolce*

51 *f* *cresc. f*

The image shows a handwritten musical score for the Violin II part of the second movement of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5. The score is written on five staves. At the top, there is a handwritten title "Beethoven 5^m II." and the tempo marking "Andante con moto (♩ = 92)". The first staff starts at measure 1 and includes dynamics like *p dolce* and *ff*. The second staff is labeled "Viol. II" and includes dynamics like *p*, *cresc.*, and *f*. The third staff starts at measure 23 and includes dynamics like *pp* and *ff*. The fourth staff starts at measure 31 and includes the instruction *sempre ff*. The fifth staff starts at measure 37 and includes instructions like *sempre p*, *cresc. f*, and *p dolce*. The sixth staff starts at measure 51 and includes dynamics like *f* and *cresc. f*. There are various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings throughout the score.