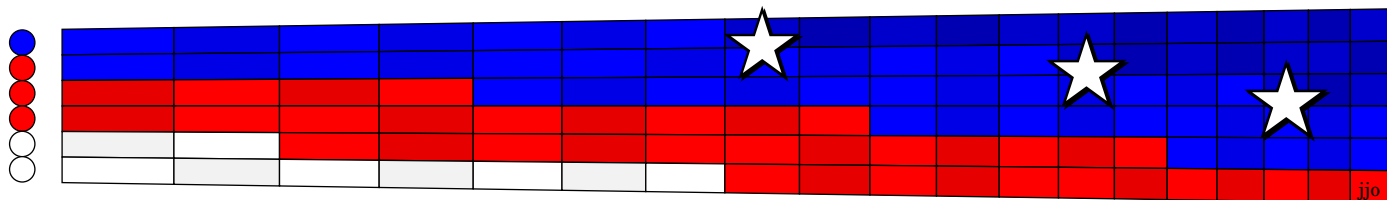


May Fretboard Exercises

Sightreads for Memorial Day

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Exercise 1: I 0 II 9 III 9 IV 9 V 9 VI 9 VII 4 VIII 4 IX 4 X 7 XI 9 ③ ④

$\text{♩} = 120$

Exercise 2: I 1 II 2 III 5 IV 4 V 4 VI 7 VII 2 VIII 6 ⑤

$\text{♩} = 144$

Exercise 3: I 1 II 2 III 4 IV 7 V 3 VI 7 VII 2 VIII 4 ⑤

$\text{♩} = 120$

Exercise 1	Butterfield(1862): Extinguish Lights (Taps)	1
Exercise 2	Zimmerman(1906): Anchors Aweigh	1
Exercise 3	Offenbach(1867): Marines' Hymn	1

Exercise 1 is the bugle call Taps, with mainly just three different notes. It's easy in first position, but the next higher positions are hard until you re-optimize from the usual sightreading fingers (e.g. by using a bar in fifth position). But that's beyond basic sightreading.

Or you can play bugle harmonics as guitar harmonics on a single string, as shown in the first youtube below. That's way beyond basic sightreading.

The origin of this piece is from the Civil War when Brigadier General Daniel Butterfield wanted his bugler to play something shorter and more soothing to end the day, compared to the not-at-all restful Tattoo, the Army's longest bugle call (hear the second youtube below).

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taps_\(bugle_call\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taps_(bugle_call))
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5XQBhmeogYM> (as guitar harmonics)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5226xRRCg0> (Tattoo: what Taps replaced)

Exercise 2 was composed in 1906 for Naval Academy cadets as a football fight song explicitly aimed at beating Army, though these lyrics were changed 20 years later for more general use:

Roll up the score, Navy, anchors aweigh!

Sail Navy down the field and sink the Army, sink the Army grey!

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anchors_Aweigh
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pI8sEK8xoz8> (with piano score)

Exercise 3 came from Jacques Offenbach's 1867 French comic opera in which two gendarmes sing in jest about what they do (play “The Gendarmes' Duet” below for a version in English). That melody became “The Marines' Hymn” with completely different lyrics that nevertheless included its own bit of humor:

If the Army and the Navy

Ever look on Heaven's scenes;

They will find the streets are guarded

By United States Marines.

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marines%27_Hymn
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdOuBya90Ec> (The Gendarmes' Duet)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yj5YBQbpOZ0> (The Marines' Hymn)

These exercises are from the yet to be released books “Diatonic Fretboard Exercises”, and “Chromatic Fretboard Exercises”, which together contain over two thousand such exercises and will be made available for free on IMSLP. The contents may be freely copied and modified, but with the condition that they be attributed to J. J. Olson (CC-BY license).

Interested? Contact Jeff Olson at jjocanoe@gmail.com

*P.S. It easiest to follow these links if you **get the pdf** as indicated on the first page.*