

# Articulation

Pages 28 and 29 introduced the words and signs that indicate what speed (slow to fast) and volume (soft + loud) a musical selection is to be played. In addition, notes may be performed in different ways. The manner in which a note is performed is called ARTICULATION. Legato (see page 19) is one form of articulation.

ITALIAN	SYMBOL	ENGLISH
<u>staccato</u>		Play the note short and detached. The Italian word means "detached."
<u>accent</u> (English)		Play the note louder, with a special emphasis.
<u>sforzando</u>	<i>sf</i> or <i>sfz</i>	A sudden, strong accent. The Italian word means "forcing."
<u>tenuto</u>	 (or <i>ten.</i> )	Hold the note for its full value. The Italian word means "held."
<u>fermata</u>		Hold the note longer than its normal value (approximately twice the normal duration).

## Exercises

1 Name the articulation symbols below:

\_\_\_\_\_ *ten.* or *ten.* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* or *sfz* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Say the following examples using the syllables "ti" for 8th notes, "ta" for quarter notes, "ta-ah" for half notes, "ta-ah-ah" for dotted half notes and "ta-ah-ah-ah" for whole notes. Observe all tempo markings, dynamics and other musical symbols.

**Allegro**

**Largo**

**Moderato**