

Minimalism exercise

Snare Drum

Castanets

Extra quarter note

Detailed description: This system shows the first five measures of the exercise. The Snare Drum (S. D.) and Castanets parts are written on a grand staff. The Snare Drum part consists of a steady eighth-note pattern. The Castanets part follows a similar pattern but includes an extra quarter note (crotchet) at the end of each two-beat unit, which causes it to drift out of phase with the Snare Drum over time.

S. D.

Cast.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 6 to 10. The phase shift between the Snare Drum and Castanets continues, with the Castanets part being one beat out of phase with the Snare Drum by the end of this section.

S. D.

Cast.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 11 to 15. The phase shift progresses further, with the Castanets part being two beats out of phase with the Snare Drum.

S. D.

Cast.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 16 to 19. The phase shift reaches three beats out of phase. In the final measure (19), the two parts align again, as indicated by the double bar line.

This is a simple phase shifting exercise taken from the football chant. The first part is just the standard 2 bar rhythm played all the way through. The 2nd part has an extra quarter note (crotchet) inserted at the end of the 2 bar rhythm. When it is repeated, you get a phase shift.

So, the first time it is played it is in unison, 2nd time it is a beat out, 3rd time 2 beats out and so on. It comes back together on the 19th bar.