

**ABSTRACT**

Music sight reading (SR) belongs to one of the five performance competencies which should be acquired by musicians. SR can be defined as the capability to visually encode notation from sheet music and manually produce accurate instrumental playing *at first sight*.

Literature review demonstrated that *auditory imagery (AI) ability* and *visuomotor association (VMA) speed* could be two possible underlying *component skills* of SR performance. In order to pave the way for a following large-scale main investigation on SR performance, the current pilot study aimed to (i) investigate the reliability of the AI, VMA, and SR measurement; (ii) test the validity of SR measurement; and (iii) explore the relationship between these three variables. Results showed that all three tasks were *reliable* measures and the SR task was *validly* assessing SR ability. Besides, the two component skills (i.e., AI ability and VMA speed) *significantly predicted* SR task performance. Implications for the future main study were discussed.

*Keywords:* sight reading, auditory imagery, visuomotor association