

Creative Repertoire Initiative - Japanese Flex Model Basics

Flexible Music in Japan does not have a set instrumentation. On average, their flexible music is 3-9 parts with some going up to 11 not including optional or required percussion.

Grading of the music is not linked with duration. Time lengths vary but on average, a Grade 2 will be at least 3 minutes and Grade 3 tends to be at least 4-5 minutes in length with many of the upper level pieces reaching durations of 8-10 minutes and beyond.

Their flexible music also includes woodwind choir and brass choir works.

They take their flexible music to contest so the time length is very important. The All Japan Band Association annual contest appears to be the world's largest music competition in terms of the number of active contestants which is over 14,000. When composing and arranging flexible music, keeping the world market and rules in mind would give your music a chance at the widest audience base and doesn't amount to a lot of extra work.

More information about the All Japan Band Association can be found here:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All-Japan_Band_Association

<https://kyototachibanashsbandunofficialfanblog.wordpress.com/background-information-competitions/>

Examples of their required works may be found here:

https://bravomusicinc.com/all-japan-band-competition-c-5_22/

GRADE 5 Instrumentation

Band Example:

THE RESTLESS SOUL by Daisuke Ehara

FLEXIBLE 5-7 PARTS + PERCUSSION

[The Restless Soul on Youtube](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=50&v=ZijvaYadZd4&feature=emb_logo

[Part 1] Flute Clarinet in Eb Clarinet in Bb Soprano Sax. in Bb	[Part 2] Oboe Clarinet in Bb Alto Sax. in Eb Soprano Sax. in Bb	[Part 3] Clarinet in Bb Soprano Sax. in Bb Alto Sax. in Eb	[Part 4] Trumpet in Bb
[Part 5] Horn in F Alto Clarinet in Eb Alto Sax. in Eb Tenor Sax. in Bb Trombone Euphonium	[Part 6] Bassoon Bass Cl. in Bb Baritone Sax. in Eb	[Part 7](opt.) Tuba String Bass	[Percussion] (opt.) Snare Drum, 3 Toms, Triangle, Sleigh Bells, Glockenspiel

GRADE 4 Instrumentation

Example 1: Crescent Moon by Yosuke Fukuda - Flexible 8

[Crescent Moon by Yosuke Fukuda on Bravo Music Inc](#)

[Crescent Moon PDF Score Sample on Bravo Music](#)

Part 1 Flute, Bb Clarinet Soprano Sax. Trumpet	Part 2 Oboe Bb Clarinet Alto Sax. Trumpet	Part 3 Bb Clarinet Alto Sax. Horn	Part 4 Bb Clarinet Tenor Sax. Trombone Euphonium
Part 5 Bassoon Alto. CL Tenor Sax Trombone Euphonium	Part 6 Bassoon Bs. Clarinet Bar. Sax Tuba String Bass	Part 7 Sleigh Bells Tam-tam Wood Block Wind Chime Glock. Vib.	Part 8 Bongo Low Tom Vibes

GRADE 4 Instrumentation

Example 2: Cotswolds Pictures - Flexible Quintet by Hayato Hirose

[Cotswolds Pictures by Hayato Hirose on Bravo Music](#)

[SCORE PDF EXAMPLE https://bravomusicinc.com/PDF/FLMS-87001.pdf](https://bravomusicinc.com/PDF/FLMS-87001.pdf)

Part 1 Flute Oboe Clarinet in Bb Soprano Saxophone in Bb Trumpet in Bb	Part 2 Oboe Clarinet in Bb Trumpet in Bb Alto Saxophone in Eb	Part 3 Clarinet in Bb Tenor Saxophone in Bb Trumpet in Bb Alto Saxophone in Eb Horns in F	Part 4 Trombone Euphonium Clarinet in Bb Tenor Saxophone Horns in F	Part 5 Tuba Bassoon String Bass Bass Clarinet Bar. Saxophone
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GRADE 3 Instrumentation

Example: The Scenes - Classical Dance Suite No. 1 by Akira Toda

FLEX 5-6 with Perc.

[The Scenes by Akira Toda on Bravo Music Inc](#)

[The Scenes PDF Score Sample on Bravo Music Inc](#)

Part 1 Flute Clarinet in Bb Soprano Saxophone in Bb Trumpet in Bb	Part 2 Oboe Clarinet in Bb Trumpet in Bb Alto Saxophone	Part 3 Clarinet in Bb Alto Sax. Horn in F
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Part 4	Part 5	Part 6
Horn in F	Bassoon	Percussion
Alto Clarinet in Eb	Tuba	Tenor Drum or Tom
Clarinet in Bb	String Bass	Tambourine
Tenor Sax.	Bs. Clarinet	
Trombone(Euph)	Baritone Sax.	

GRADE 2 Instrumentation

Example 1:

VARIATIONS ON ST. NICHOLAS

FLEXIBLE QUINTET

Composer:Takahashi, Hiroki Grade:2 Duration:5:30

[Variations on St. Nicholas Takahashi Hiroki on Brain Music Int](https://www.brainmusic-int.com/)

[Part 1]	[Part 2]	[Part 3]
Flute	Clarinet in Bb	Flute *, Oboe *
Oboe	Alto Saxophone in Eb	Clarinet in Bb(8va)*
Clarinet in Eb	Trumpet in Bb	Clarinet in Bb
Clarinet in Bb		Alto Saxophone in Eb
Soprano Saxophone in Bb		Tenor Saxophone in Bb
Alto Saxophone in Eb		Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb		
[Part 4]	[Part 5]	
Clarinet in Bb	Bass Clarinet in Bb	
Bass Clarinet in Bb	Baritone Saxophone in Eb	
Tenor Saxophone in Bb	Bassoon	
Bassoon	Trombone	
Horn in F	Euphonium	
Trombone	Tuba	
Euphonium	String Bass	

* Perc 3

Three instruments can be used when Part 1 includes Fl. or EbCl..

Further information and listings/examples can be seen here:

<https://bravomusicinc.com/flexible-bandensemble-series-c-100/>

<https://www.brainmusic-int.com/>