

THE GRAND VALLEY VIOLIN CO.

Cello Playtest

What are we listening for?

Did any string perform better than another or is it balanced? Does it sound clear or nasal? Any squeaks squaks or barks?

Dynamic Scale: How much variation is there in volume?

Speed: Do we hear each individual note, or do we hear the first and the last note, with a mumble in the middle?

Vibrato: How many different vibrato pulses did we hear? Was it physically demanding was it?

Dynamic Scale

Start as soft as possible at the bottom and play a well drawn scale slowly increasing in volume all the way up to the top culminating in the highest volume possible.

Then play back down to the bottom holding high volume.



Speed

Starting on the lowest string, play short and fast 4 note scales as fast as you can possibly move your fingers.

Accuracy is less important than speed!

Once this has been done a few times on the low string, duplicate the test on the remaining strings.



Vibrato

Starting on the lowest string, place your first finger on the string and play with moderate bow pressure to draw a strong tone.

Start vibrato slowly, then increase vibrato intensity, finishing with the fastest possible vibrato.

Duplicate the test on the remaining strings in the same way.

