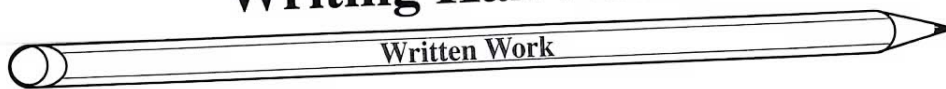
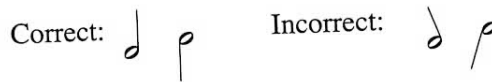


Writing Half Notes

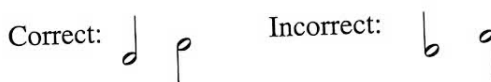


As you know, the lines (|) that are attached to the sides of notes are called **stems**. There are some important rules about note stems that you need to know.

- Note stems are drawn straight up and down. They do not lean.



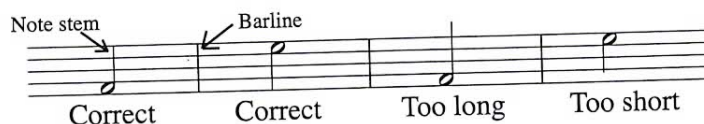
- Stems that go *up* are attached to the *right* side of the note.
- Stems that go *down* are attached to the *left* side of the note.



• Notes *below* the third line of the staff have their stems going up.

• Notes *on and above* the third line have their stems going down.

- Note stems are about the same length as barlines in music.



24 Change all of the notes below into half notes by adding stems.



Check your work.

- There should be seven stems going down, attached on the left.
- There should be nine stems going up, attached on the right.
- All stems should be straight and about the same length as a barline.

25 Five of the half notes below are written incorrectly. The others are perfect. When you find an incorrect one, fix the mistake by writing a correct one beside it.



Compose your own song.

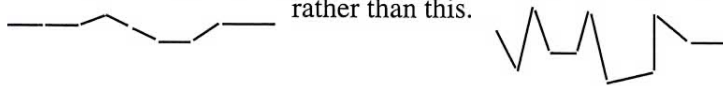
26

Write your own half note song below. Remember to use a sharp pencil with an eraser.

- Put no rests in this song.
- Fill every empty measure with *two* half notes.
- Choose your notes from among the following:

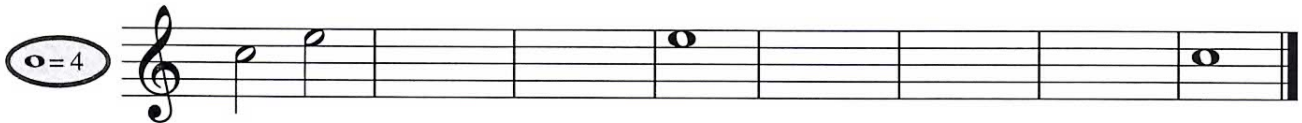


- Helpful hint: Your song may sound better if you choose notes that sound close together, rather than skipping from a low note to a high one and then back down again. Try to give your melody a smooth, flowing shape like this



- Give your song a title, and write your name as the composer.
- Practice and perform your song.

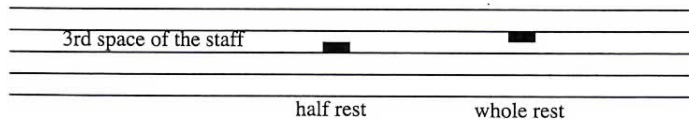
Title: _____ Composer _____



Did you remember to put two half notes in each empty measure?

Comparing Half Rests and Whole Rests

Half rests and whole rests both live in the third space of the staff. The difference is that the half rest *sits on the floor* of the third space. The whole rest *hangs down from the ceiling* of the third space.



27

On the staff below, draw a mixture of half rests and whole rests, one in each measure.

- Label each one.
- Remember that the rectangle goes exactly half-way into the third space.

