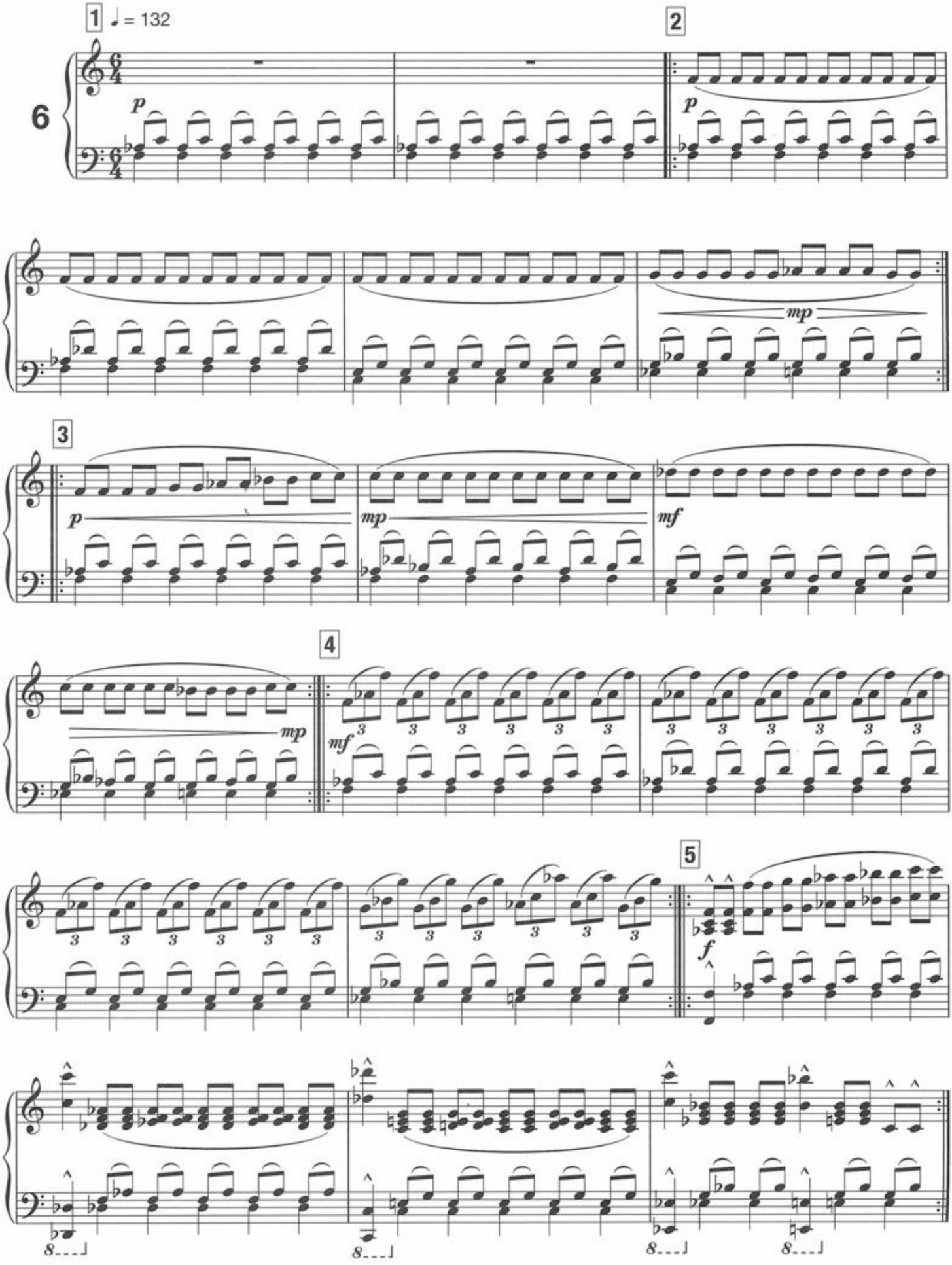
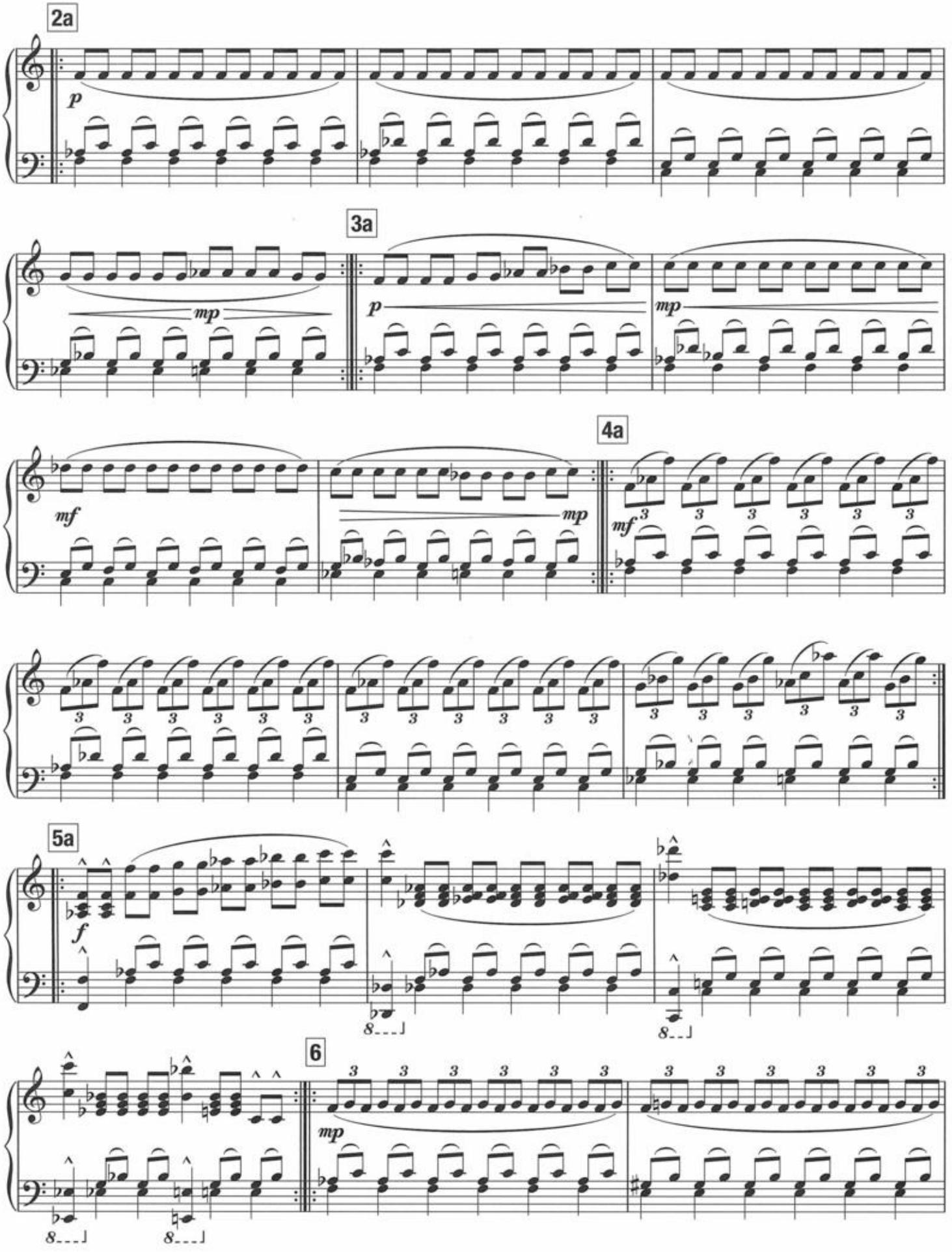
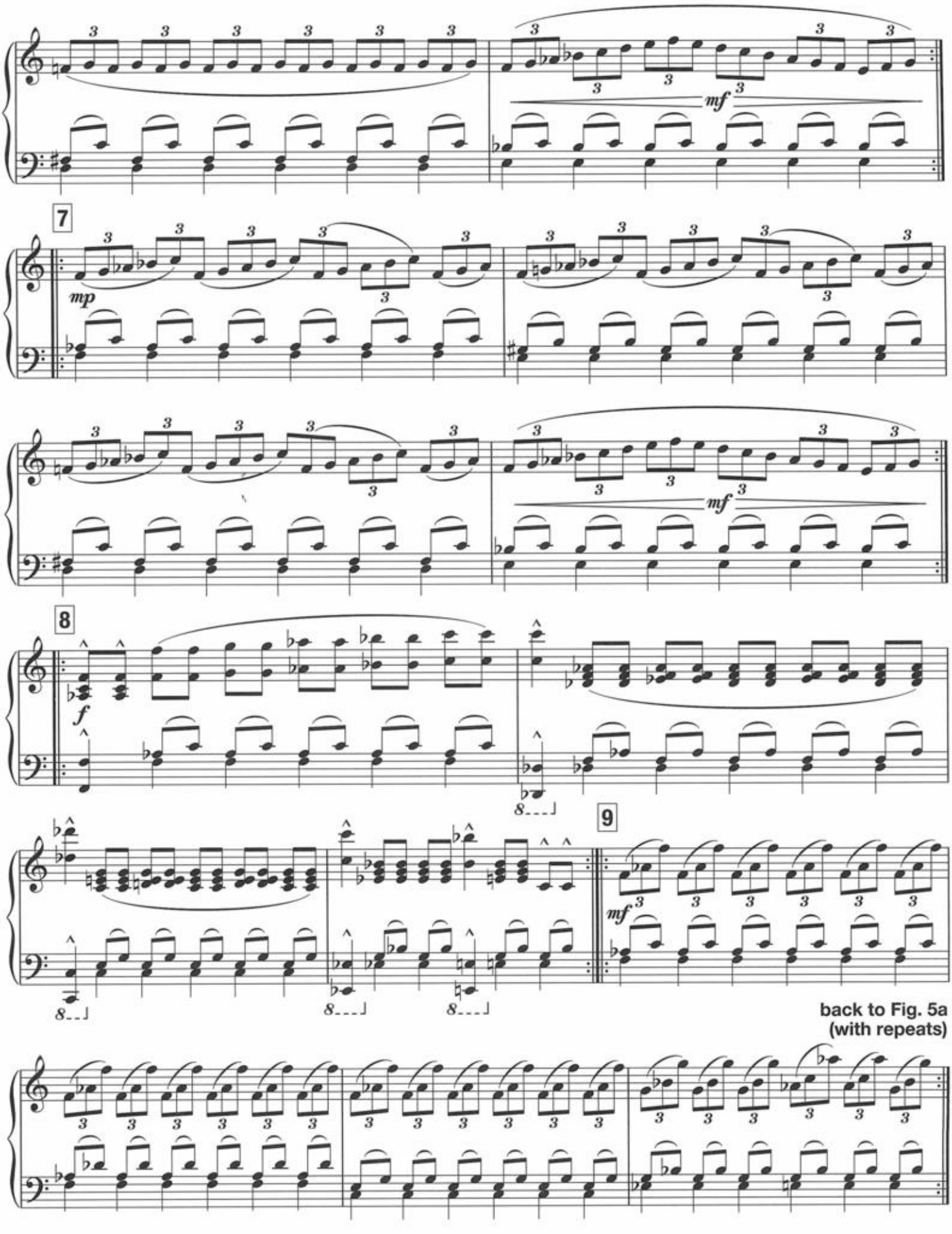
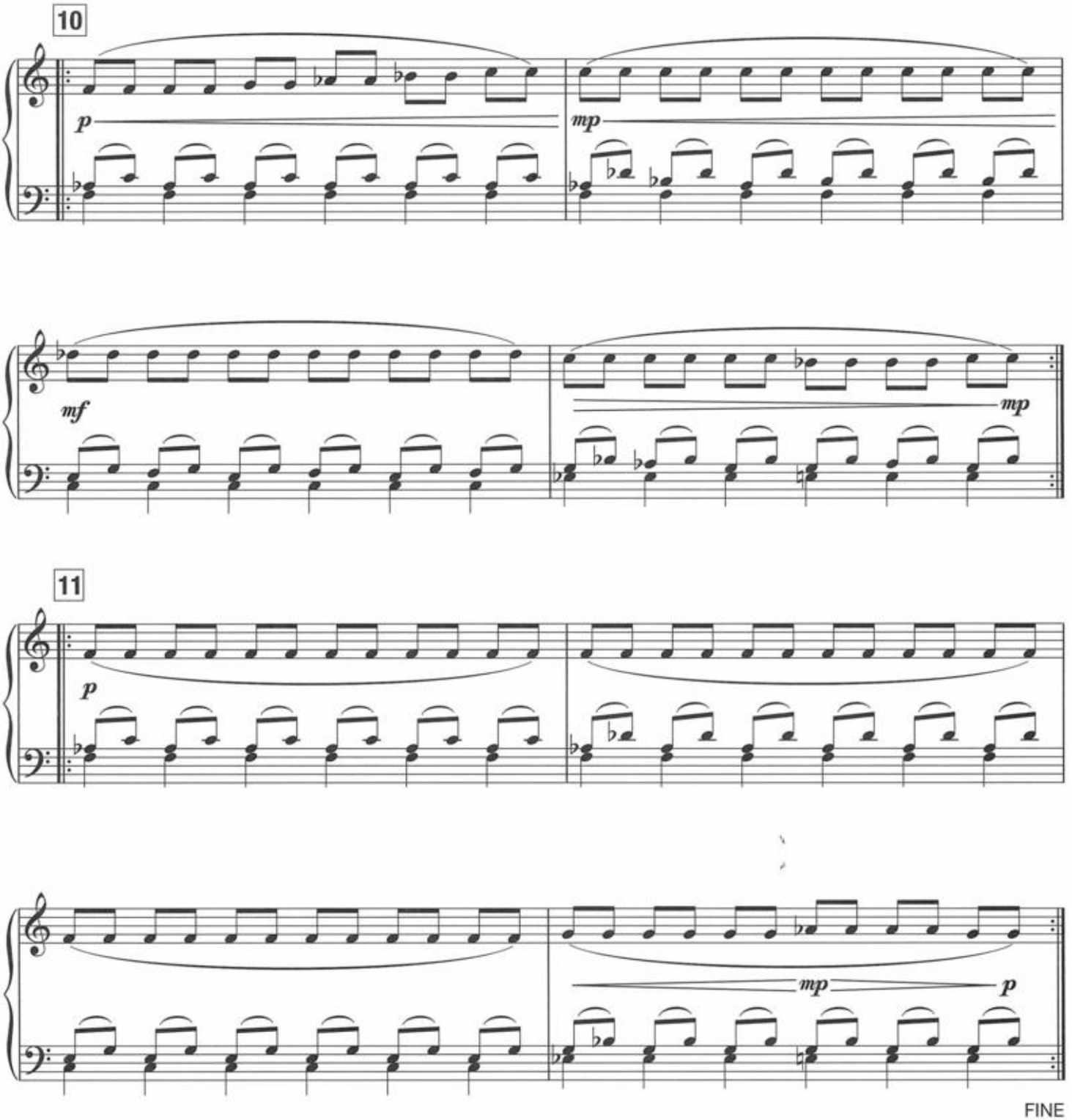

1
♩ = 132
2
6
p
p
mp
3
p
mp
mf
4
mp
mf
5
f
8
8
8
8

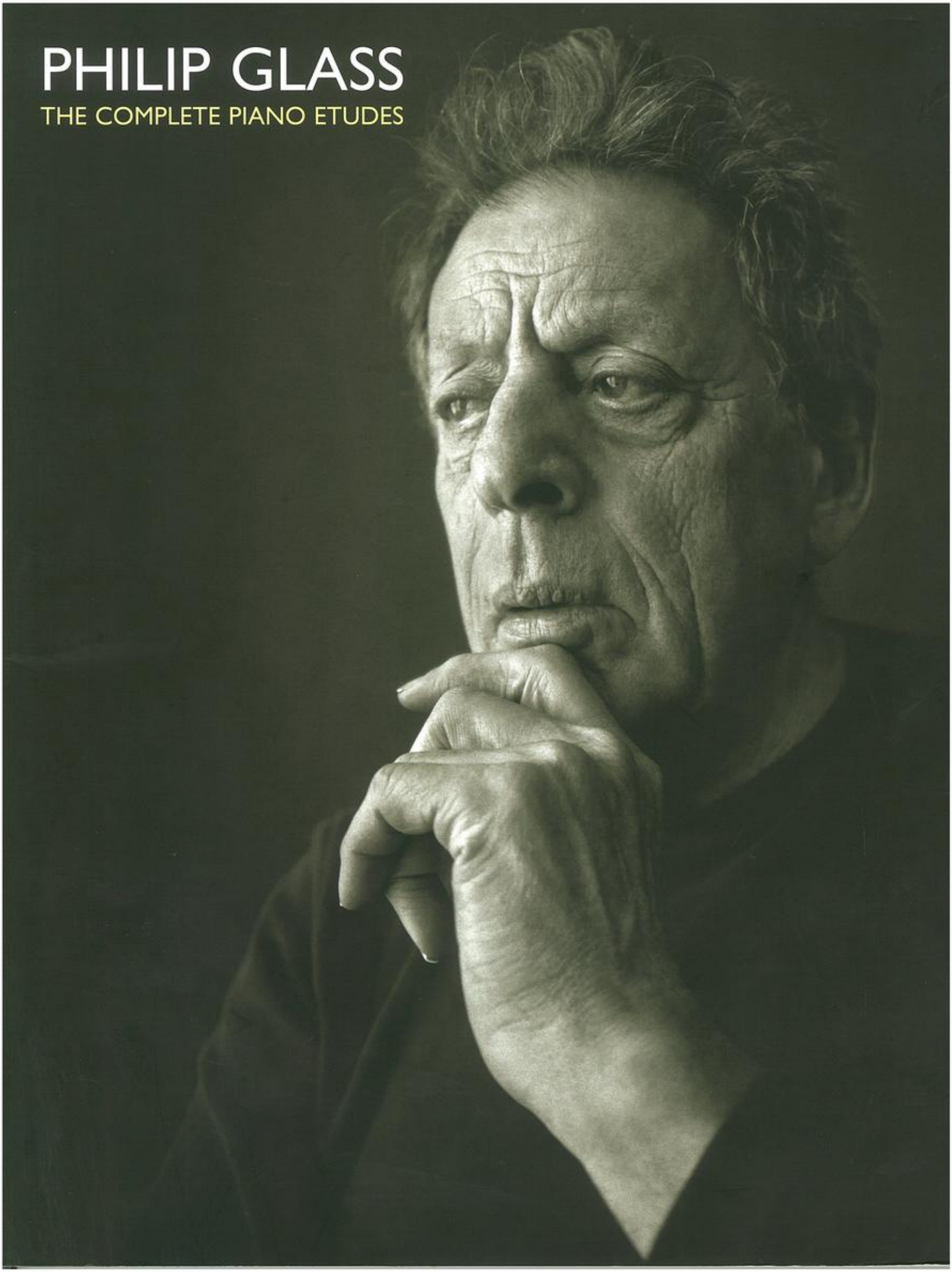

2a
p
3a
mp
p
mp
4a
mf
mp
mf
5a
f
8
8
6
mp
8
8


7
mp
mf
8
f
9
mf
back to Fig. 5a
(with repeats)


10
p
mp
mf
mp
11
p
mp
p
FINE

PHILIP GLASS

THE COMPLETE PIANO ETUDES



PHILIP GLASS

THE COMPLETE PIANO ETUDES

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THE TWENTY ETUDES FOR PIANO were composed during the years from 1991 to 2012. Their final configuration into Book 1 and Book 2 was determined by the music itself in the course of its composition.

Book 1 (Etudes 1–10) had a twin objective — to explore a variety of tempi, textures and piano techniques. At the same time it was meant to serve as a pedagogical tool by which I would improve my piano playing. In these two ways, Book 1 succeeded very well. I learned a great deal about the piano and in the course of learning the music, I became a better player.

New projects came along and interrupted the work on the Etudes for several years. Perhaps for that reason, when I took up work with the Etudes again I found the music was following a new path. Though I had settled questions of piano technique for myself in Book 1, the music in Book 2 quickly began to suggest a series of new adventures in harmony and structure.

In this way, Books 1 and 2, taken together, suggest a real trajectory that includes a broad range of music and technical ideas.

In the end, the Etudes are meant to be appreciated not only by the general listener, but especially by those who have the ability and patience to learn, play and perform the music themselves.

Philip Glass
20 October 2014

ETUDES FOR PIANO
BOOK I

ETUDE 1 1
ETUDE 2 6
ETUDE 3 10
ETUDE 4 16
ETUDE 5 20
ETUDE 6 23
ETUDE 7 27
ETUDE 8 31
ETUDE 9 34
ETUDE 10 38

ETUDES FOR PIANO
BOOK 2

ETUDE 11 46
ETUDE 12 54
ETUDE 13 60
ETUDE 14 65
ETUDE 15 70
ETUDE 16 80
ETUDE 17 84
ETUDE 18 92
ETUDE 19 95
ETUDE 20 102

There were a number of special events and commissions that facilitated the composition of the Etudes by Philip Glass.

The original set of six was composed for Dennis Russell Davies on the occasion of his 50th birthday in 1994. These Etudes were later renumbered as Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 10.

Etude 6 was commissioned in 1994 by WNYC for John Schaefer's new music program under the original title *Now, So Long After That Time*. Etude 7 was commissioned by the Sydney Festival in 1996. Etudes 12 and 13 were commissioned by Bruce Levingston in 2007 and premiered in New York at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. Etude 17 was commissioned for the 25th Anniversary of the Menil Collection in Houston, TX, and premiered in 2012.

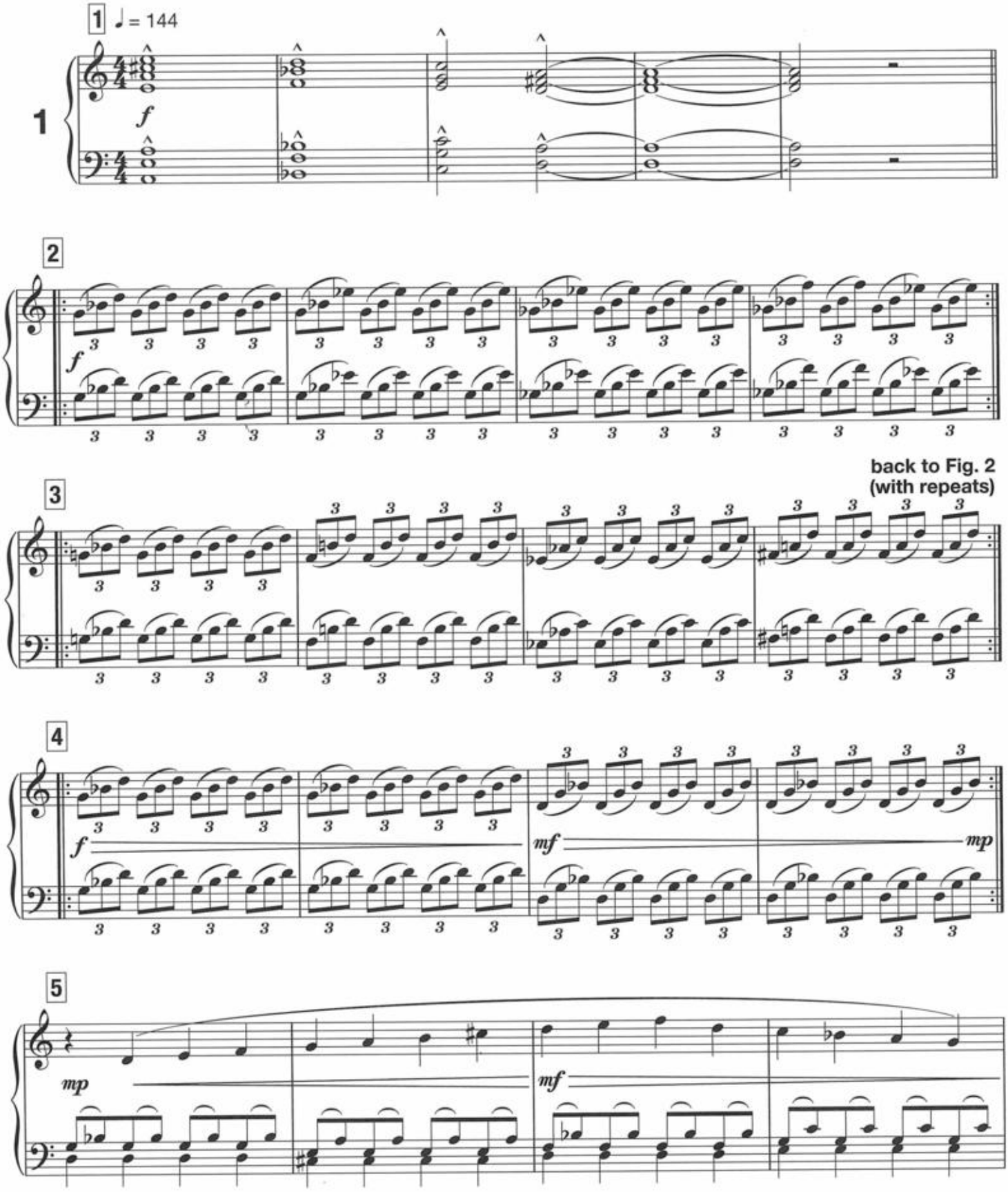
The final three works, Etudes 18, 19 and 20, were commissioned by the Perth International Arts Festival in 2012 in honour of Glass's 75th birthday, and premiered 16 February 2013.

A special thanks to Linda Brumbach, who inspired Philip to complete this body of work.

ETUDES FOR PIANO

BOOK I

PHILIP GLASS



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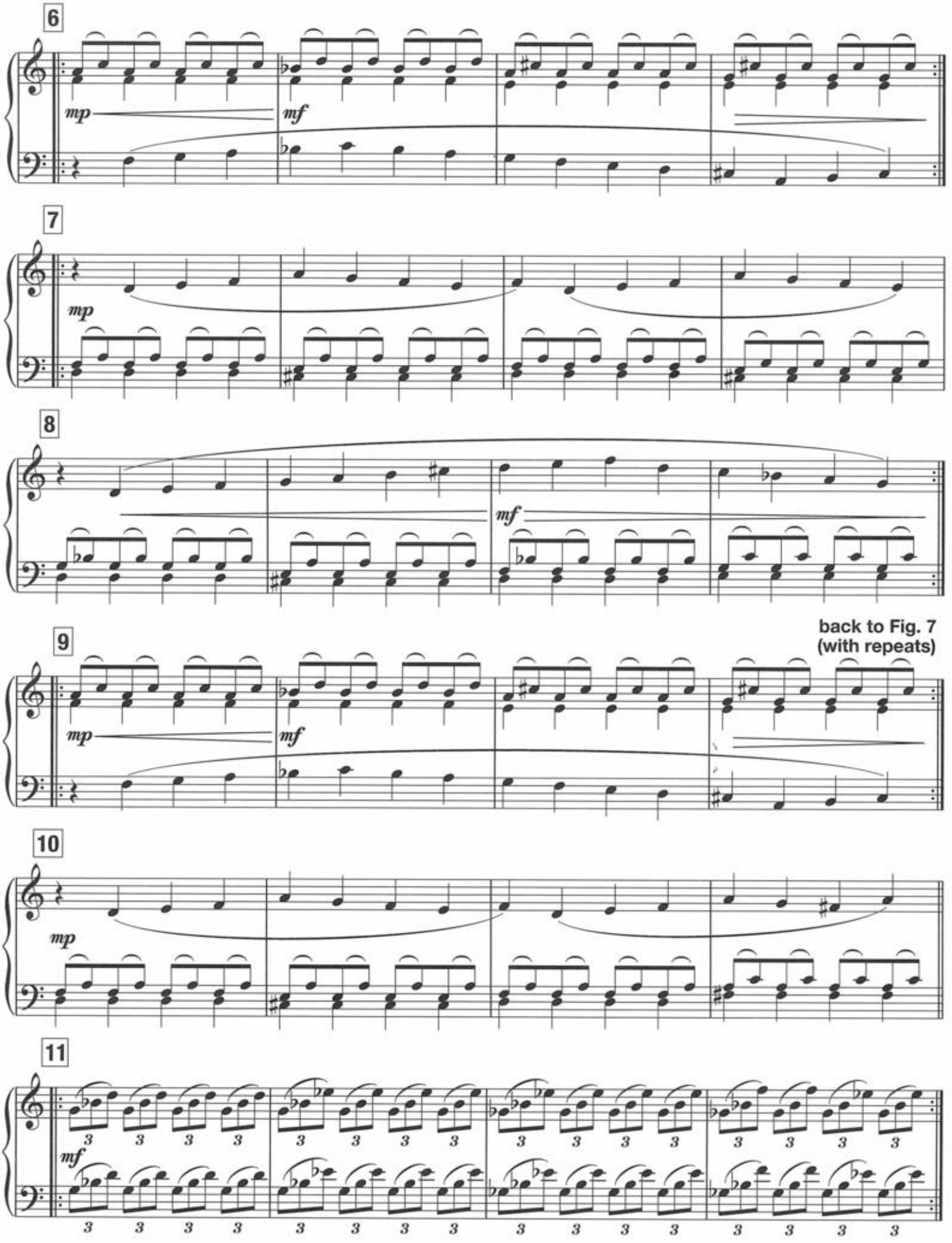
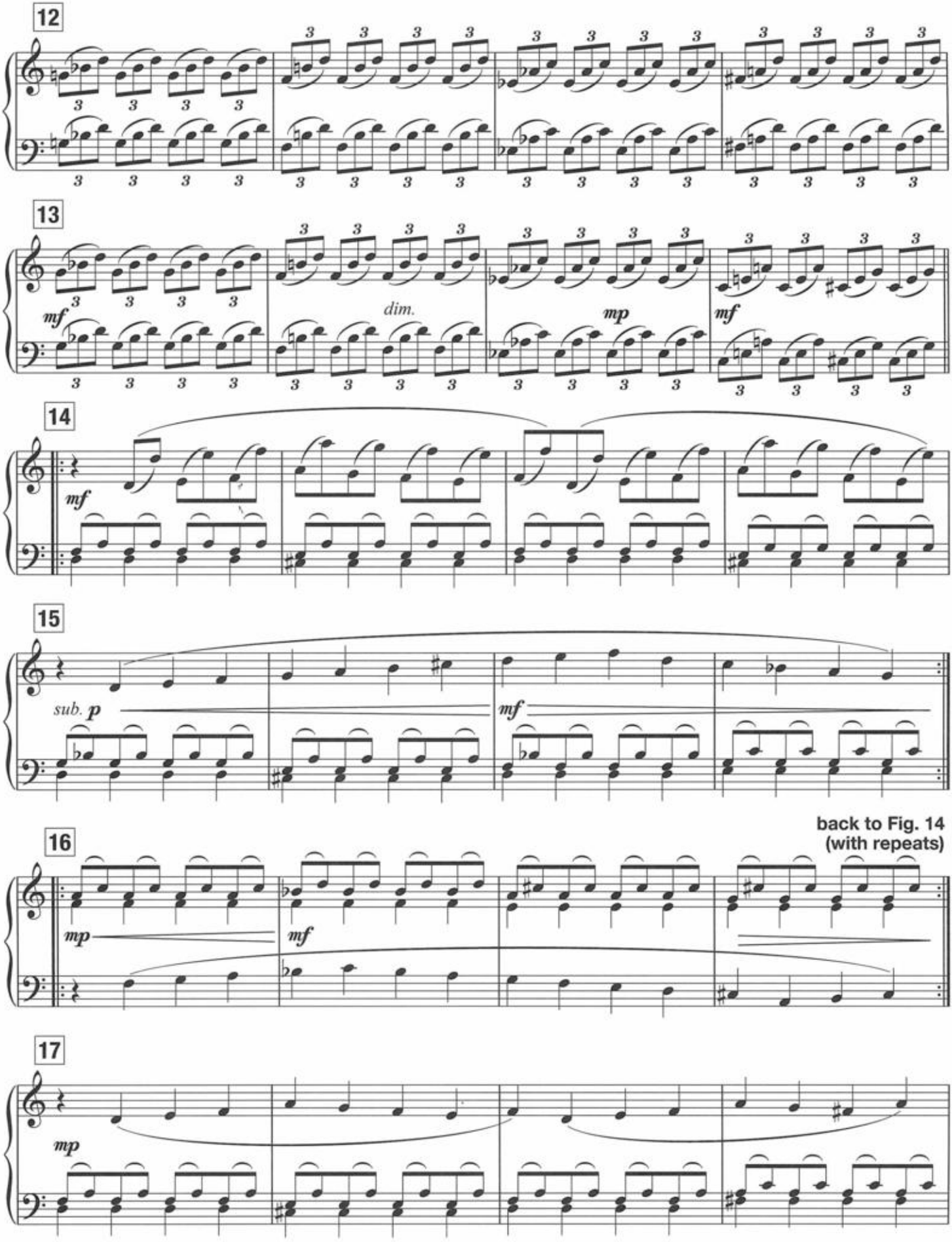
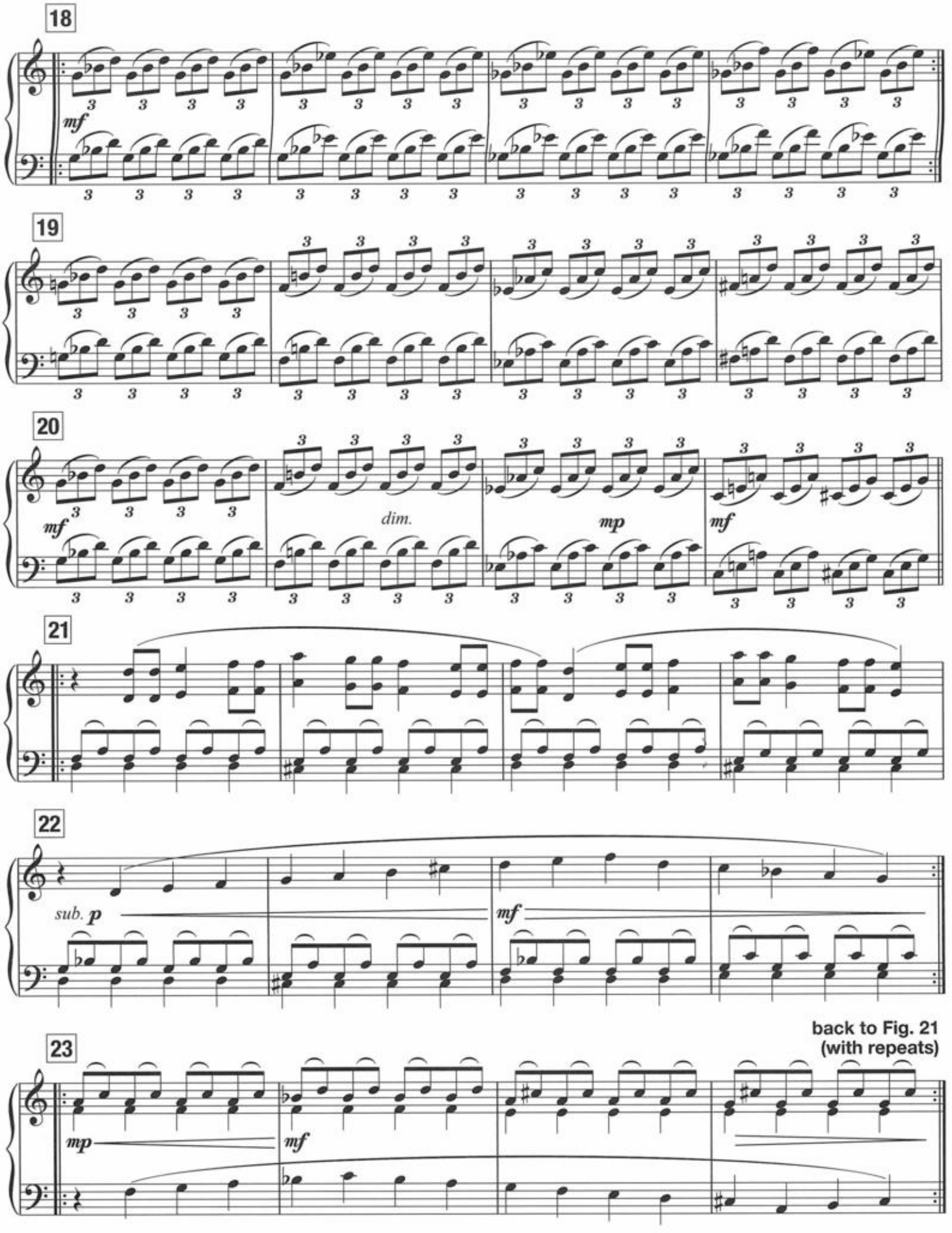
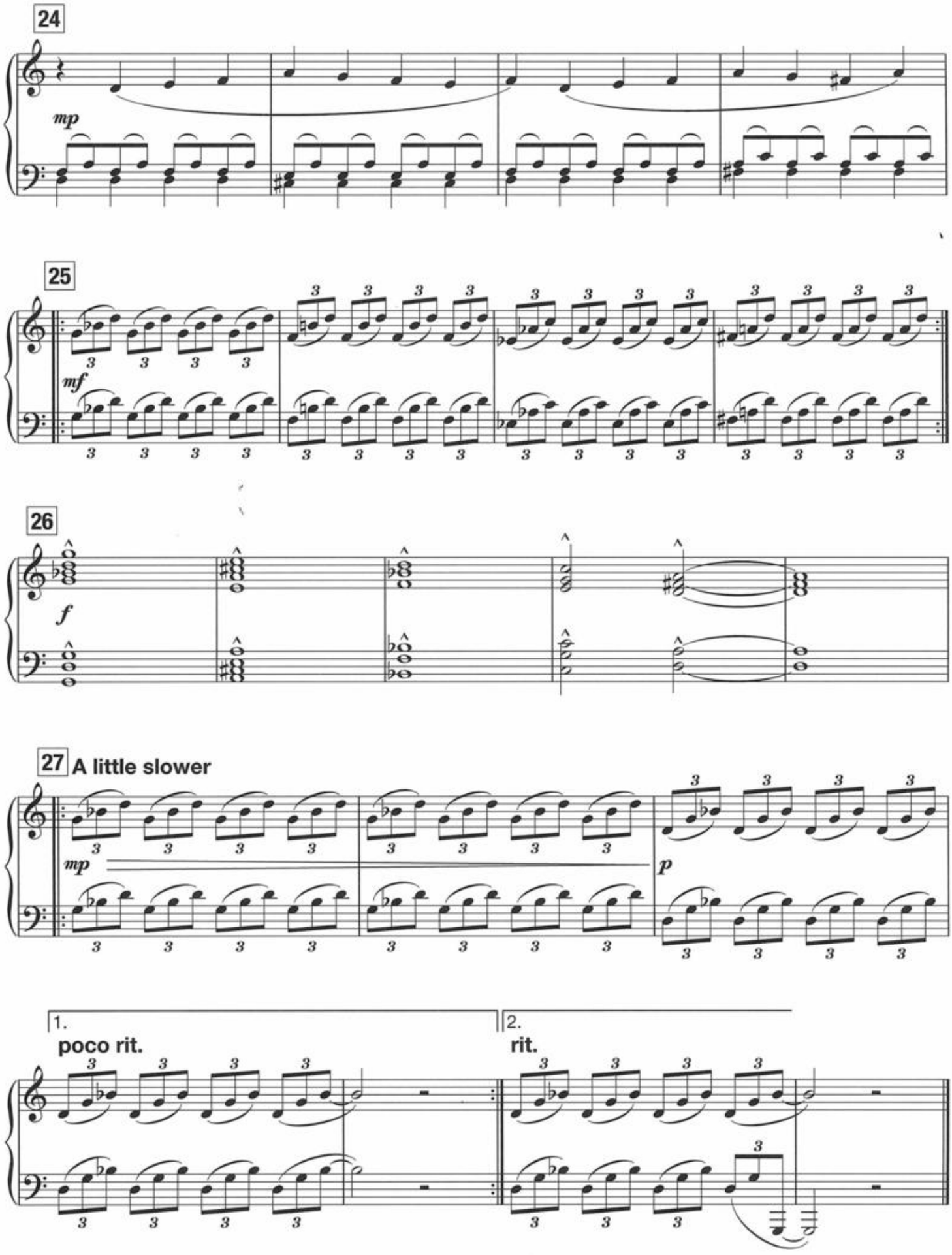
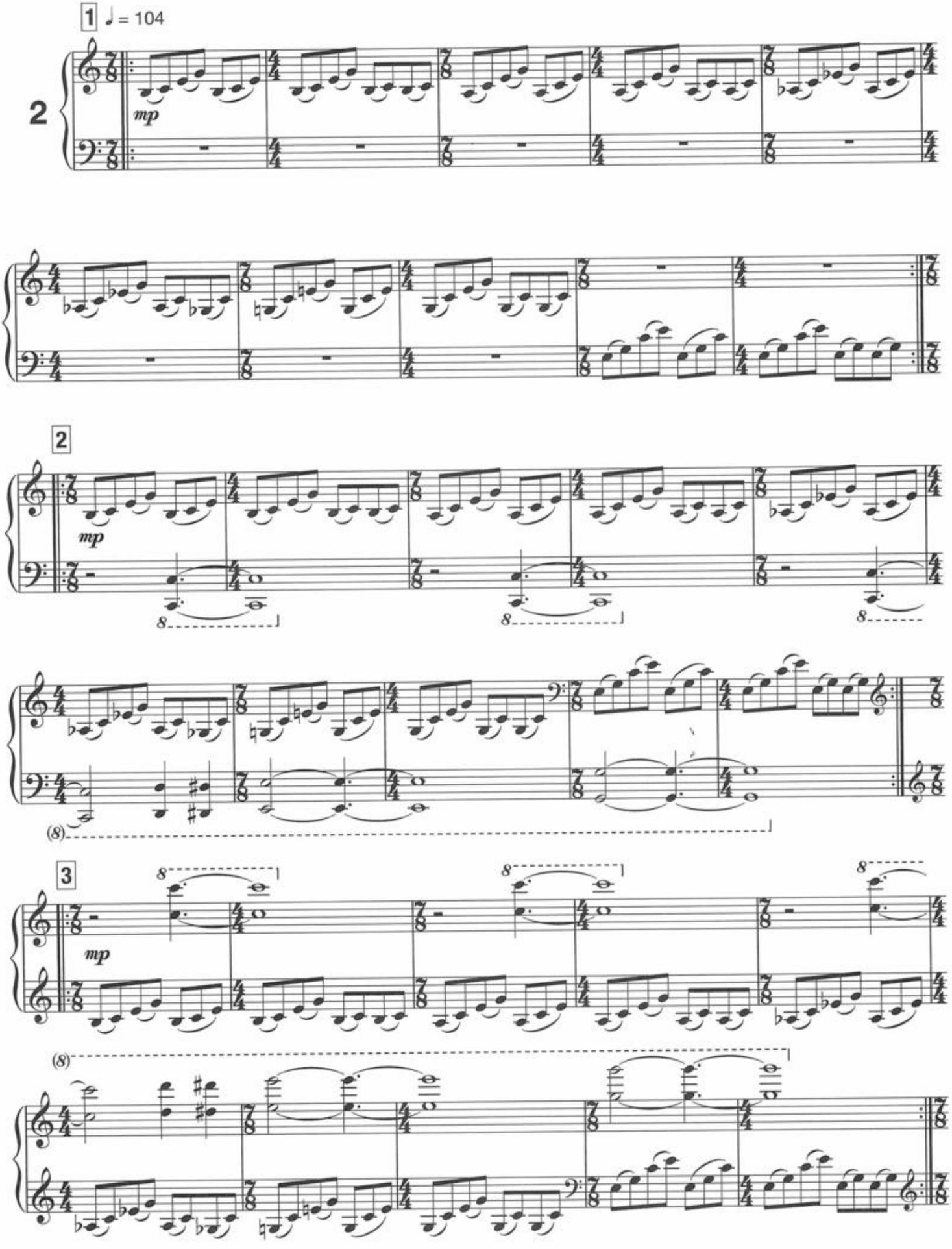
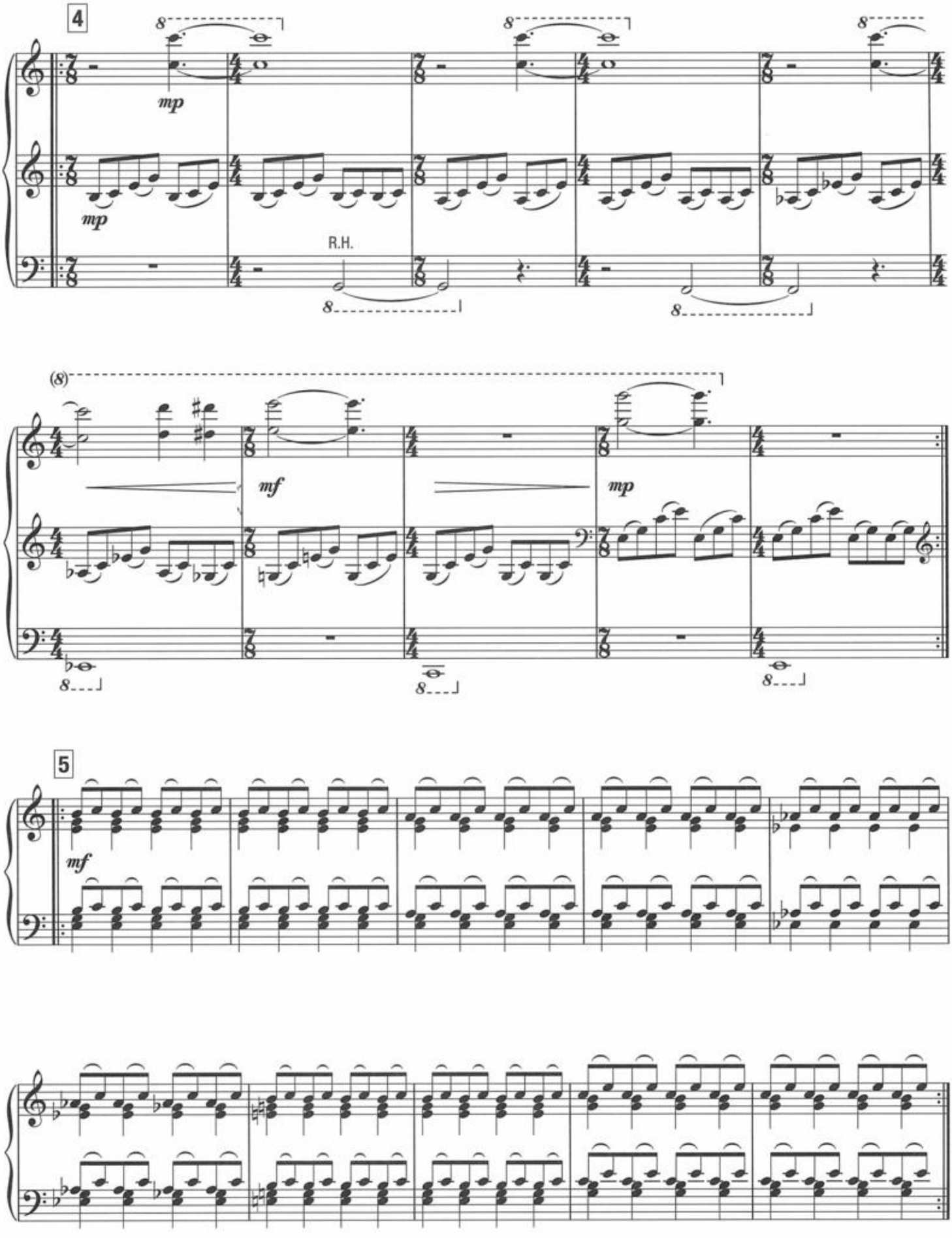

6
mp
mf
7
mp
8
mf
9
back to Fig. 7
(with repeats)
mp
mf
10
mp
11
mf
3

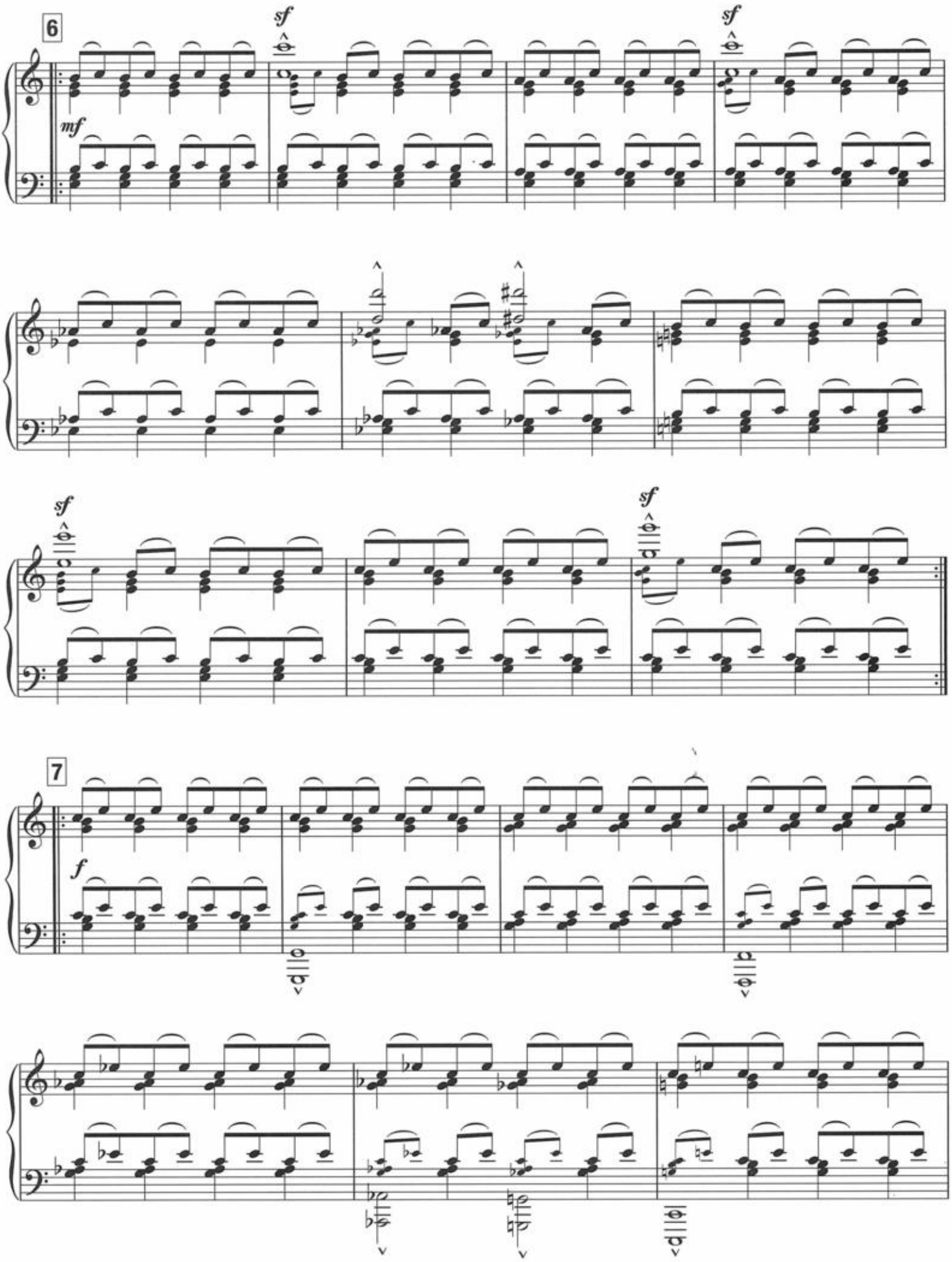

12
13
mf
dim.
mp
mf
14
mf
15
sub. p
mf
back to Fig. 14
(with repeats)
16
mp
mf
17
mp

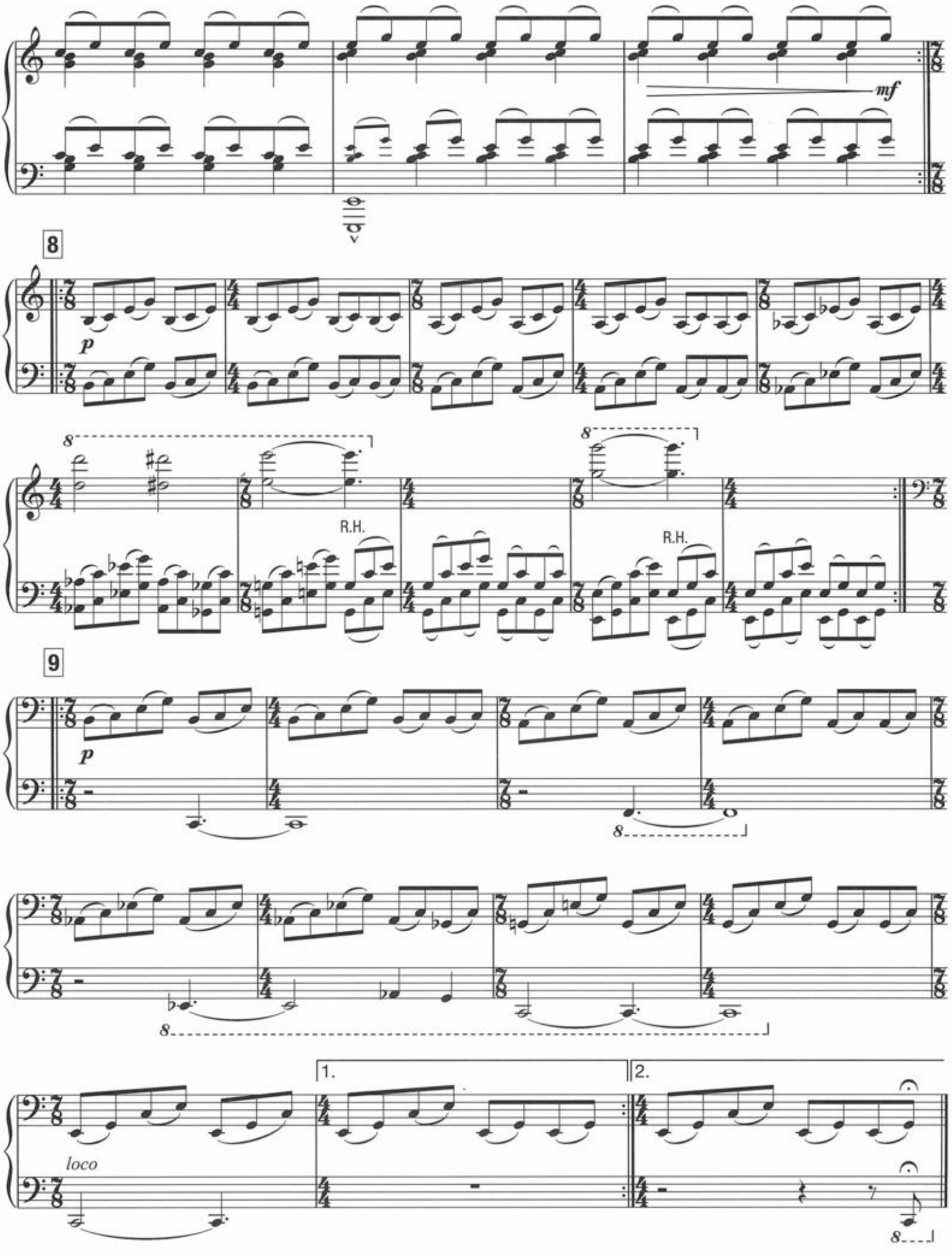

18
mf
19
20
mf
dim.
mp
mf
21
22
sub. p
mf
back to Fig. 21
(with repeats)
23
mp
mf

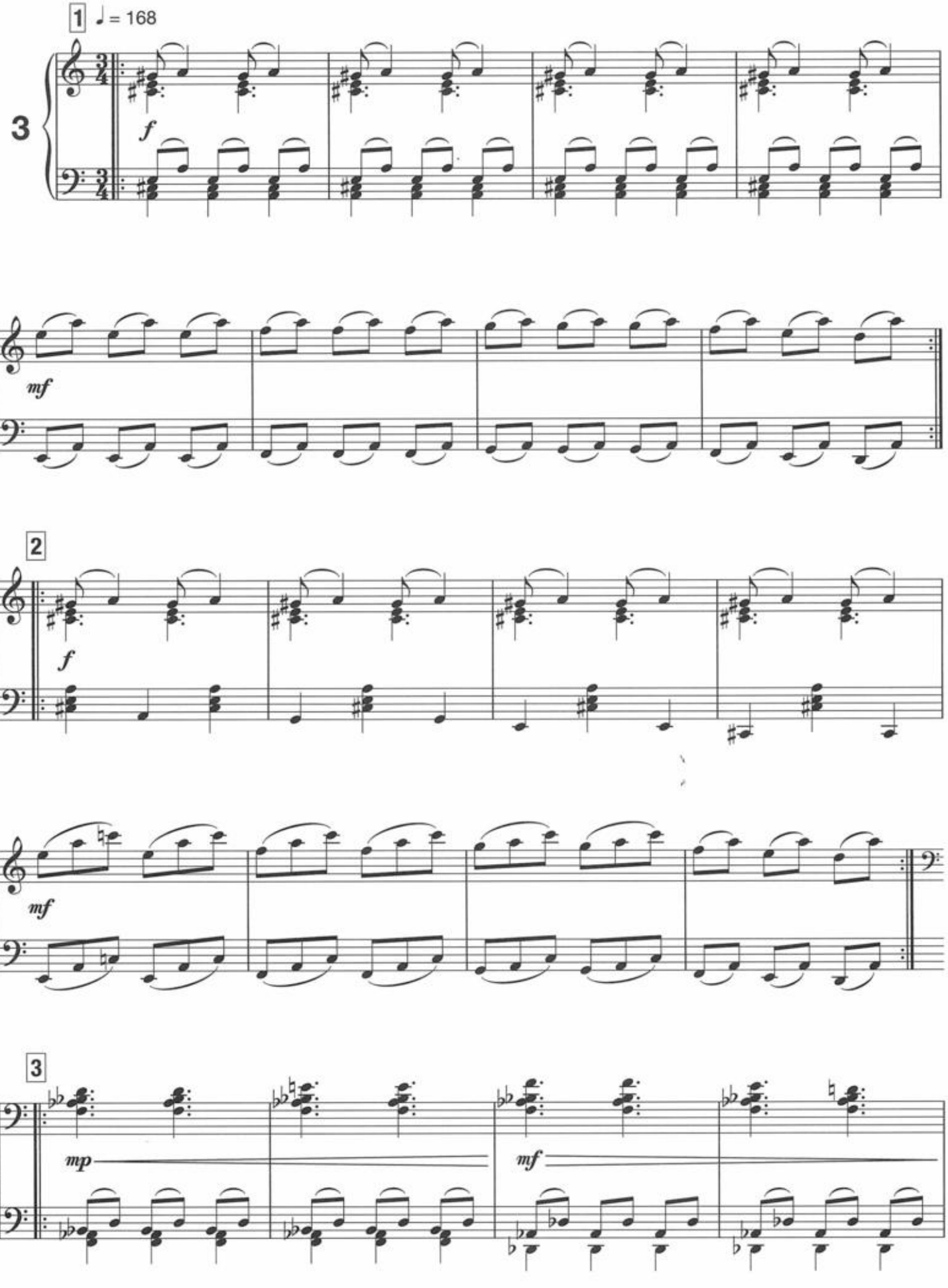

24
mp
25
mf
26
f
27 A little slower
mp
p
1.
poco rit.
2.
rit.

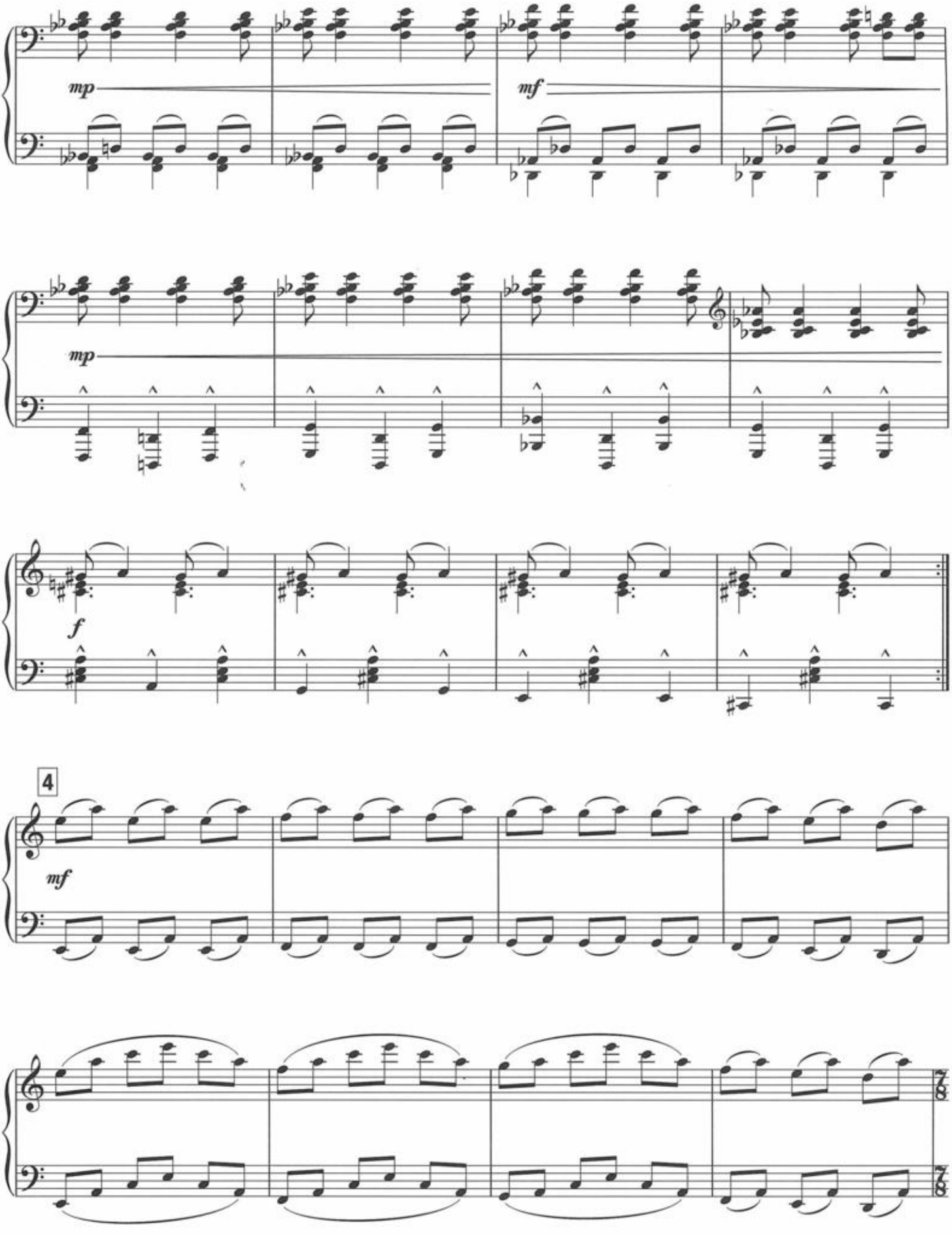

1
♩ = 104
2
mp
2
mp
8
(8)
3
mp
8
(8)

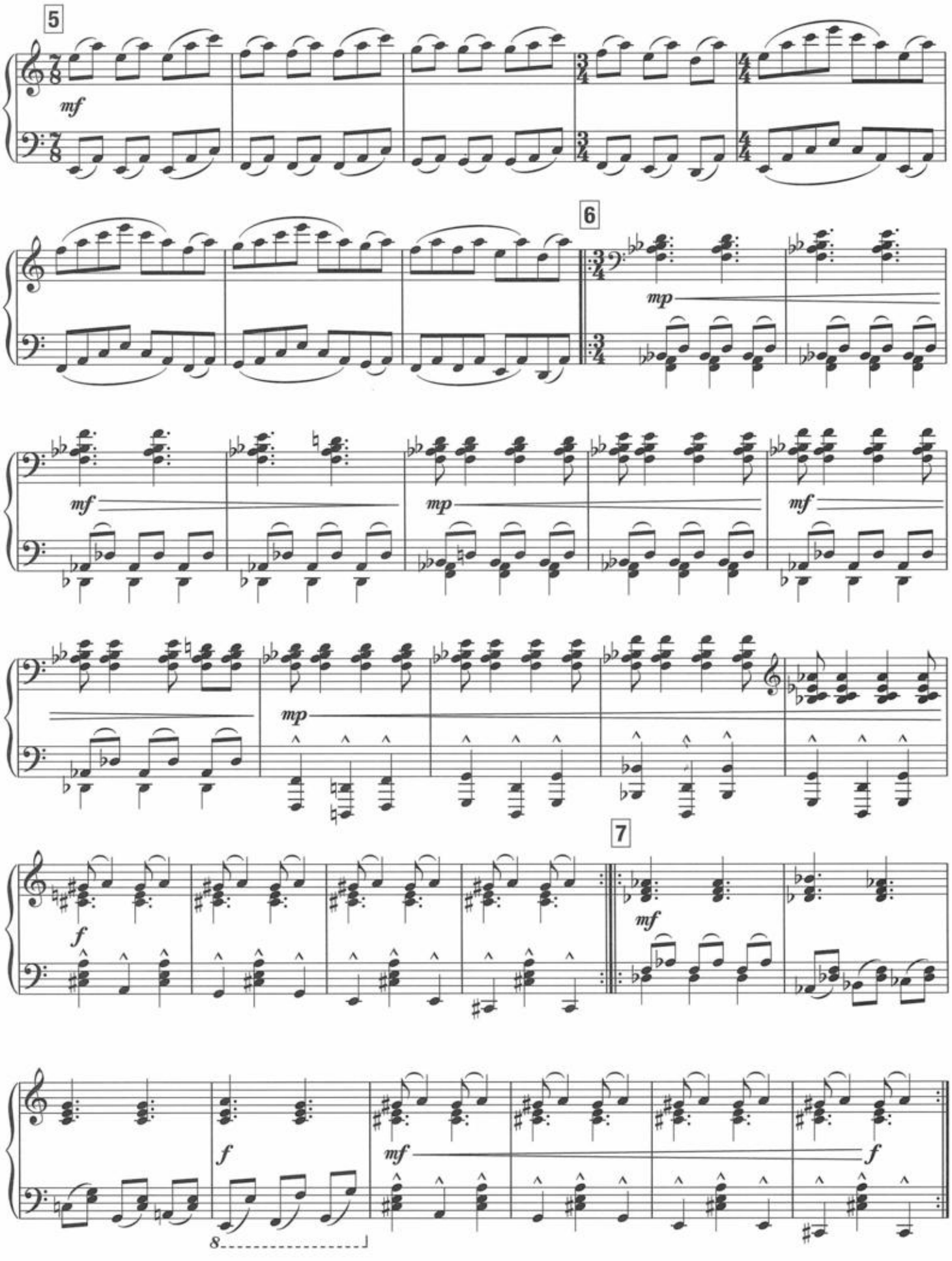

4
mp
mp
R.H.
(8)
mf
mp
5
mf

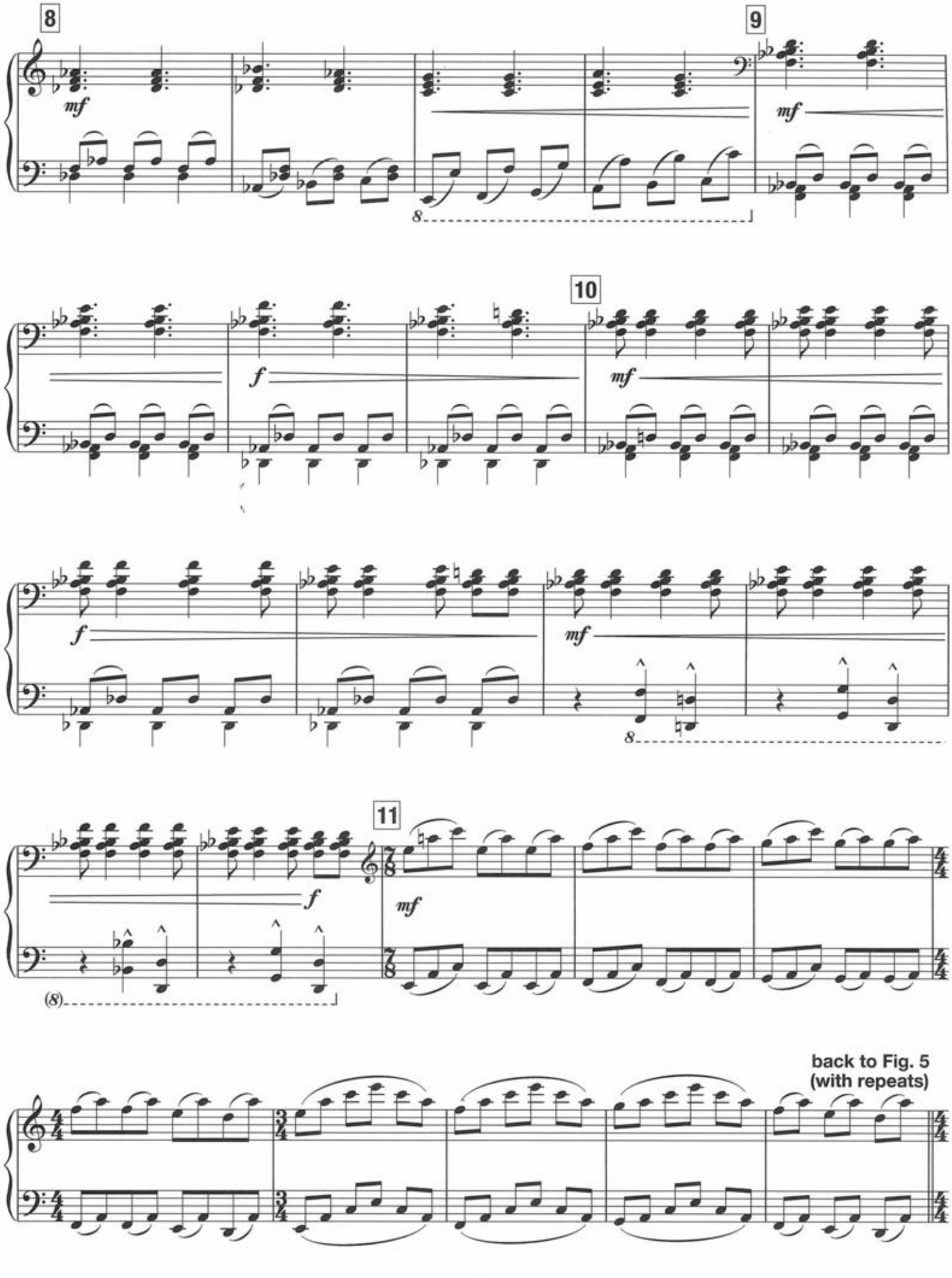

6
sf
mf
sf
sf
sf
7
f

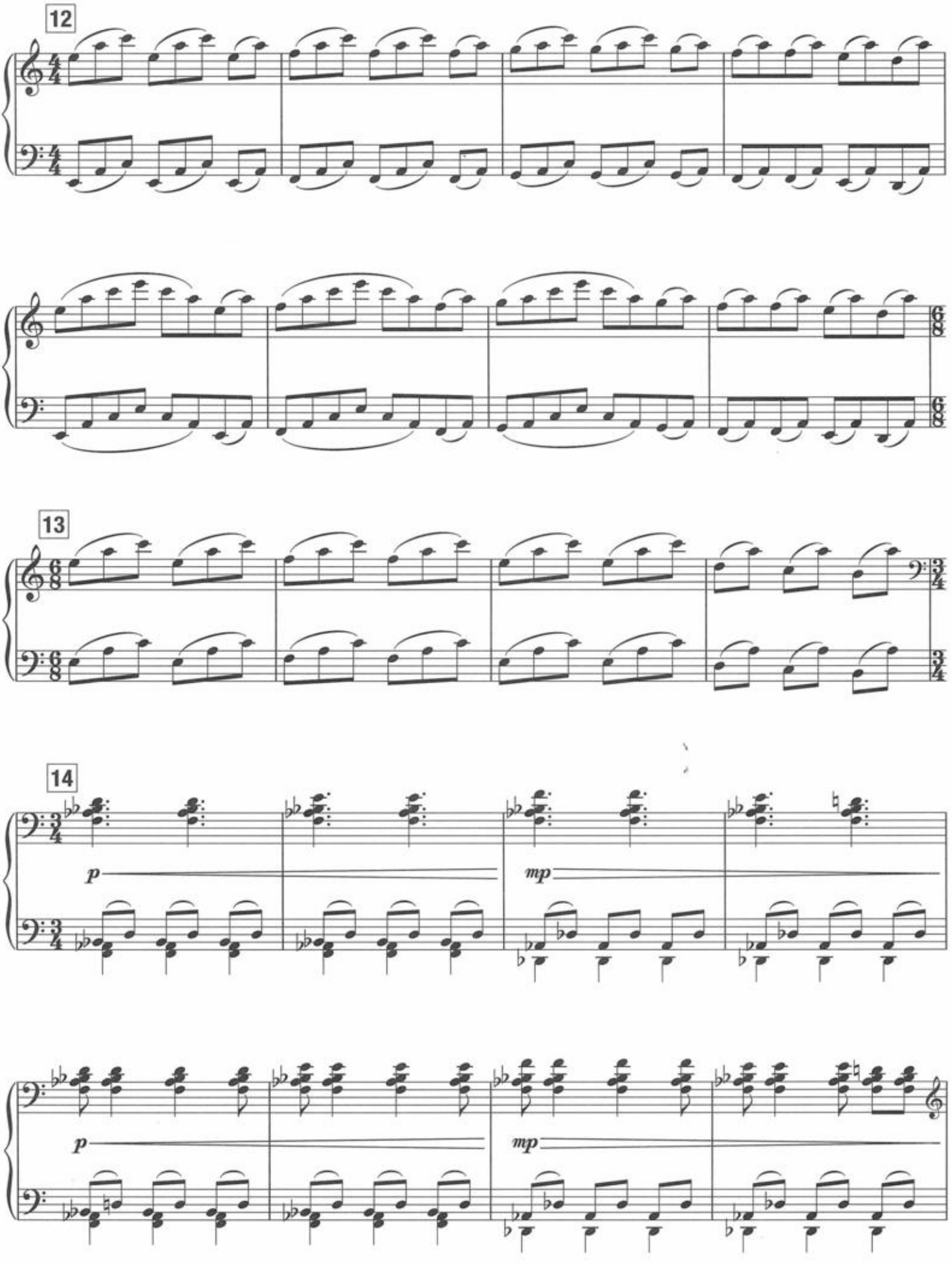

mf
8
p
R.H.
R.H.
9
p
loco
1.
2.

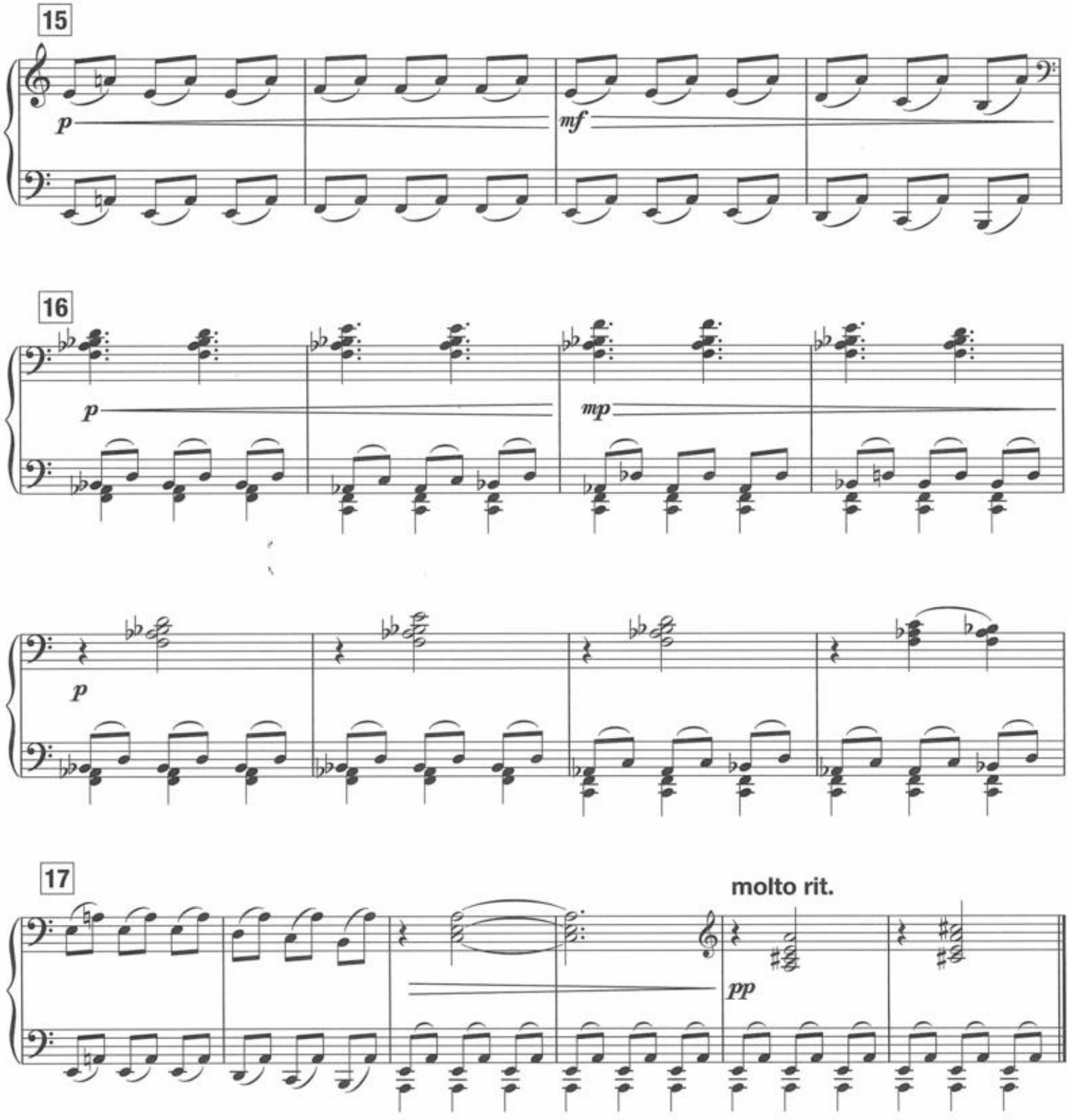

1
♩ = 168
3
f
mf
2
f
mf
3
mp
mf

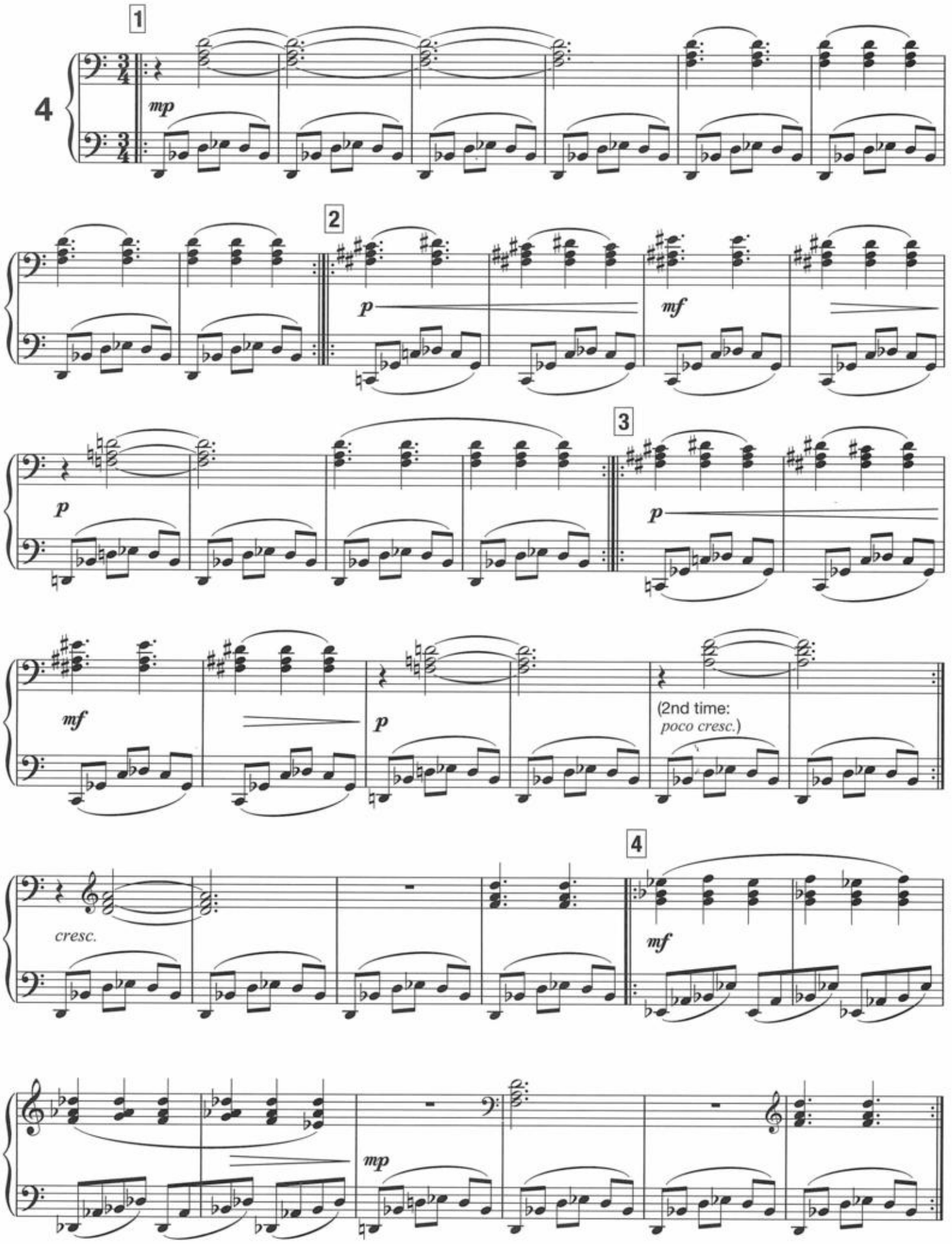

mp
mf
mp
f
4
mf
7/8
7/8

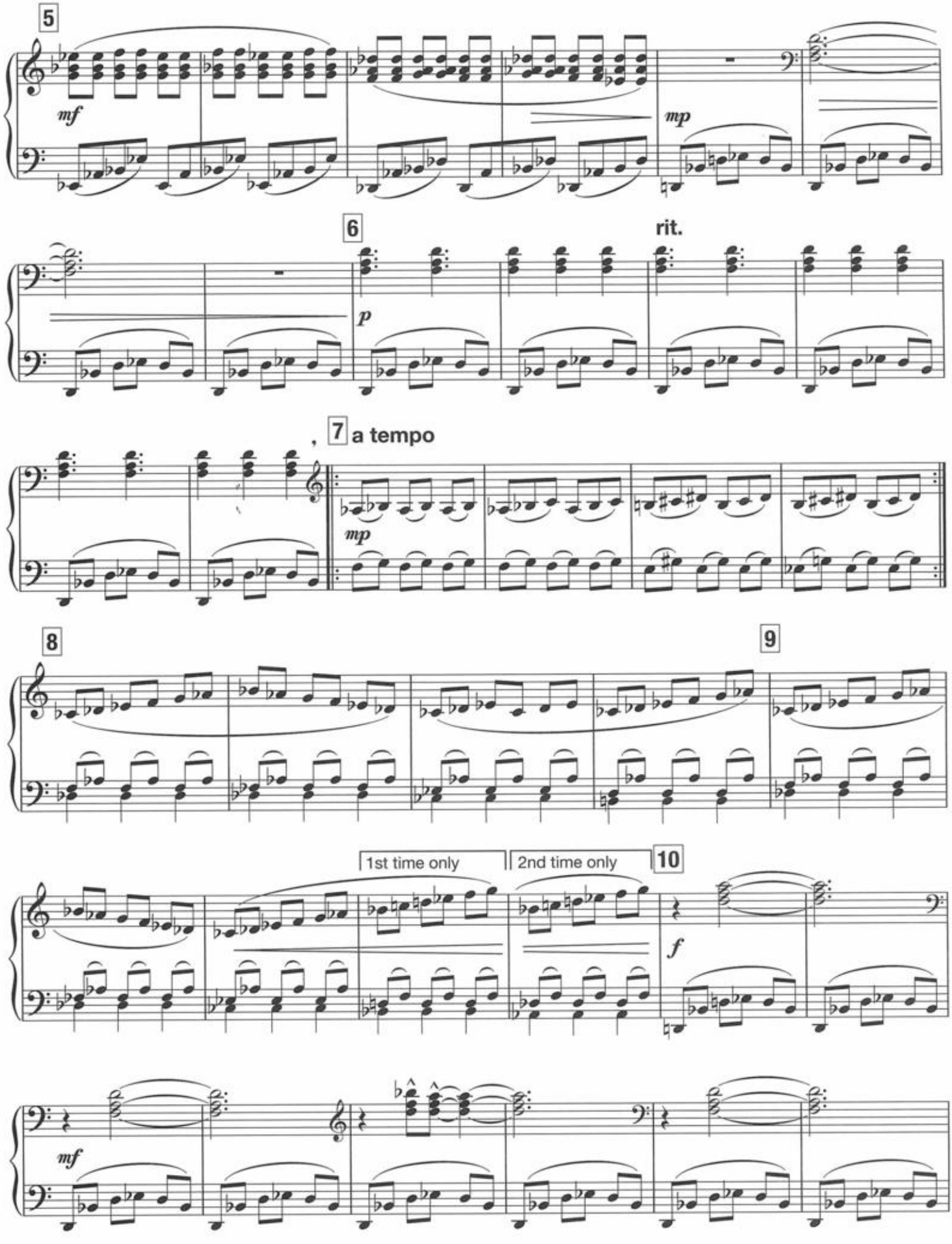

5
mf
6
mp
mf
mp
mf
mp
7
f
mf
f
mf
f
8

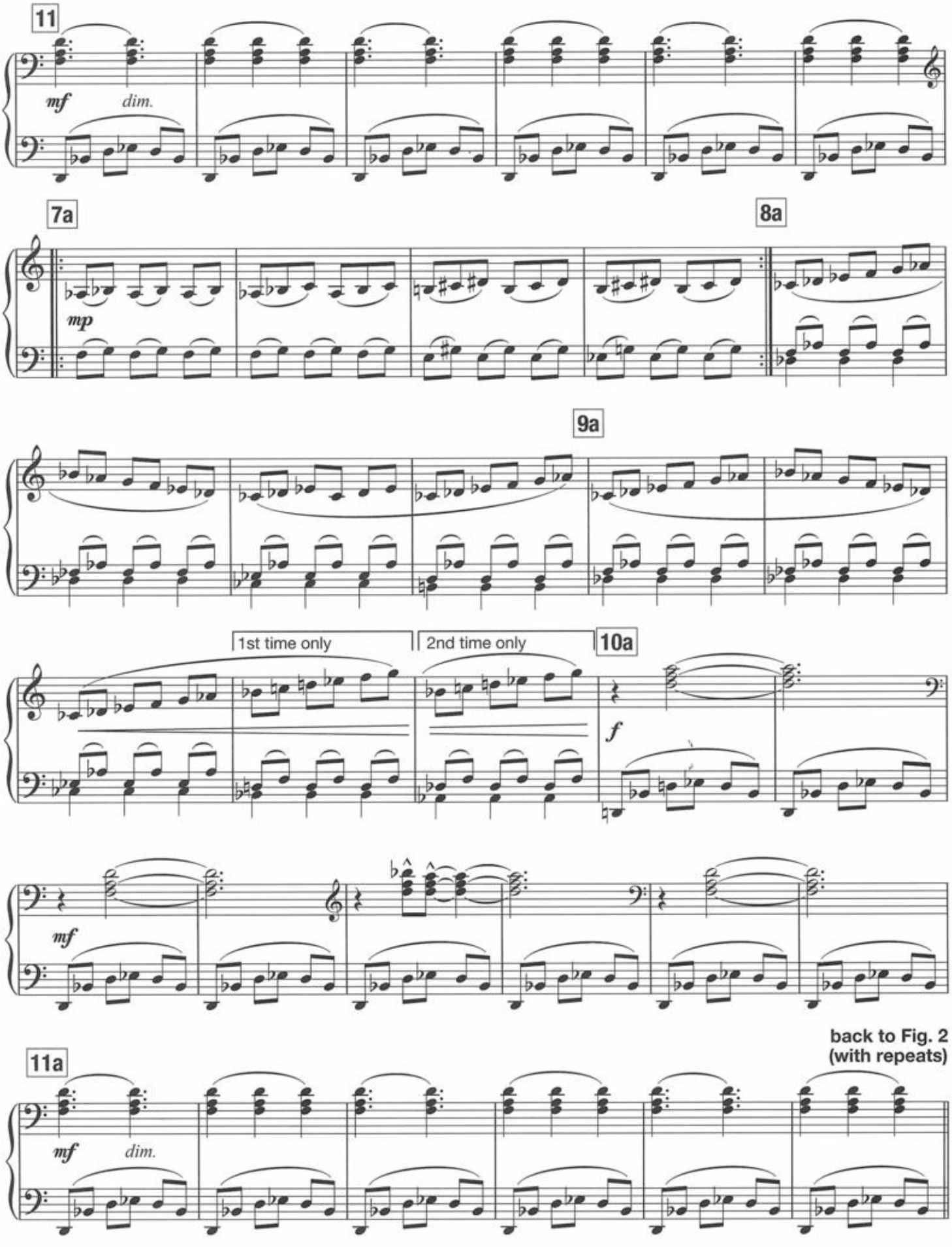

8
9
mf
mf
8
10
f
mf
f
mf
8
11
f
mf
(8)
back to Fig. 5
(with repeats)

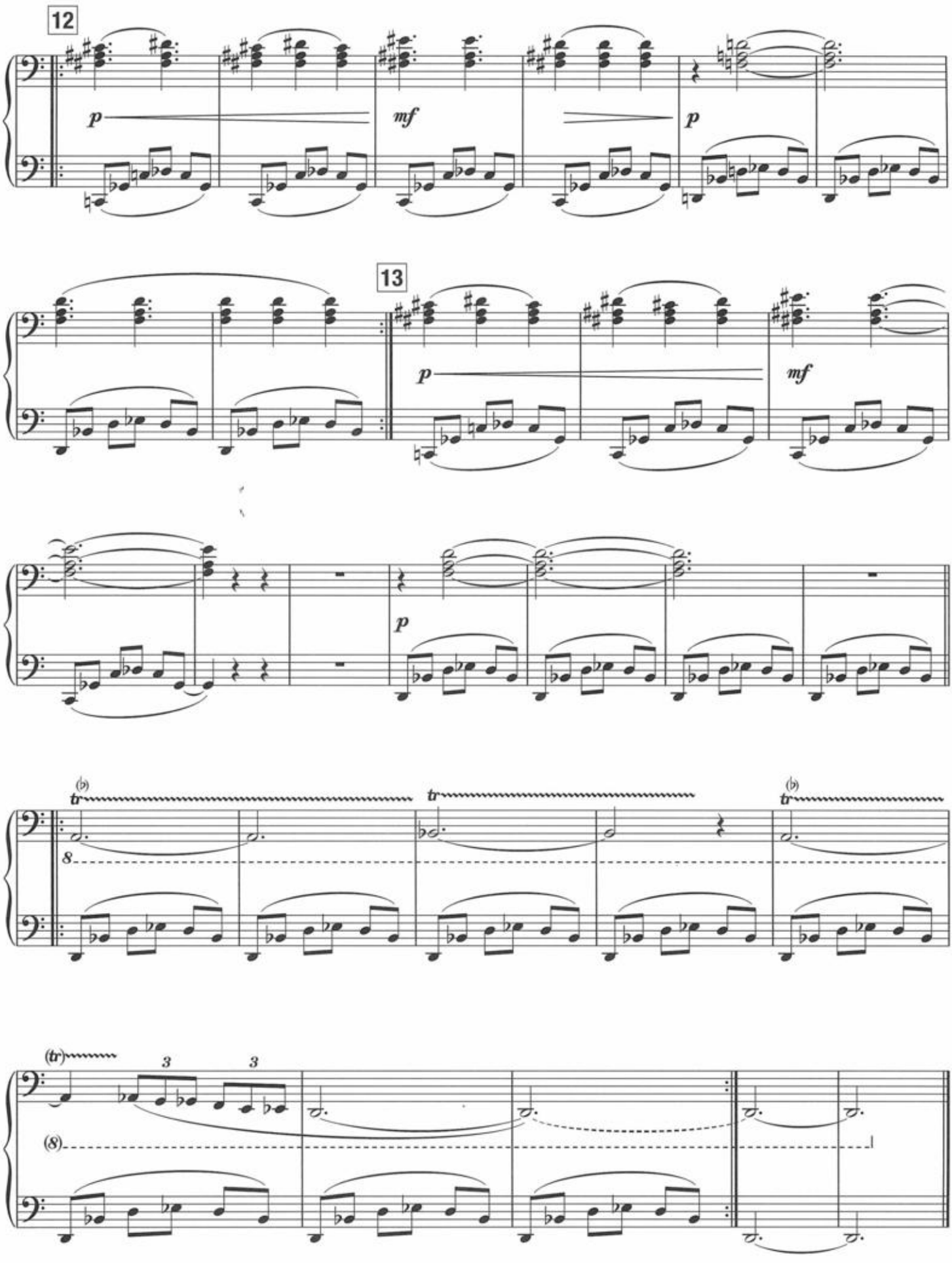

12
13
14
p
mp
p
mp

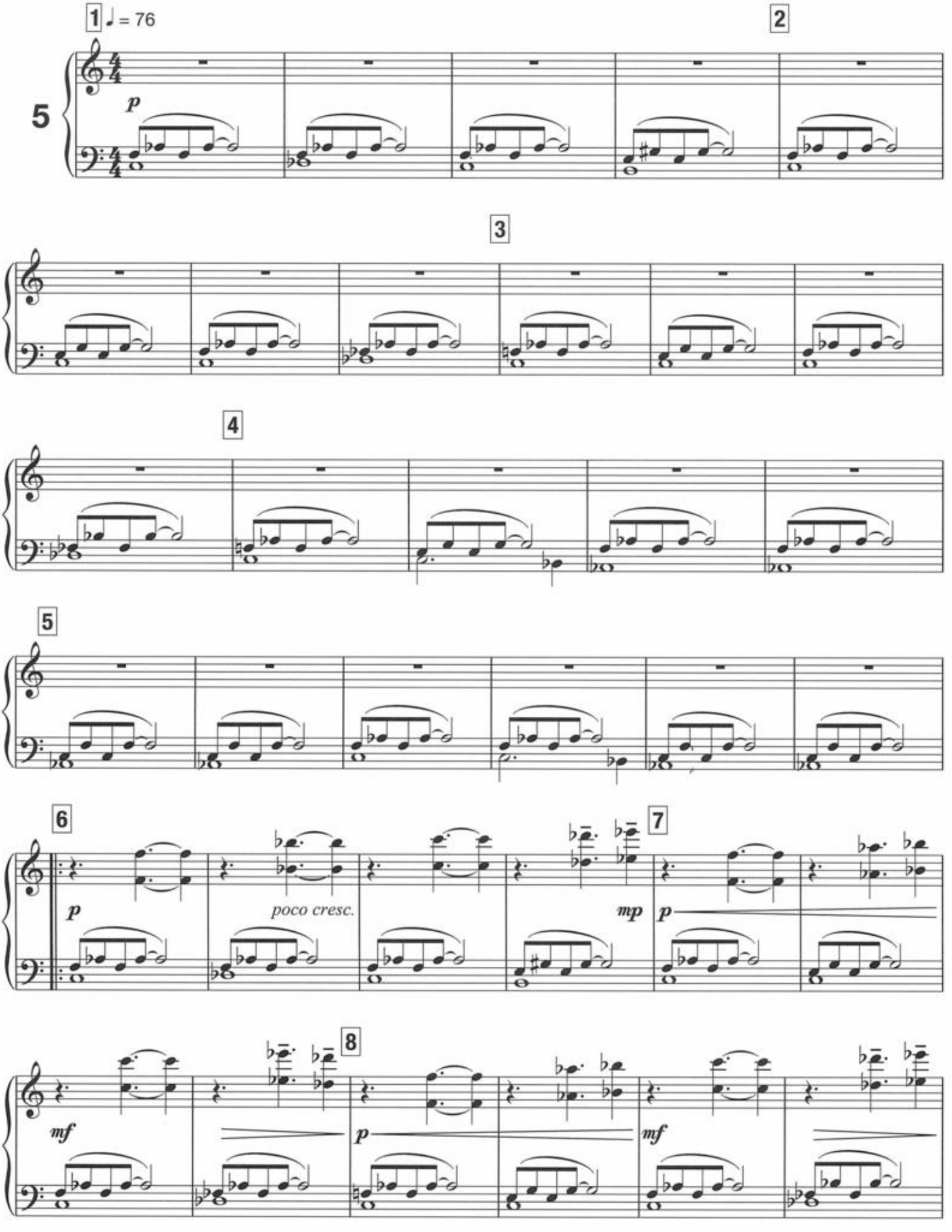

15
p
mf
16
p
mp
p
17
molto rit.
pp

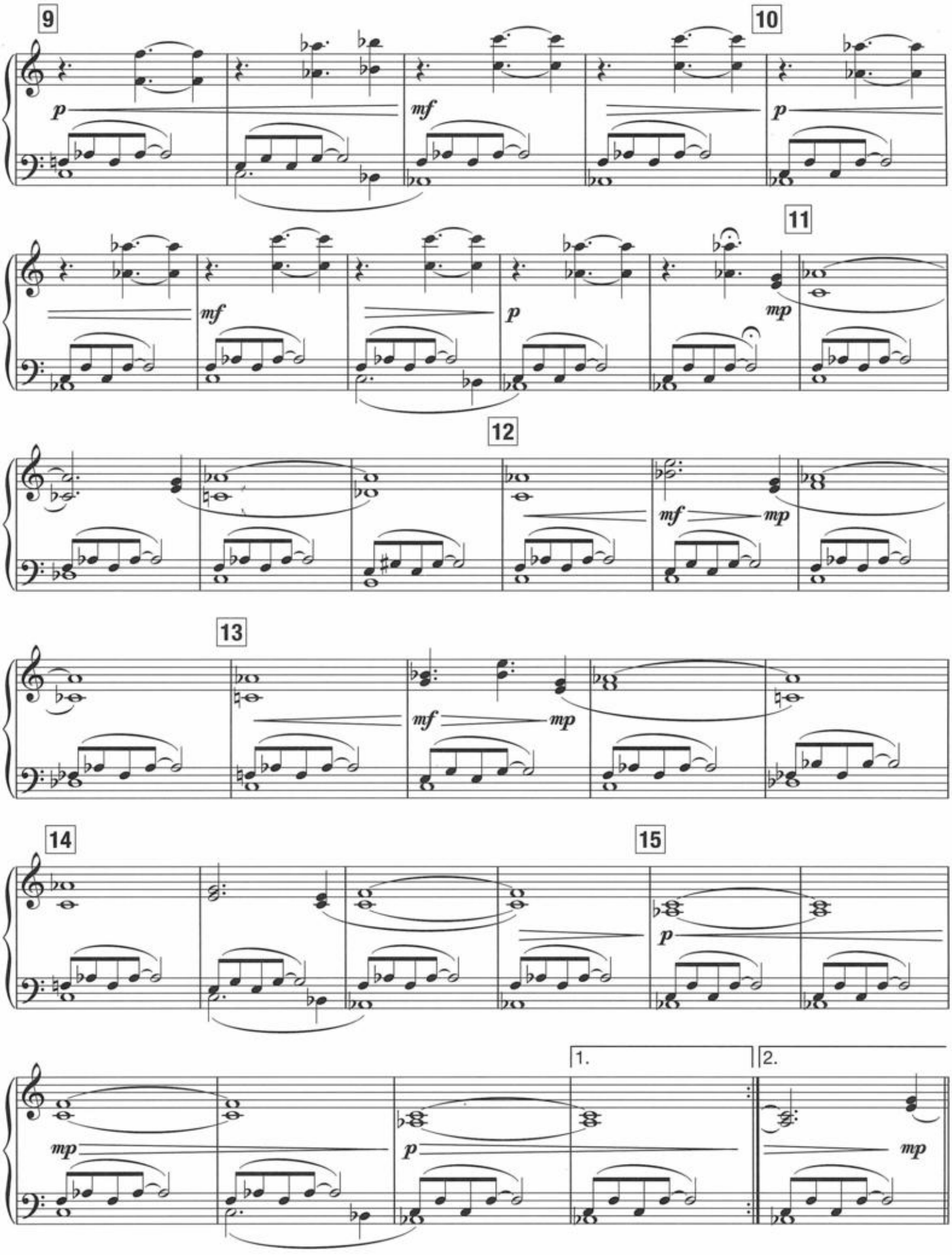

1
4
mp
2
p
mf
3
p
p
mf
p
(2nd time:
poco cresc.)
4
cresc.
mf
mp

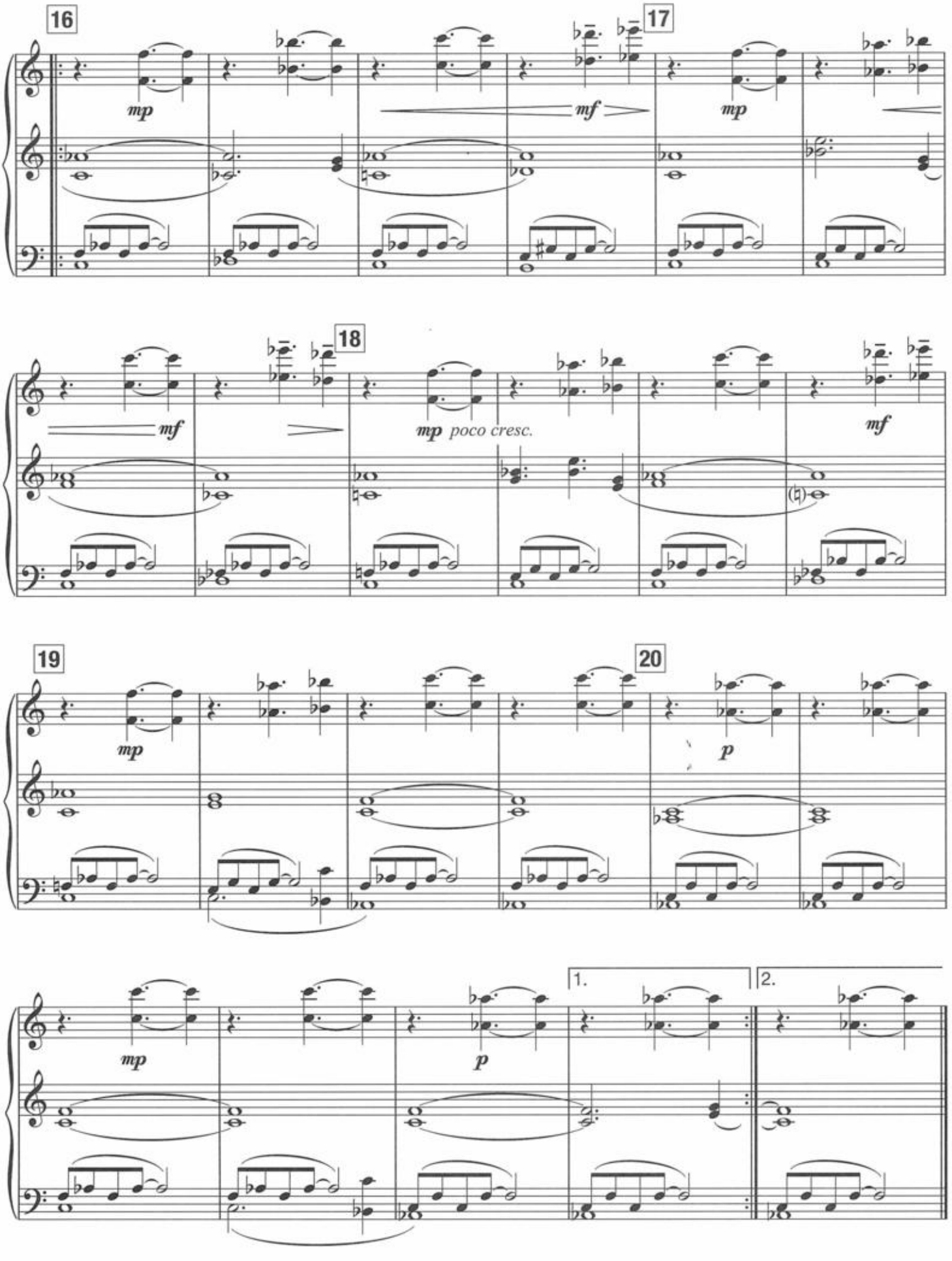

5
mf
mp
6
rit.
p
7 a tempo
mp
8
9
1st time only
2nd time only
10
f
mf

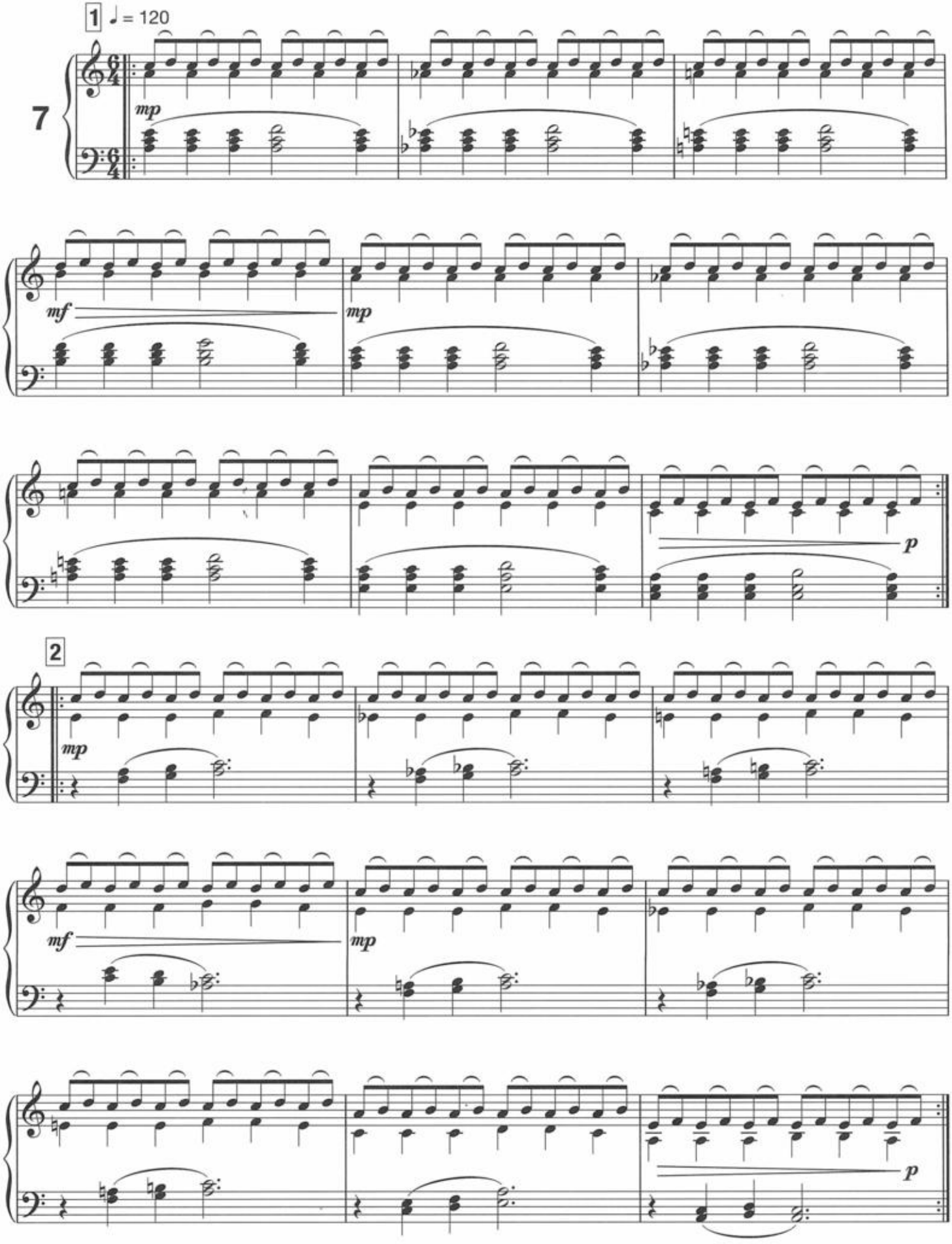

11
mf
dim.
7a
mp
8a
9a
1st time only
2nd time only
10a
f
mf
back to Fig. 2
(with repeats)
11a
mf
dim.

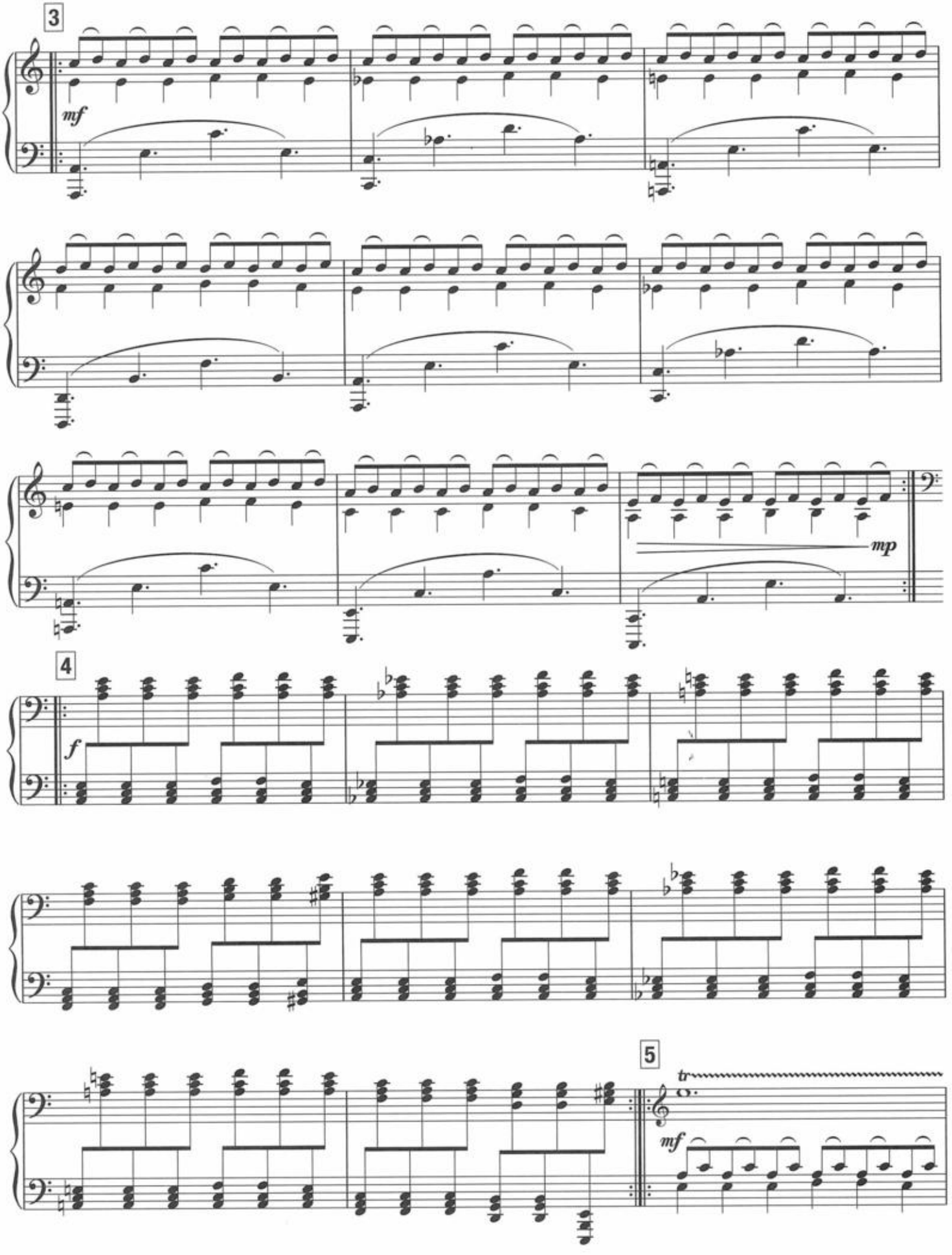

12
p
mf
p
13
p
mf
p
tr
tr
tr
8
(tr)
3
3
(8)

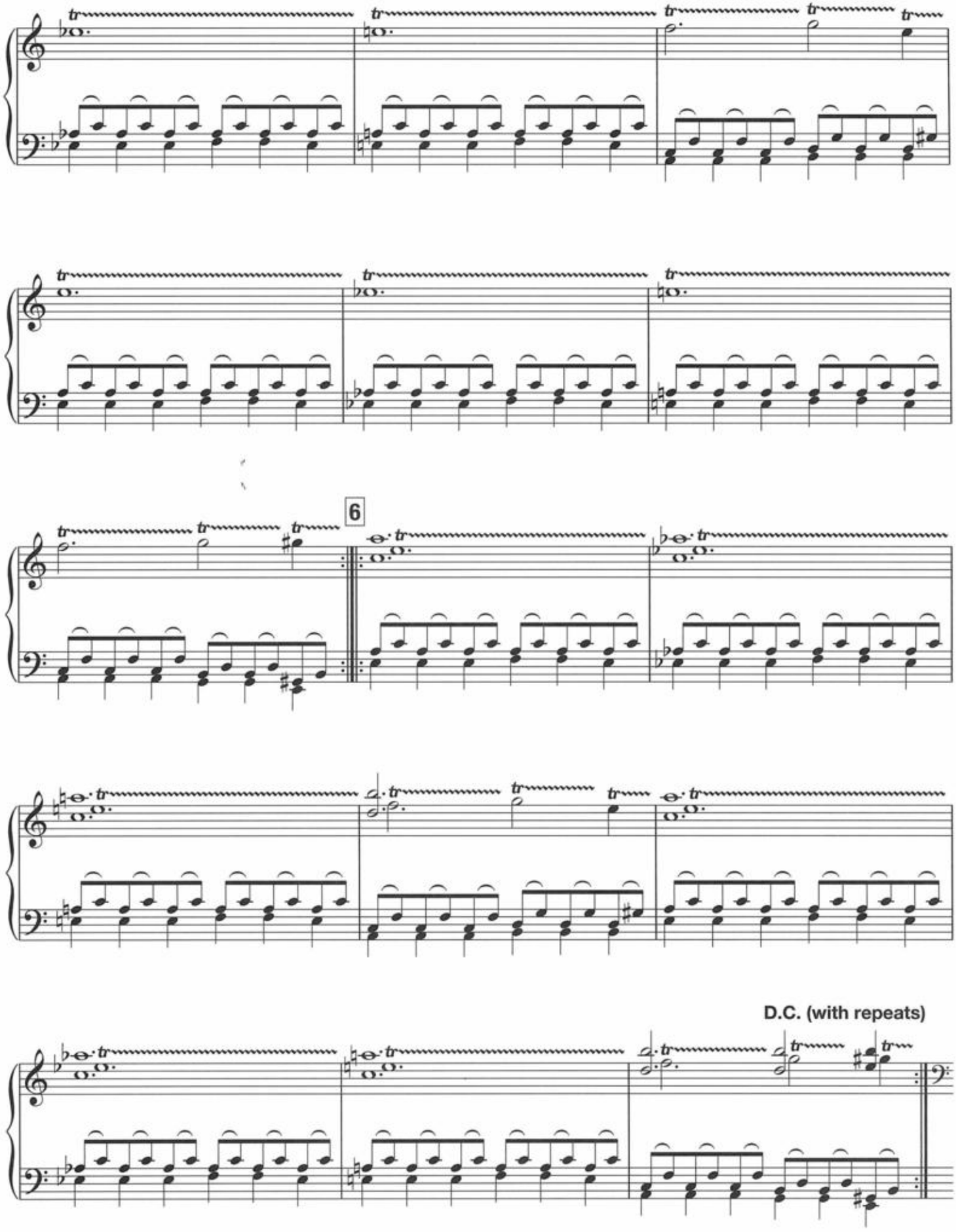

1 ♩ = 76
2
5
p
3
4
5
6
7
p
poco cresc.
mp
p
8
mf
p
mf

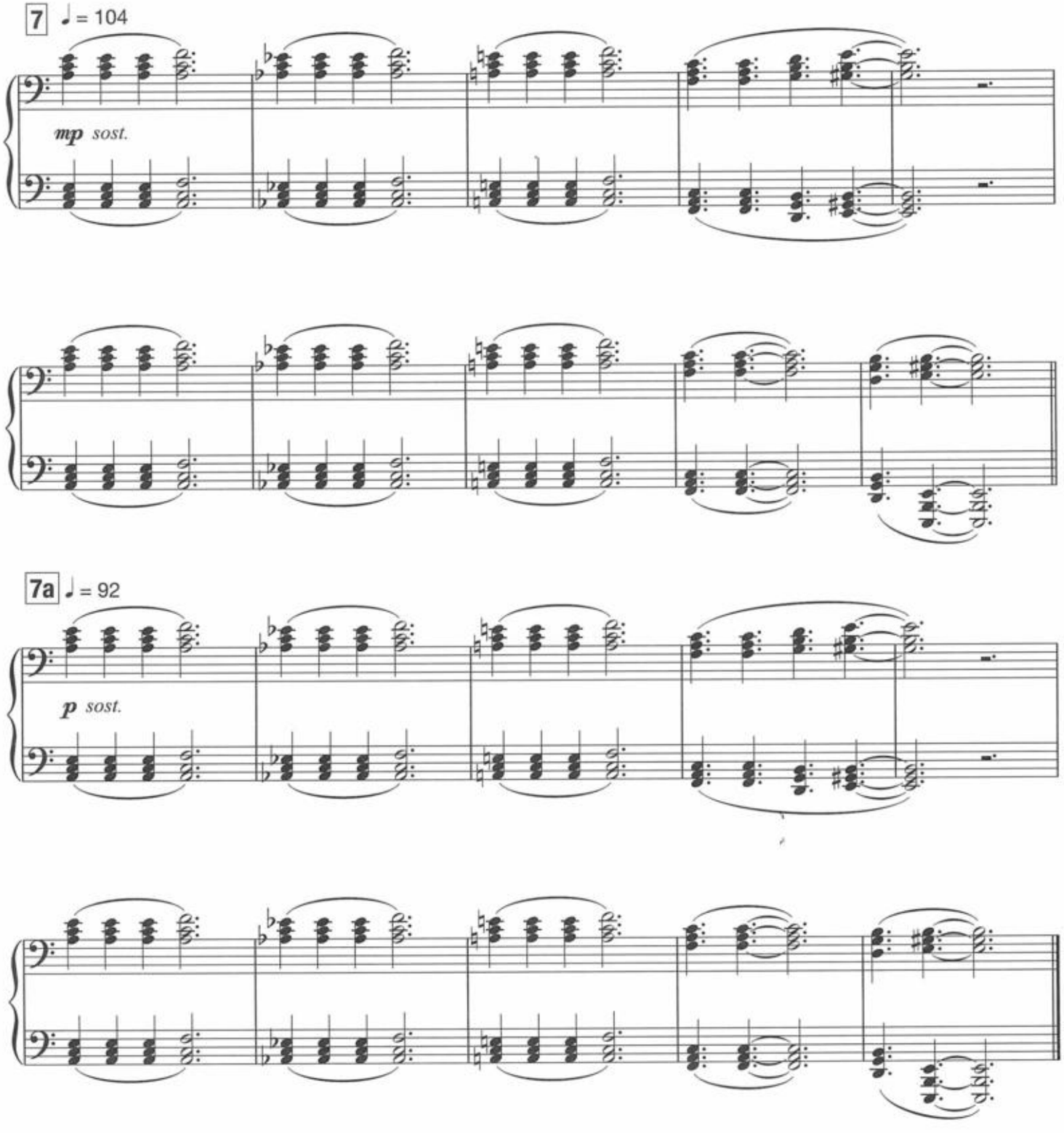

9
10
11
12
13
14
15
p
mf
mp
1.
2.

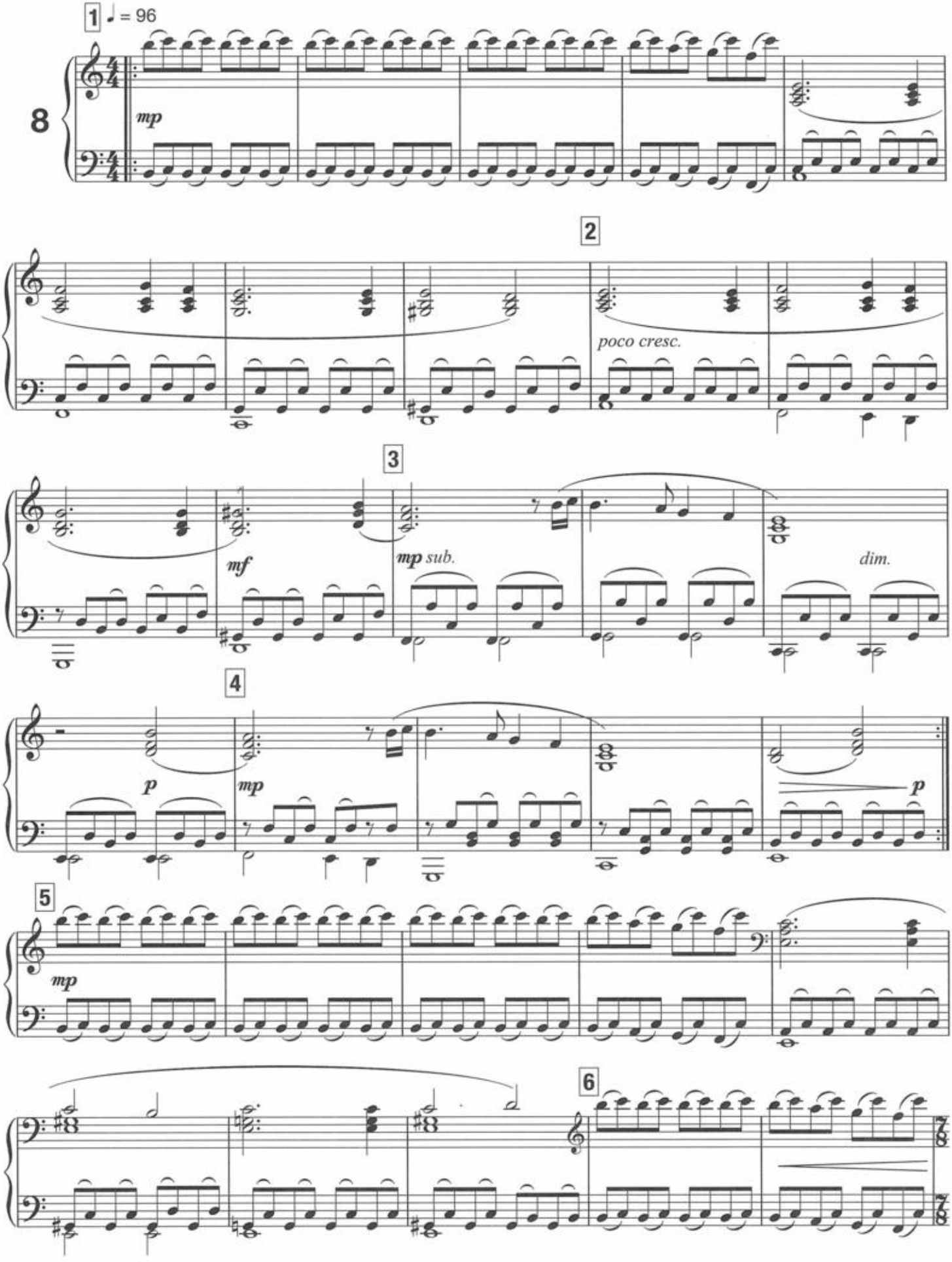

16
17
mp
mf
mp
18
mf
mp poco cresc.
mf
19
20
mp
p
mp
p
1.
2.

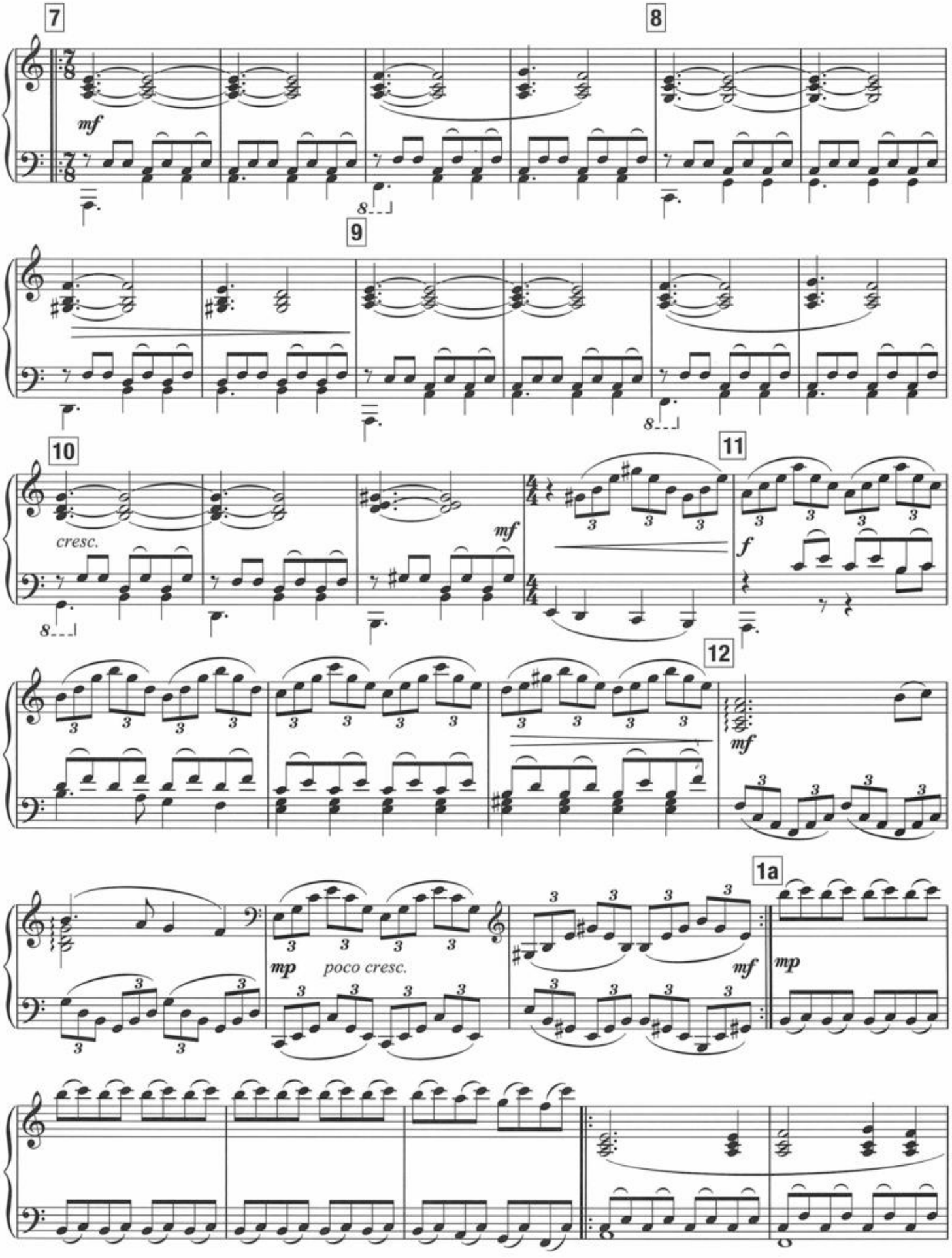

1
♩ = 120
7
mp
mf
mp
p
2
mp
mf
mp
p

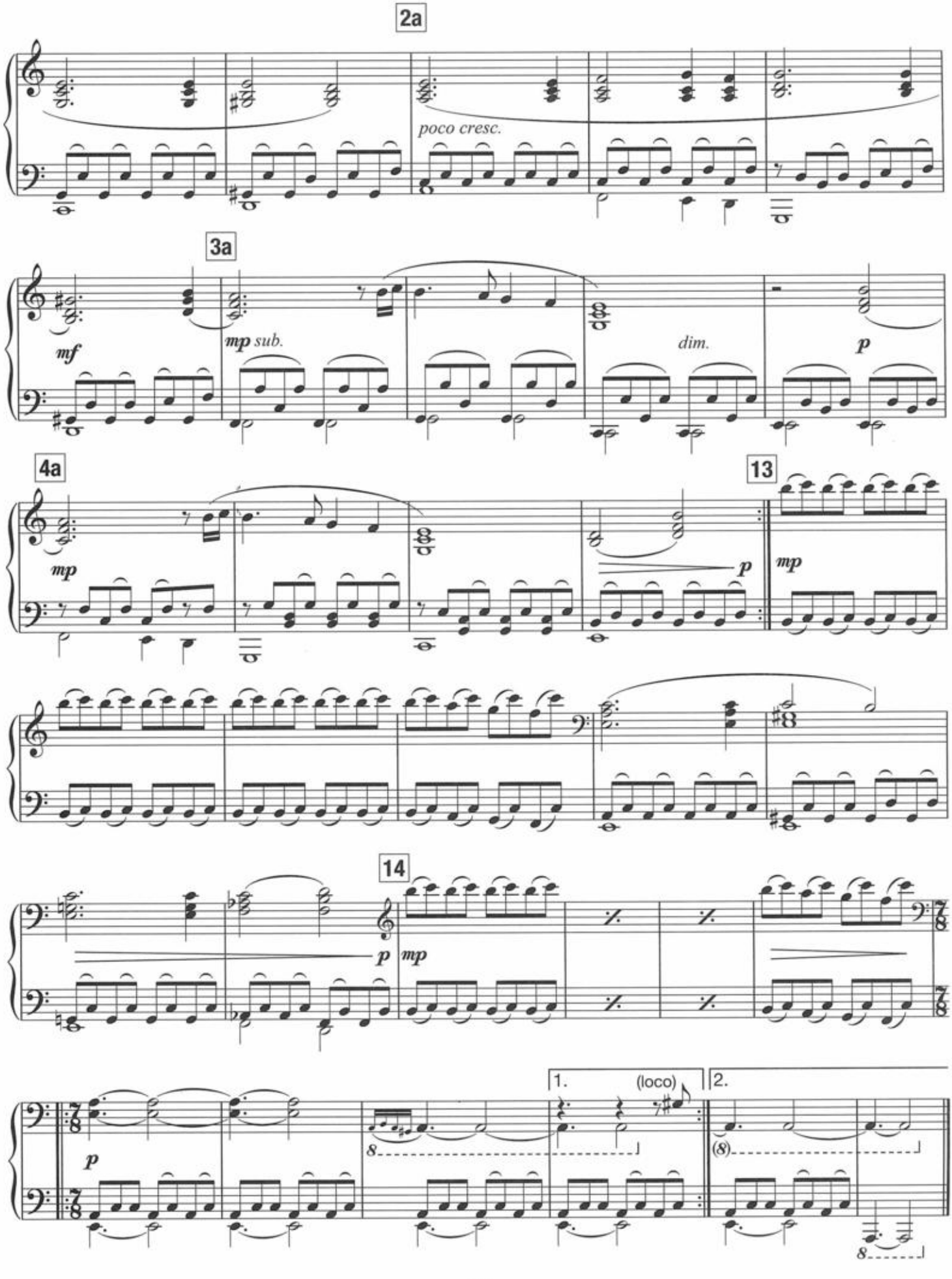

3
mf
mp
4
f
5
tr
mf

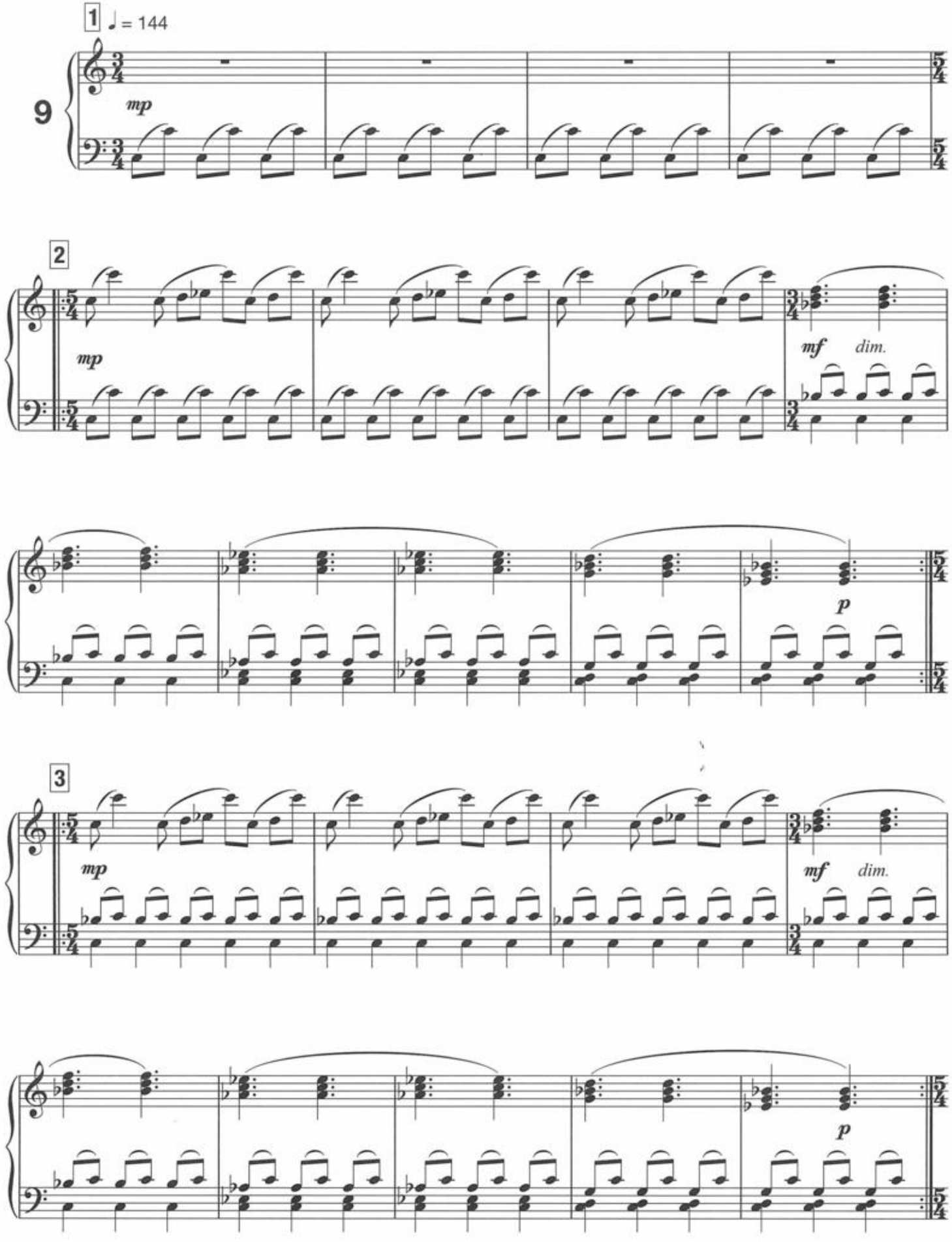

6
D.C. (with repeats)

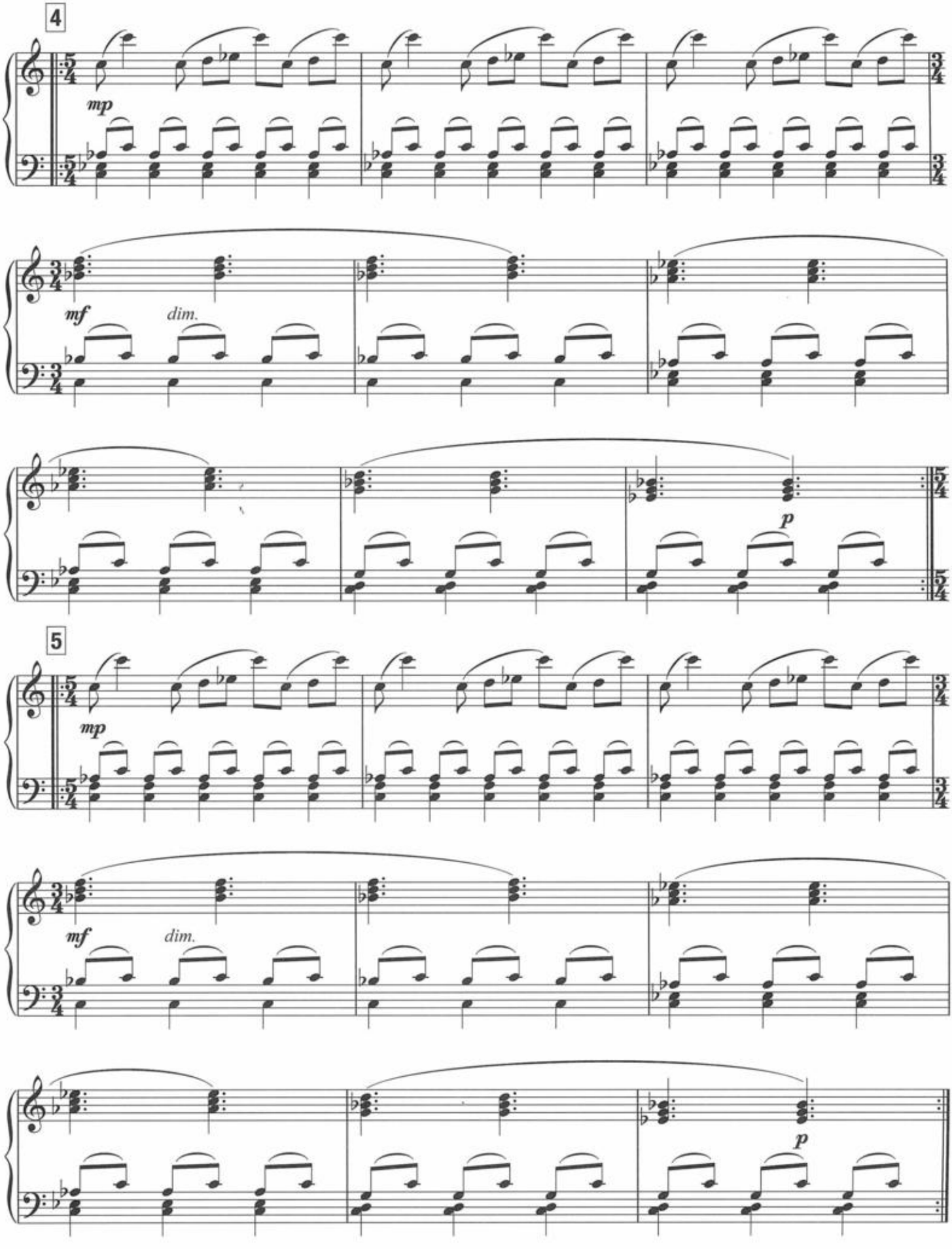

7
♩ = 104
mp sost.
7a
♩ = 92
p sost.

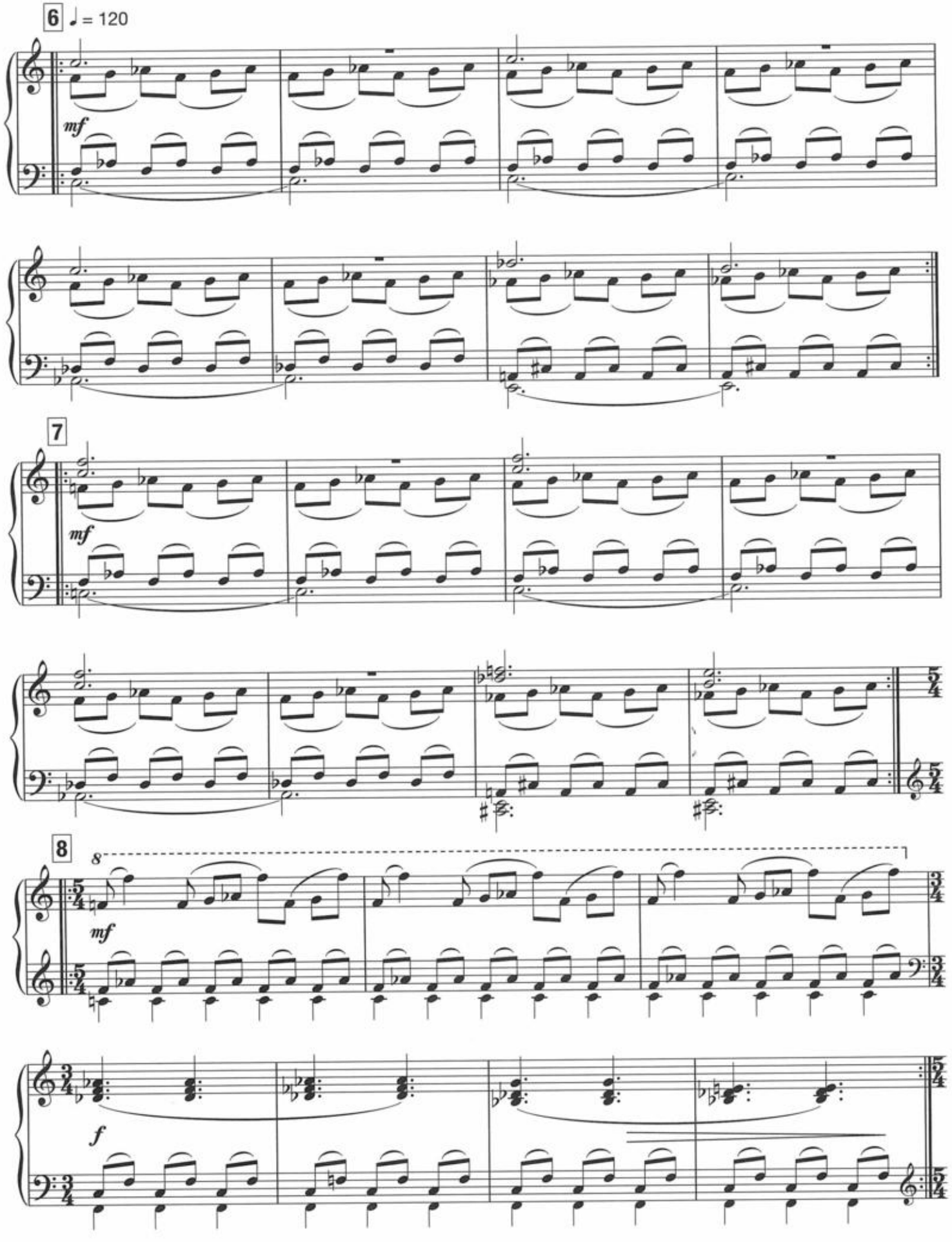

1
♩ = 96
8
mp
2
poco cresc.
3
mf
mp sub.
dim.
4
p
mp
p
5
mp
6

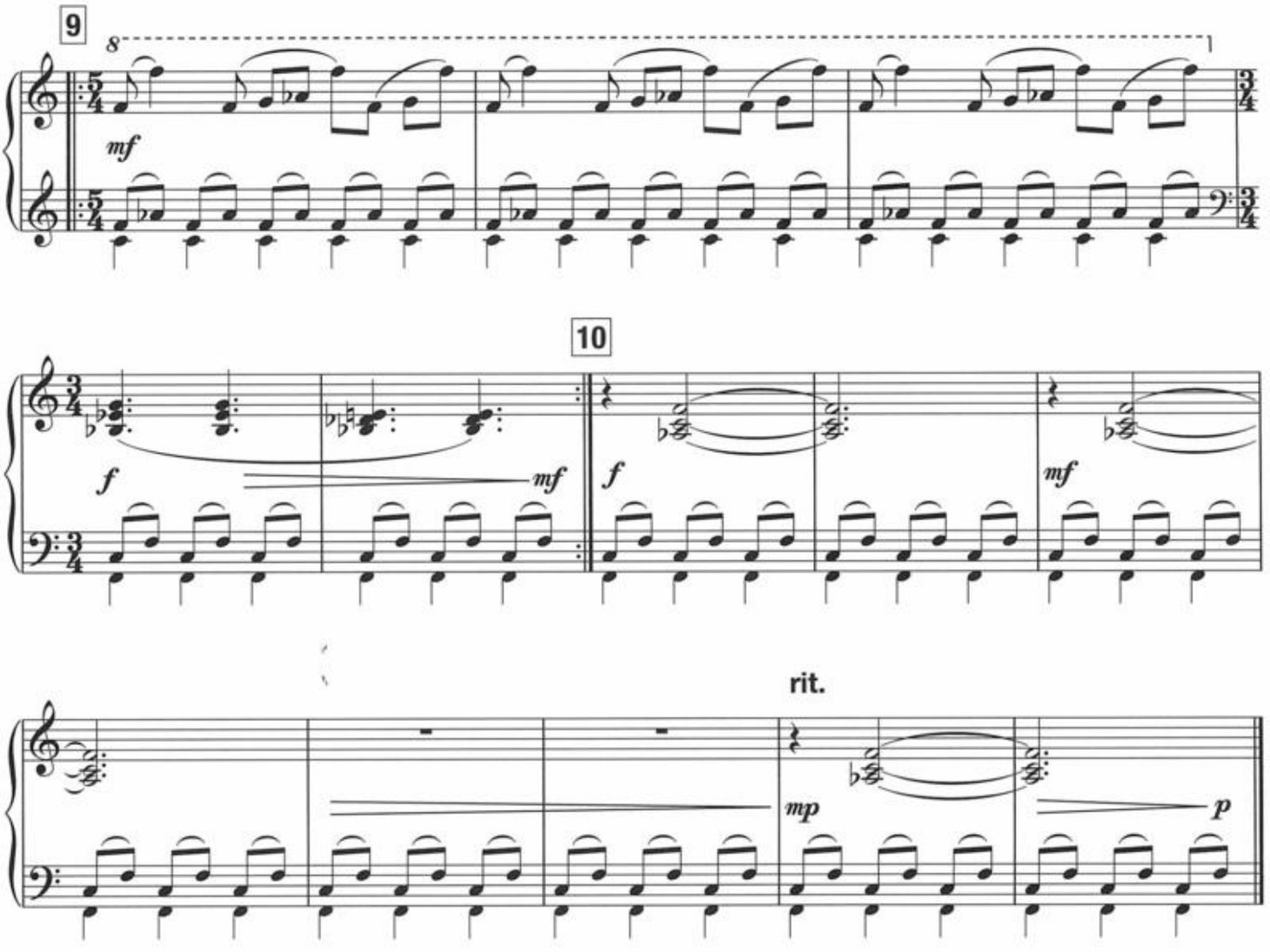

7
8
mf
9
10
cresc.
mf
11
f
12
mf
1a
mp
poco cresc.
mf
mp

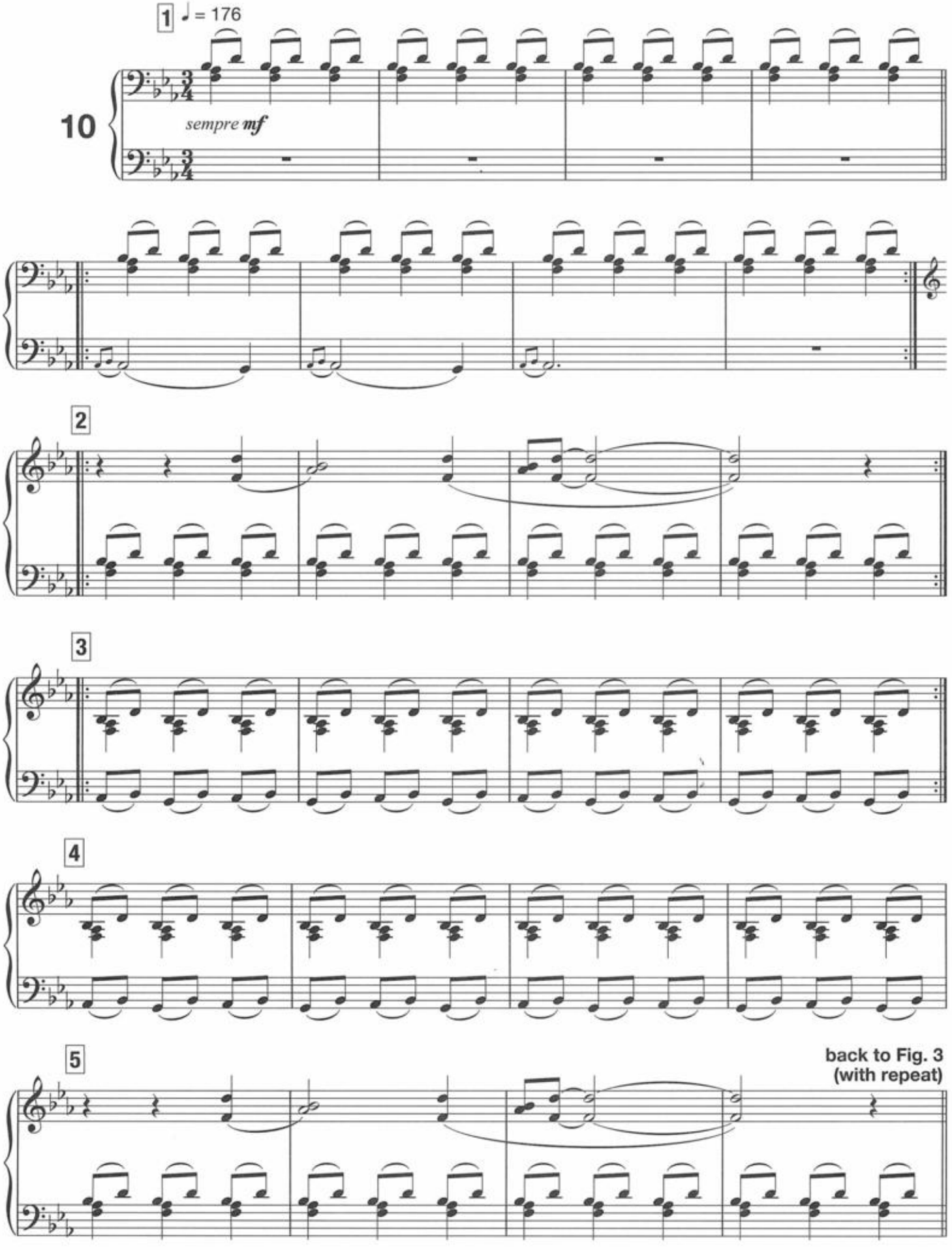

2a
poco cresc.
3a
mf
mp sub.
dim.
p
4a
mp
p
13
mp
14
p
mp
p
1.
(loco)
2.
8
(8)
8

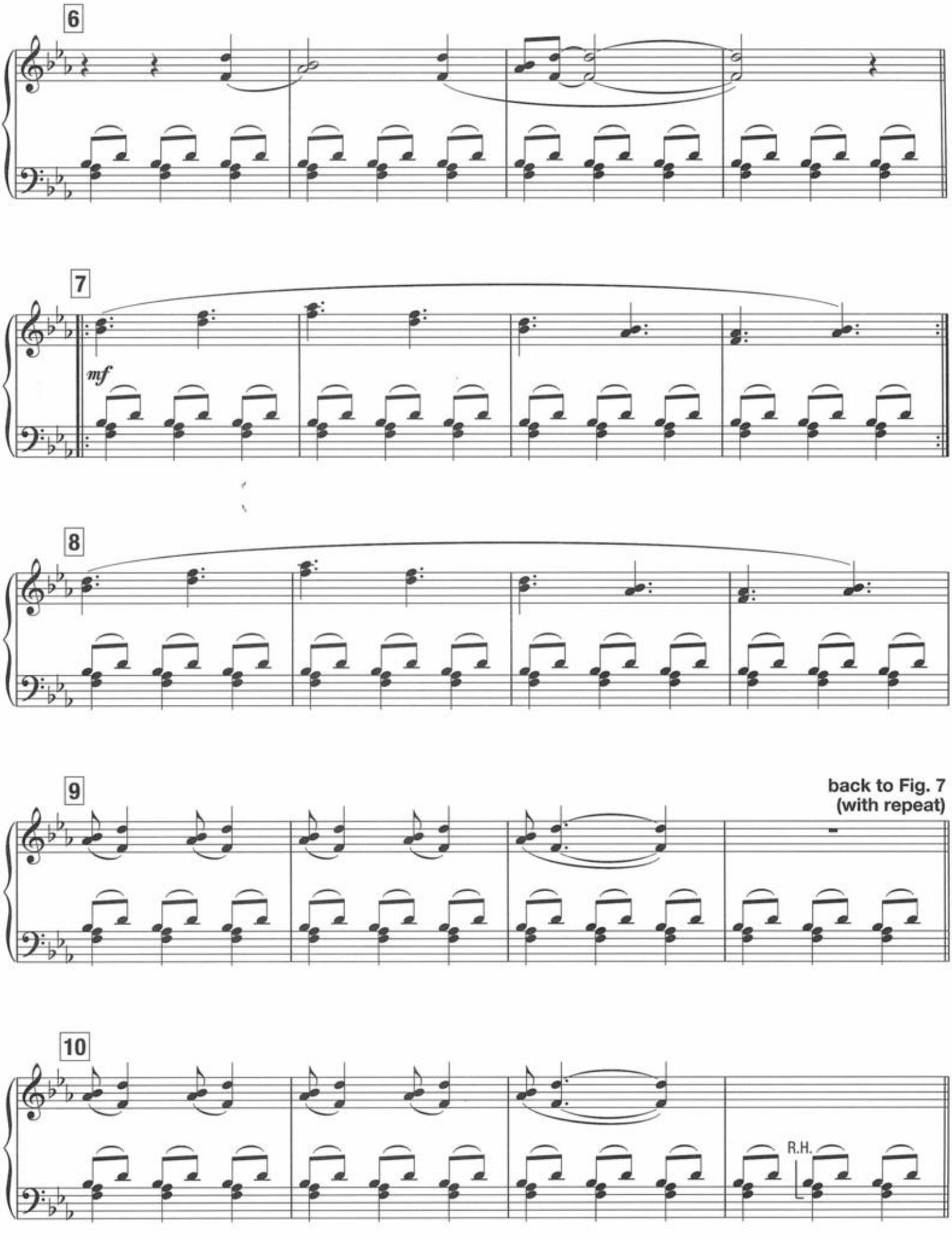

1
♩ = 144
9
mp
2
mp
mf
dim.
p
3
mp
mf
dim.
p

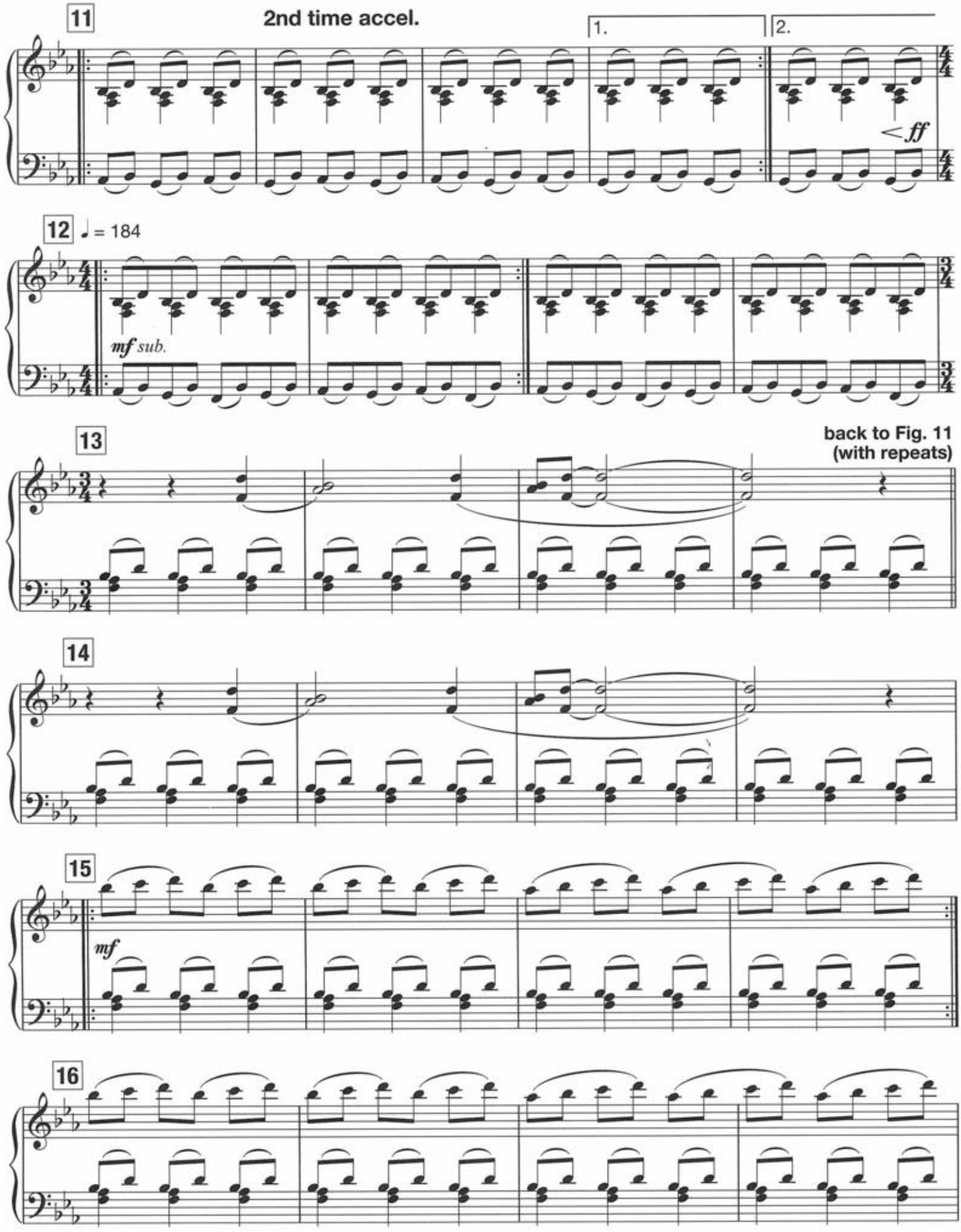

4
mp
mf
dim.
p
5
mp
mf
dim.
p

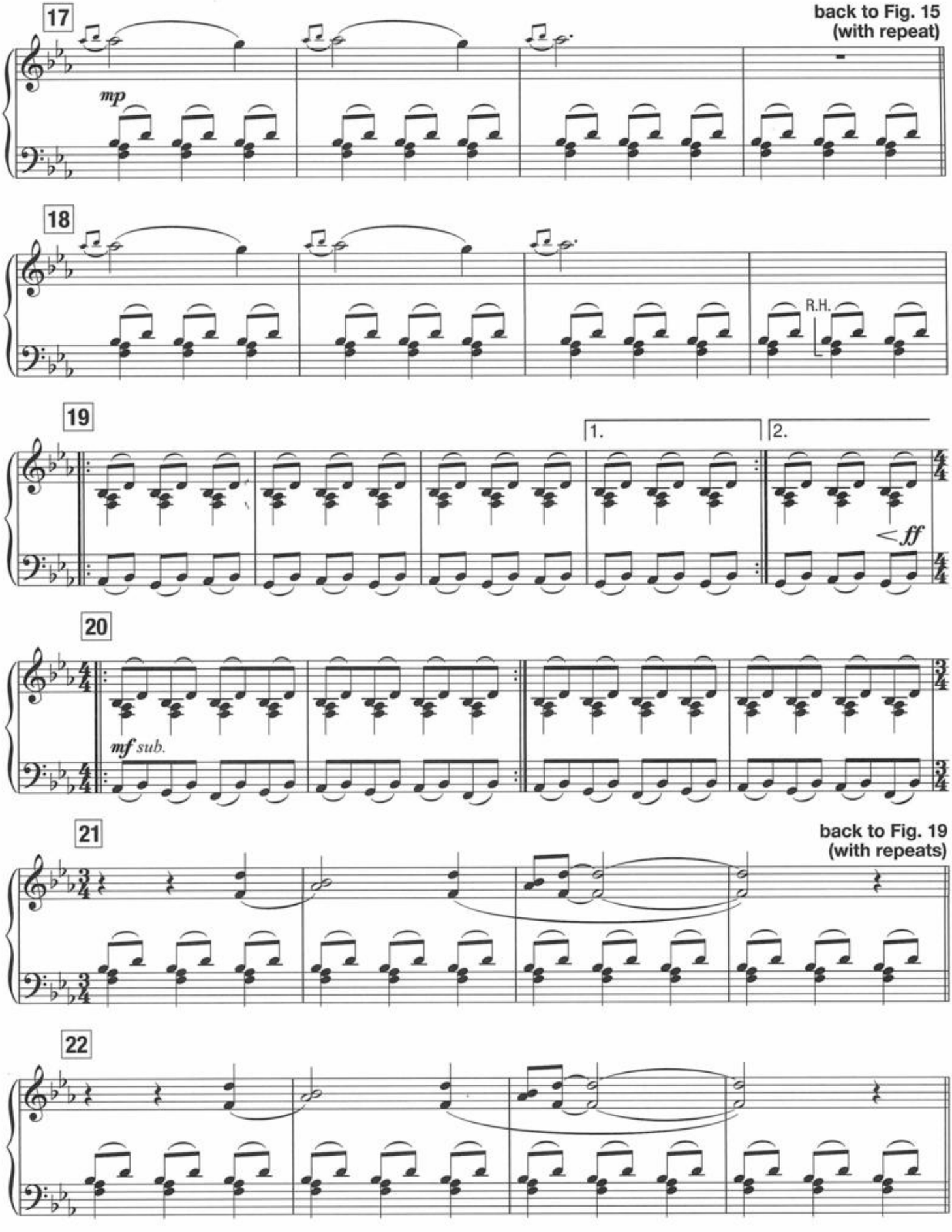

6
♩ = 120
mf
7
mf
8
8
mf
f

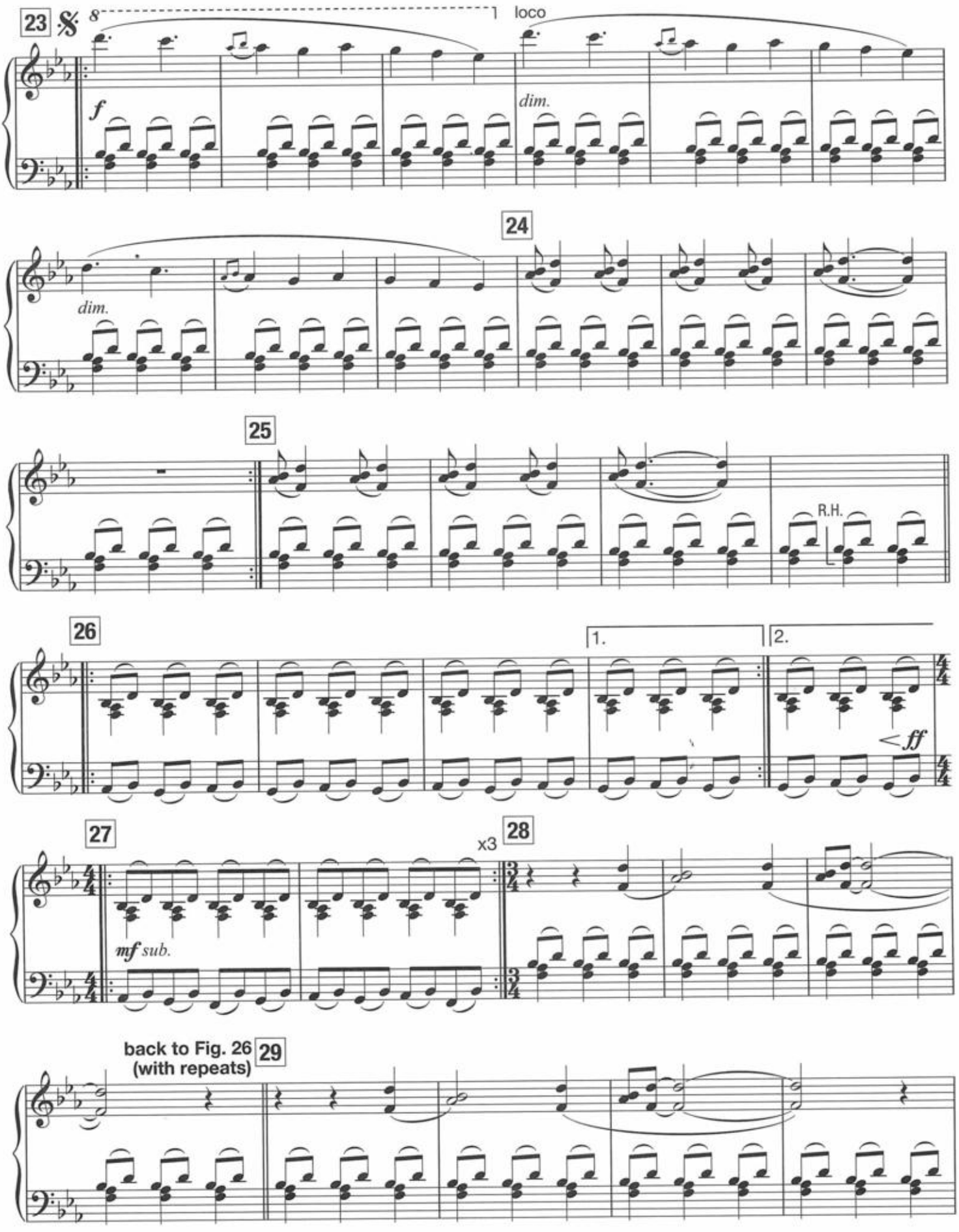

9
8
mf
10
f
mf
f
mf
rit.
mp
p

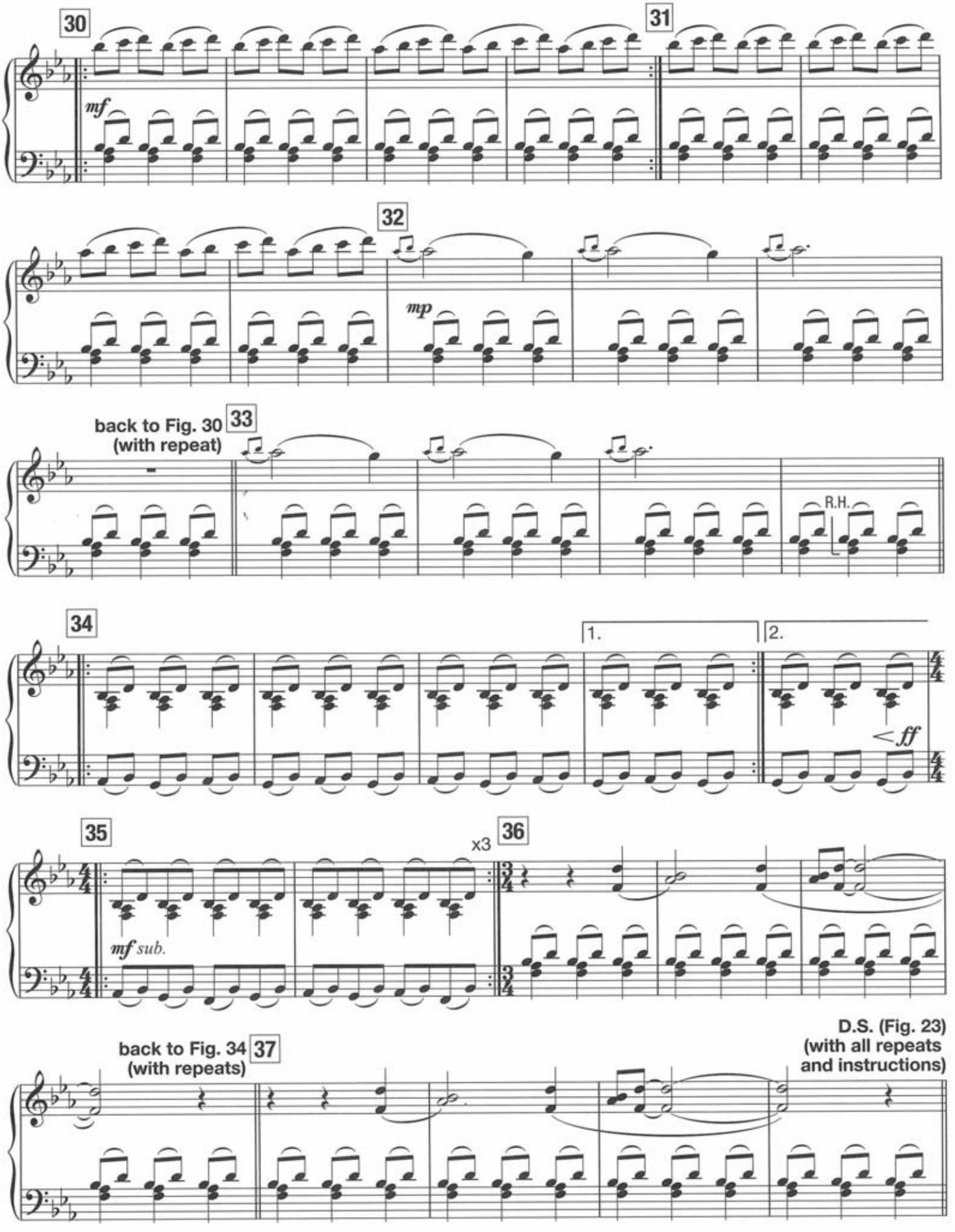

1
♩ = 176
10
sempre mf
2
3
4
5
back to Fig. 3
(with repeat)

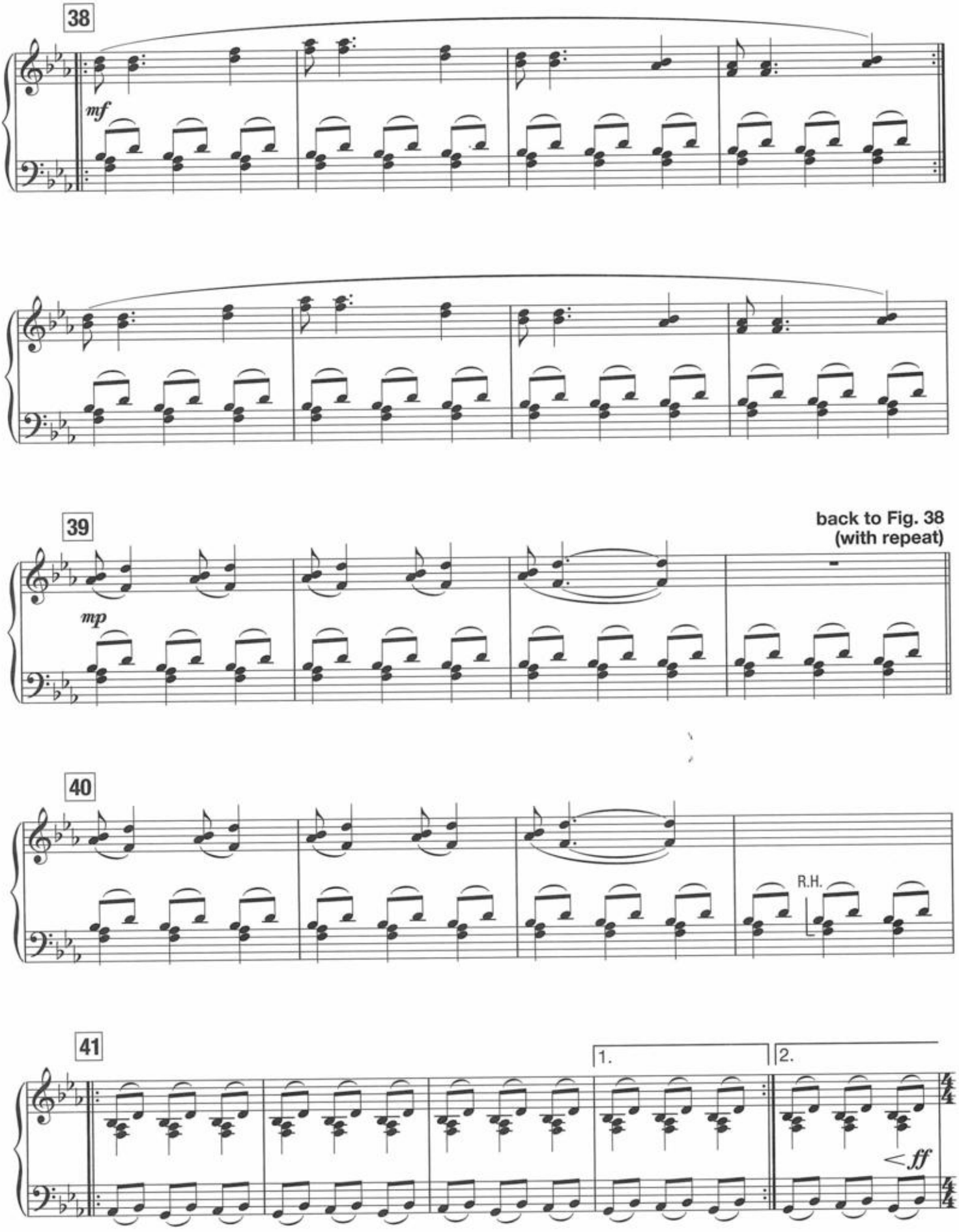

6
7
mf
8
9
back to Fig. 7
(with repeat)
10
R.H.

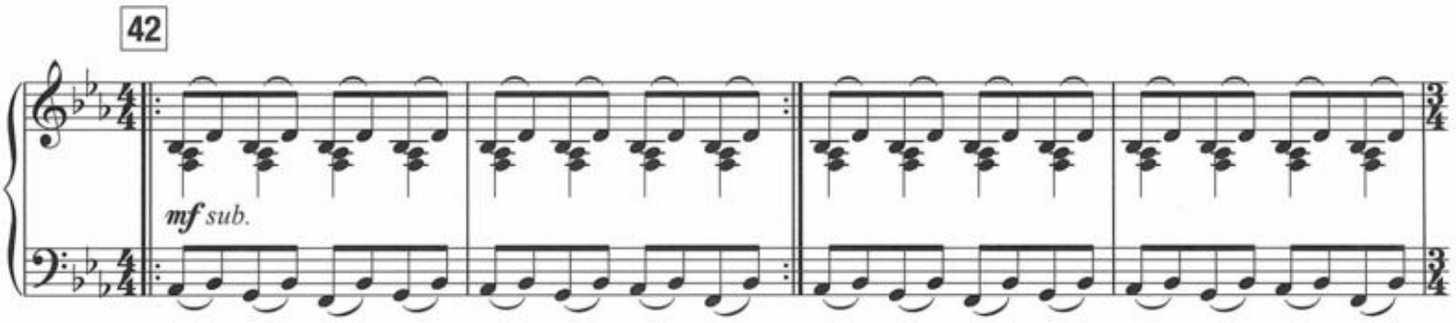

11
2nd time accel.
1.
2.
< ff
12
♩ = 184
mf sub.
13
back to Fig. 11
(with repeats)
14
15
mf
16

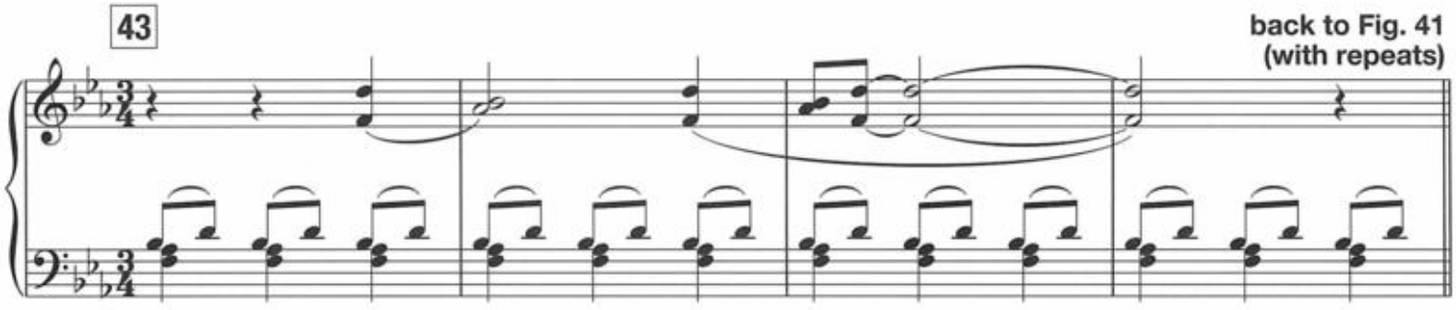

17
back to Fig. 15
(with repeat)
mp
18
R.H.
19
1.
2.
< ff
20
mf sub.
21
back to Fig. 19
(with repeats)
22

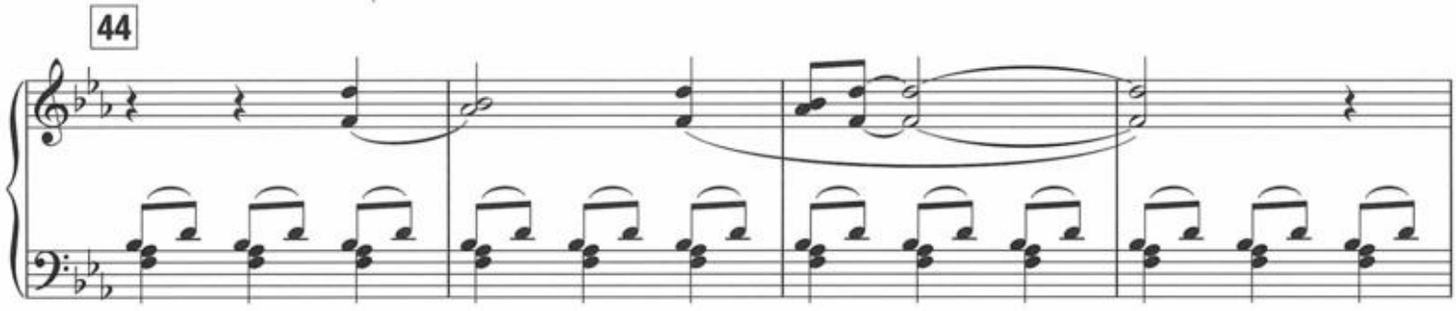

23
8
loco
f
dim.
24
dim.
25
R.H.
26
1.
2.
ff
27
x3
28
mf sub.
back to Fig. 26
(with repeats)
29

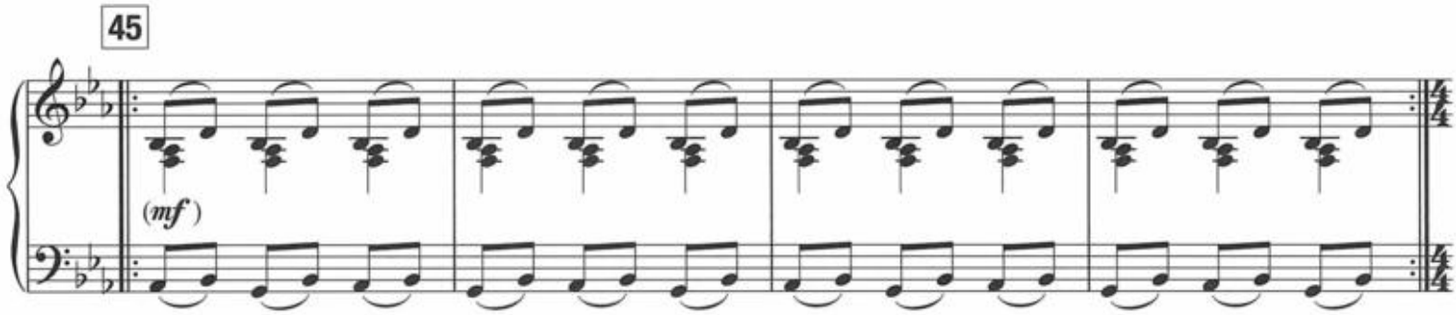

30
31
mf
32
mp
back to Fig. 30
(with repeat)
33
R.H.
34
1.
2.
< ff
35
x3
36
mf sub.
back to Fig. 34
(with repeats)
37
D.S. (Fig. 23)
(with all repeats
and instructions)

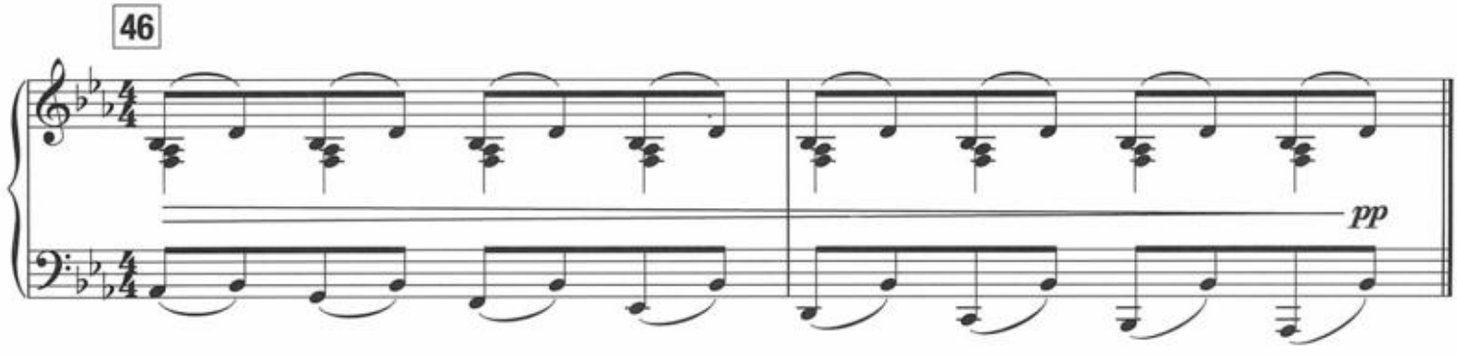

38
mf
39
back to Fig. 38
(with repeat)
mp
40
R.H.
41
1.
2.
< ff


42
mf sub.


43
back to Fig. 41
(with repeats)

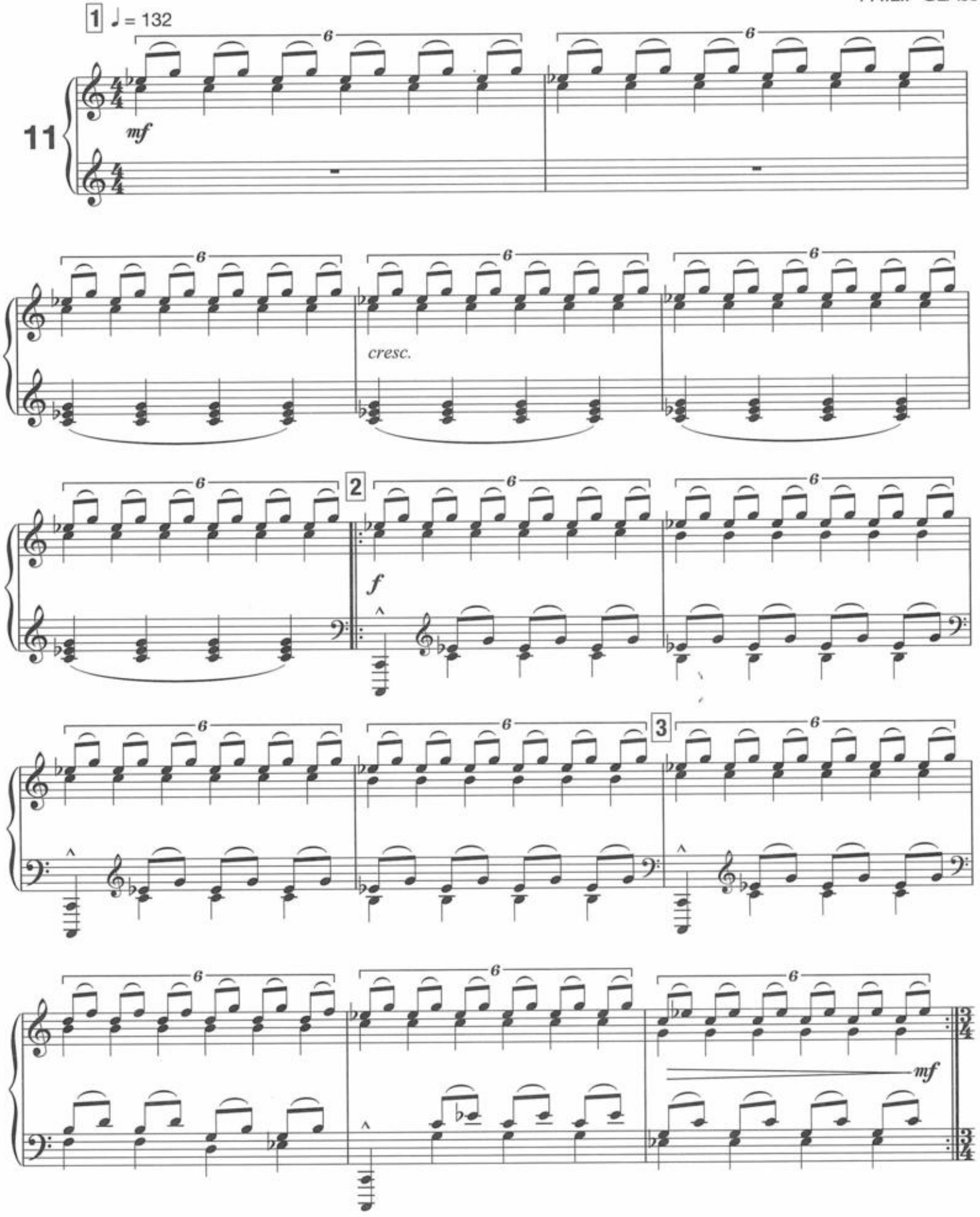

44

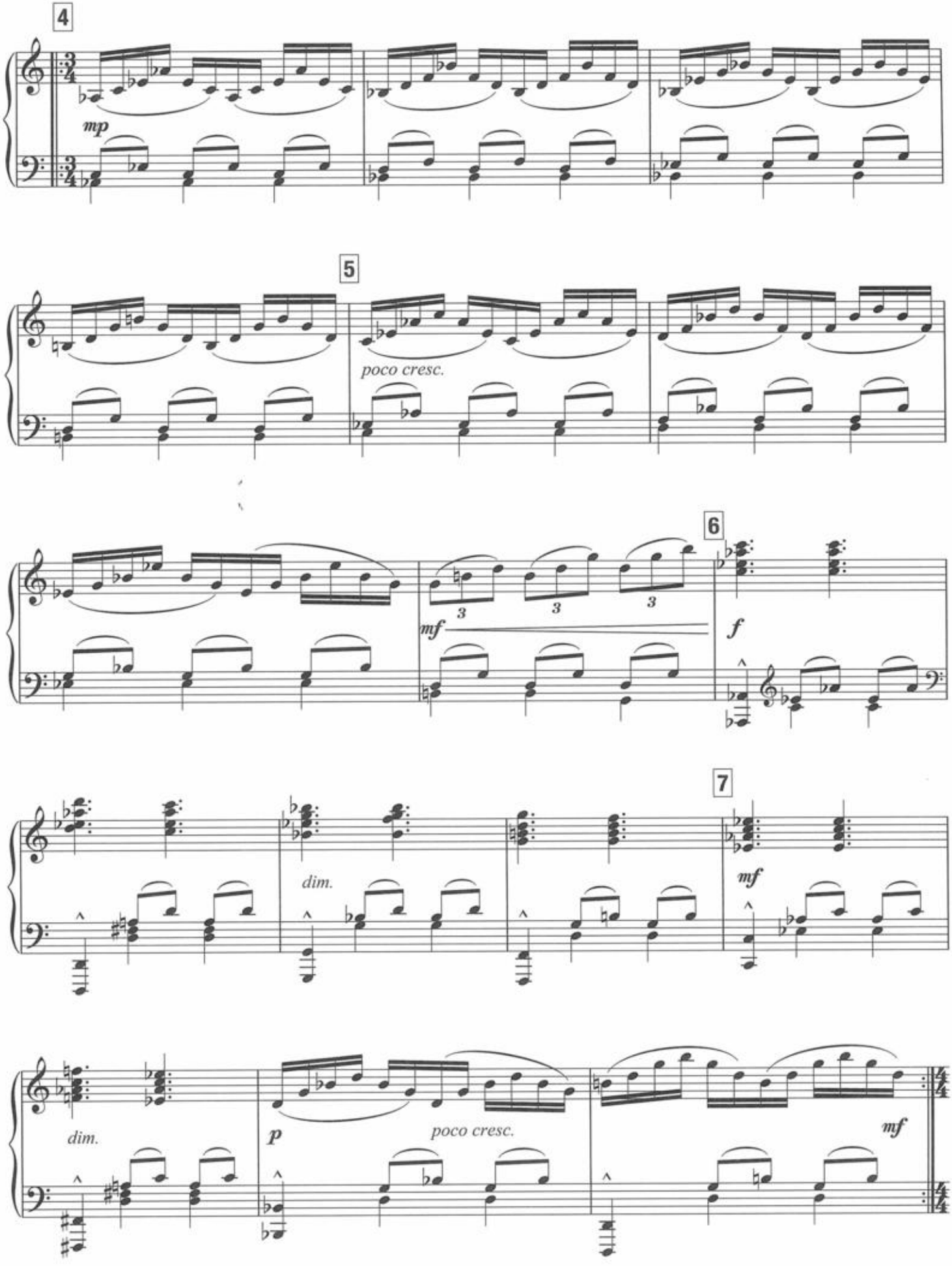

45
(mf)

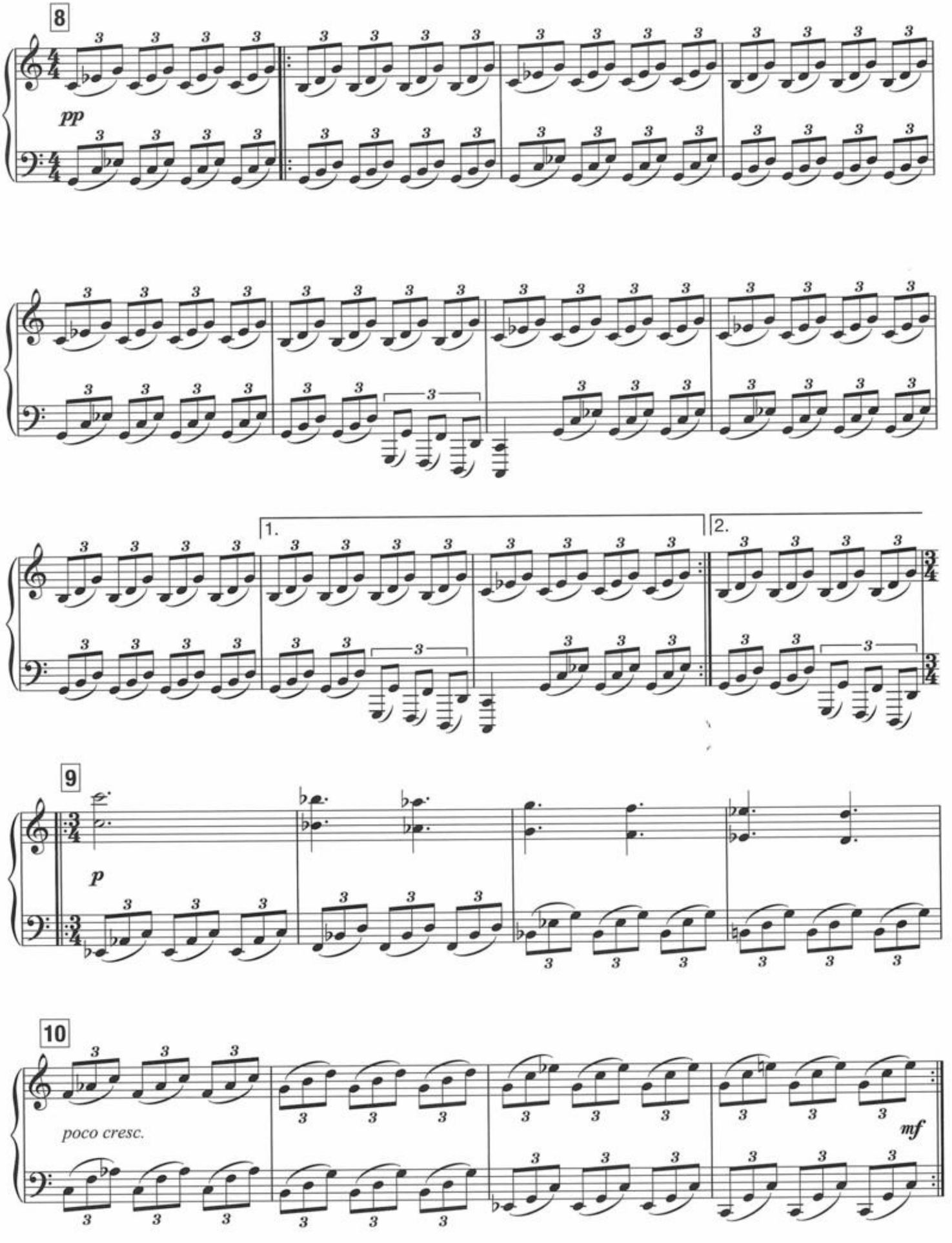

46
pp

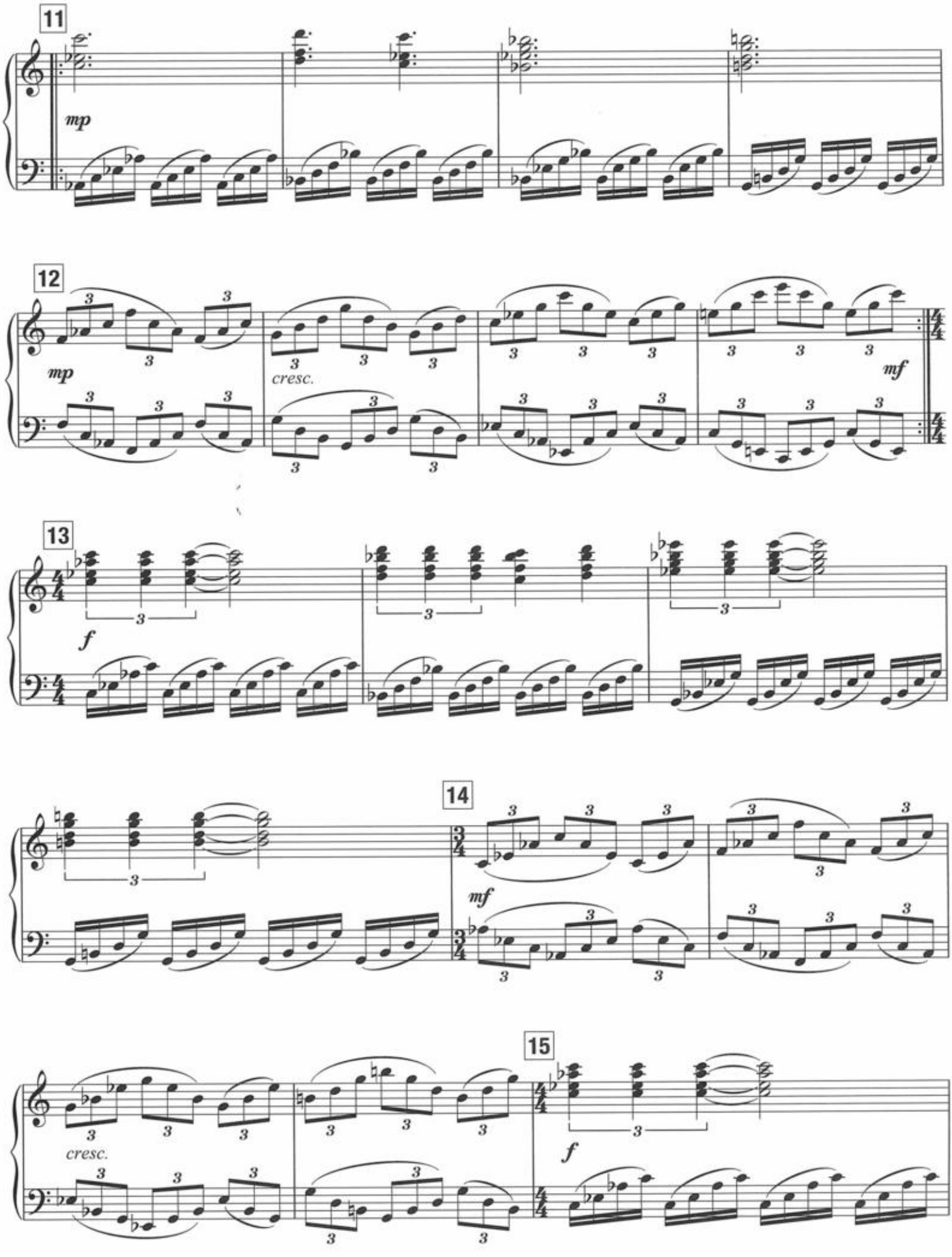
ETUDES FOR PIANO
BOOK 2

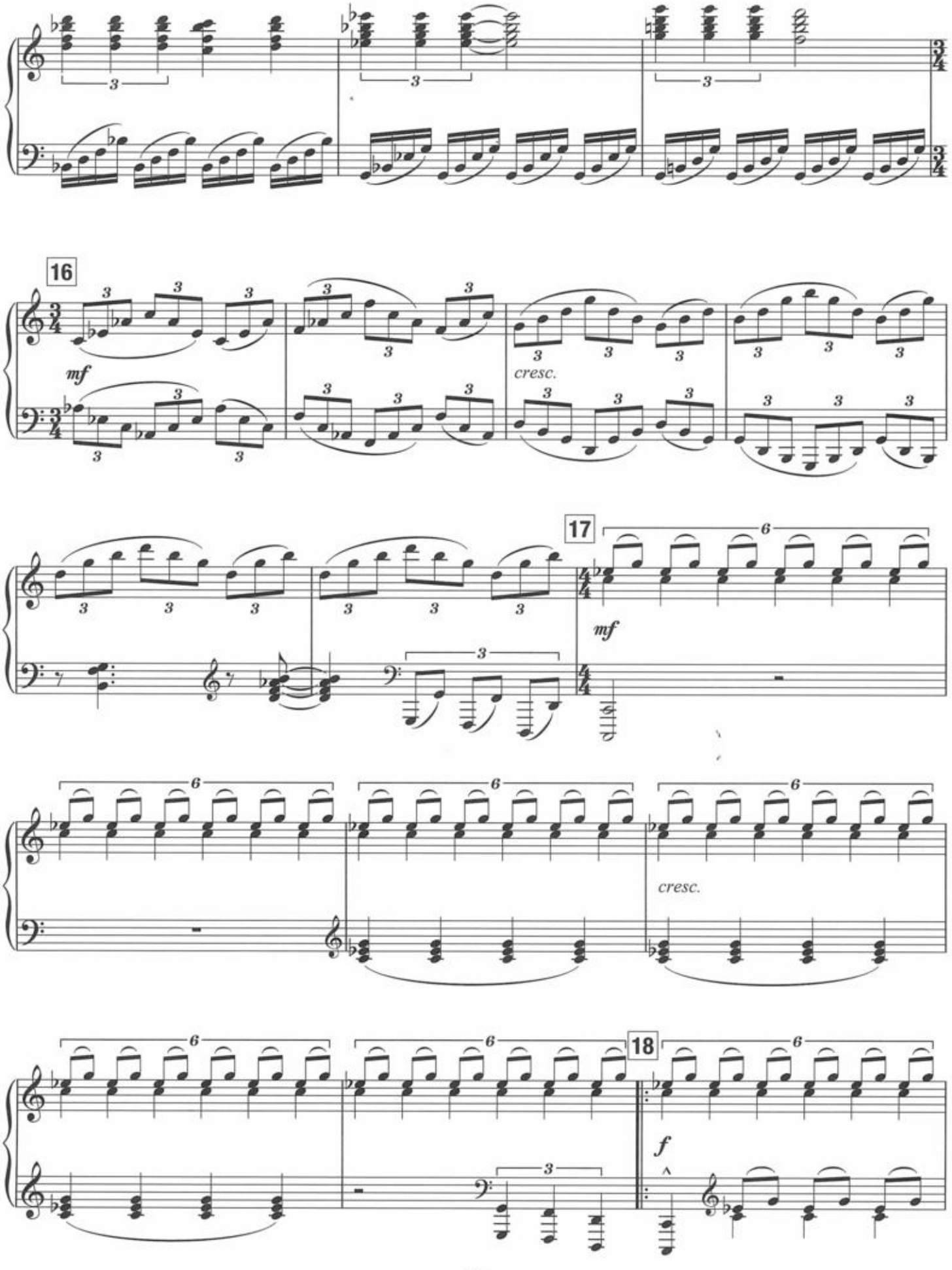
PHILIP GLASS

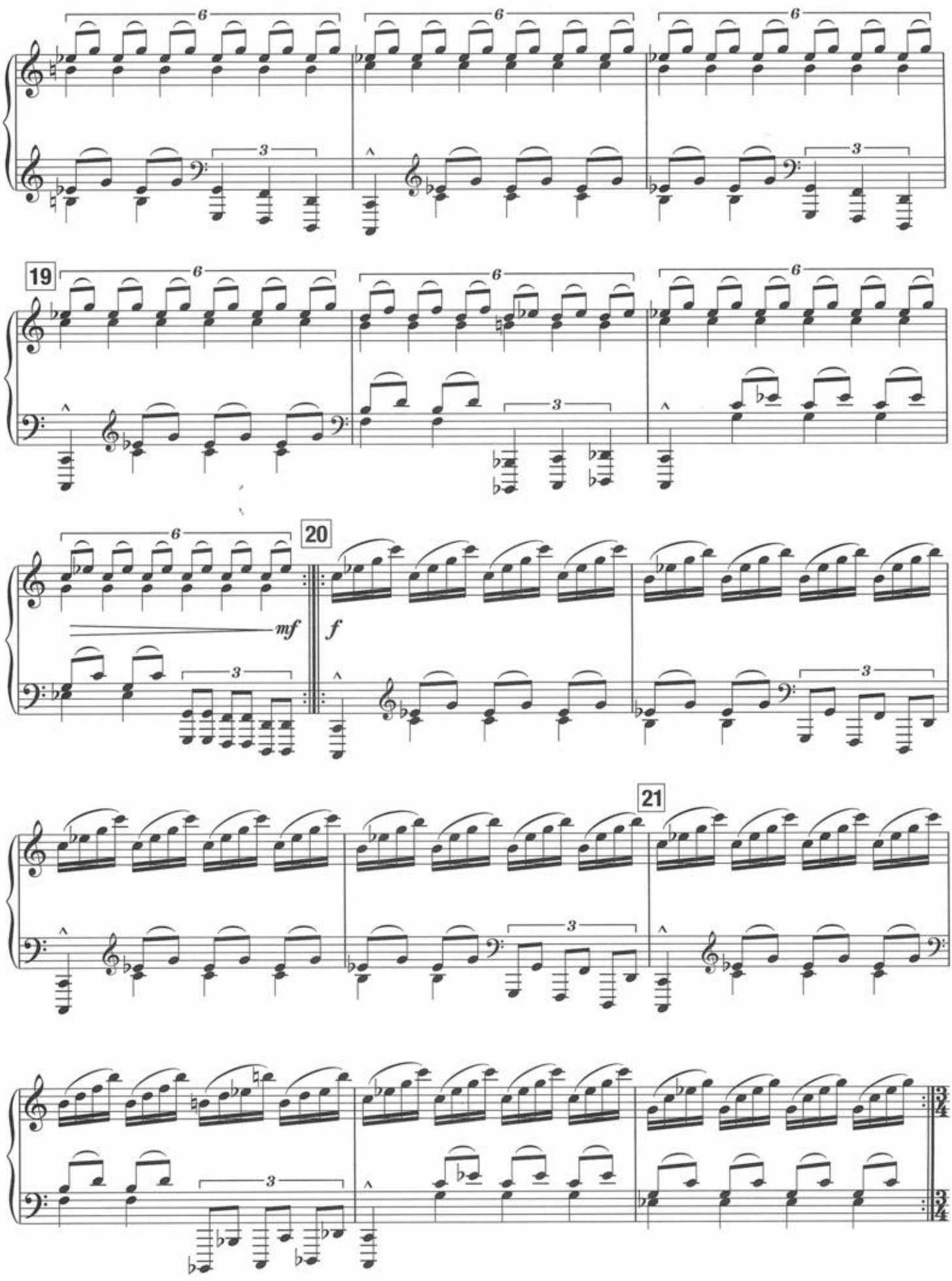


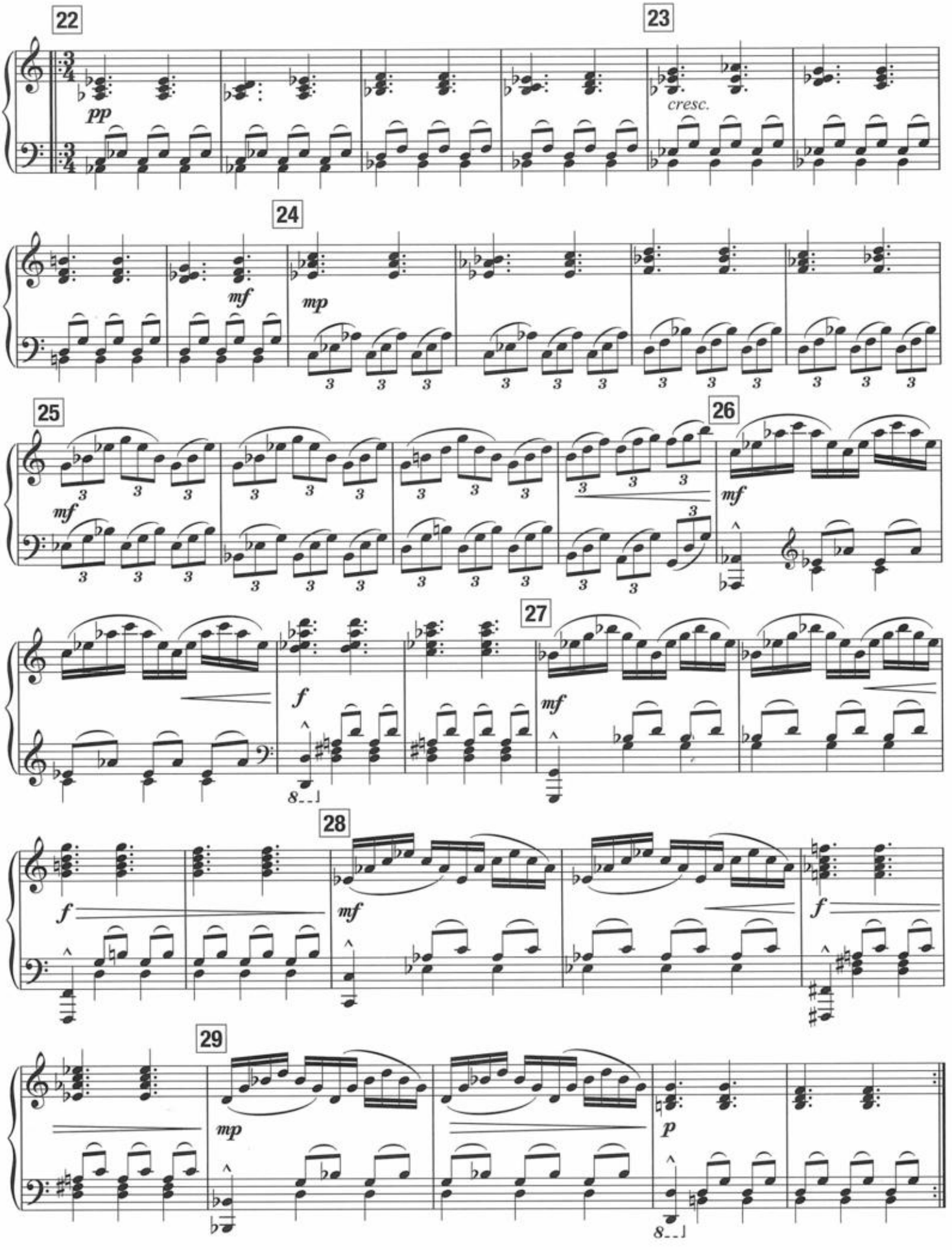

4
mp
5
poco cresc.
6
mf
f
7
dim.
mf
dim.
p
poco cresc.
mf

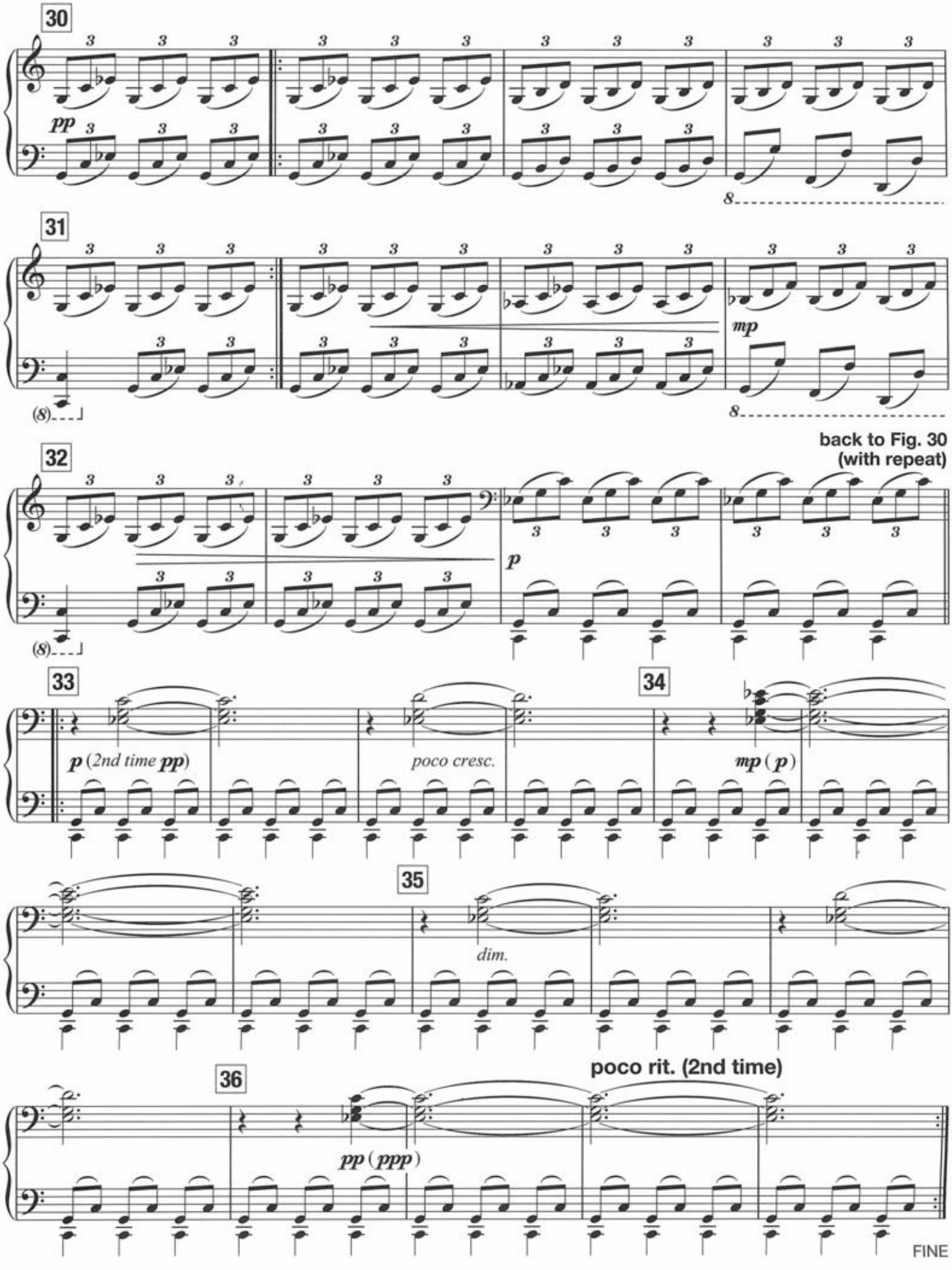

8
pp
1.
2.
9
p
10
poco cresc.
mf

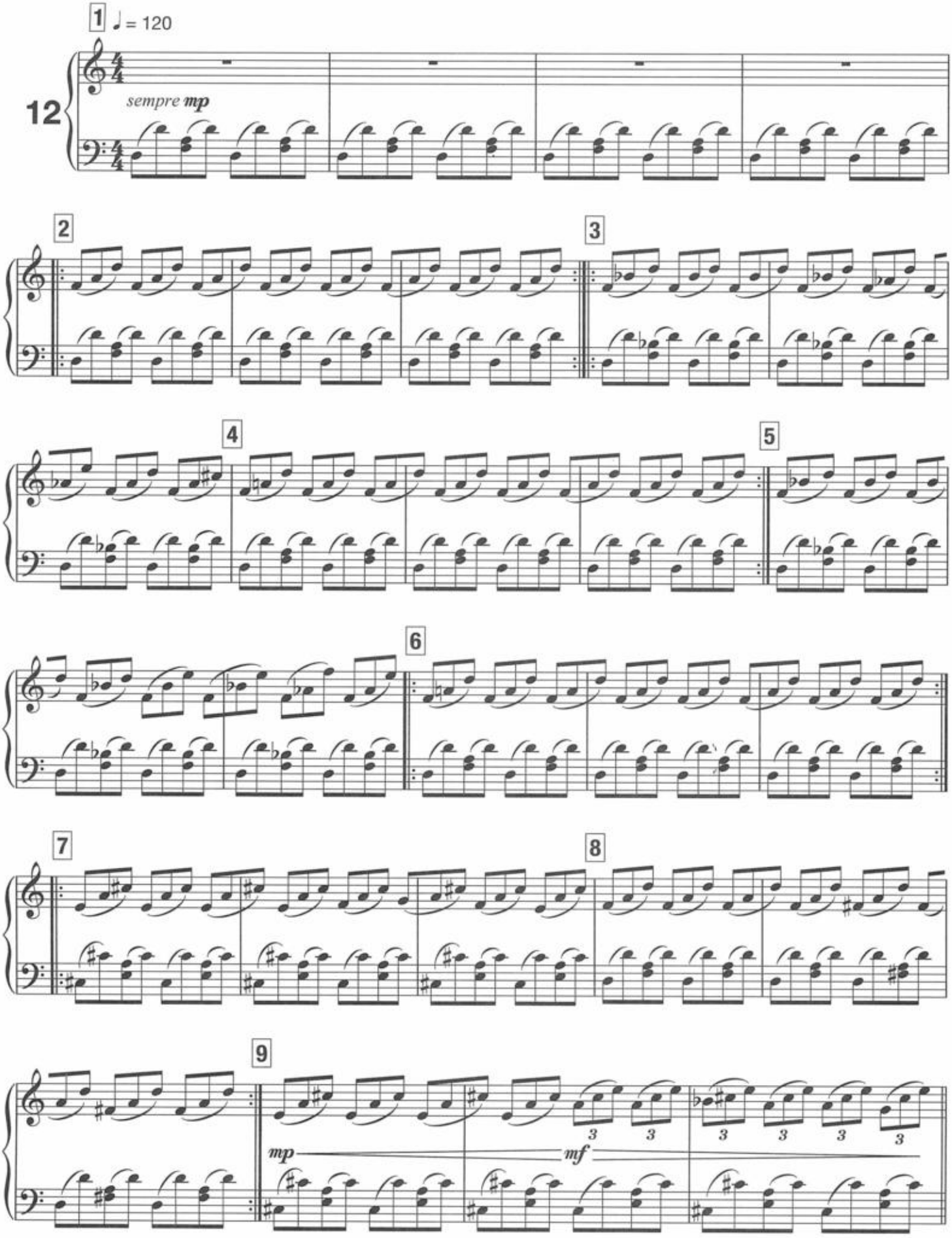

11
mp
12
mp
cresc.
mf
13
f
14
mf
15
cresc.
f

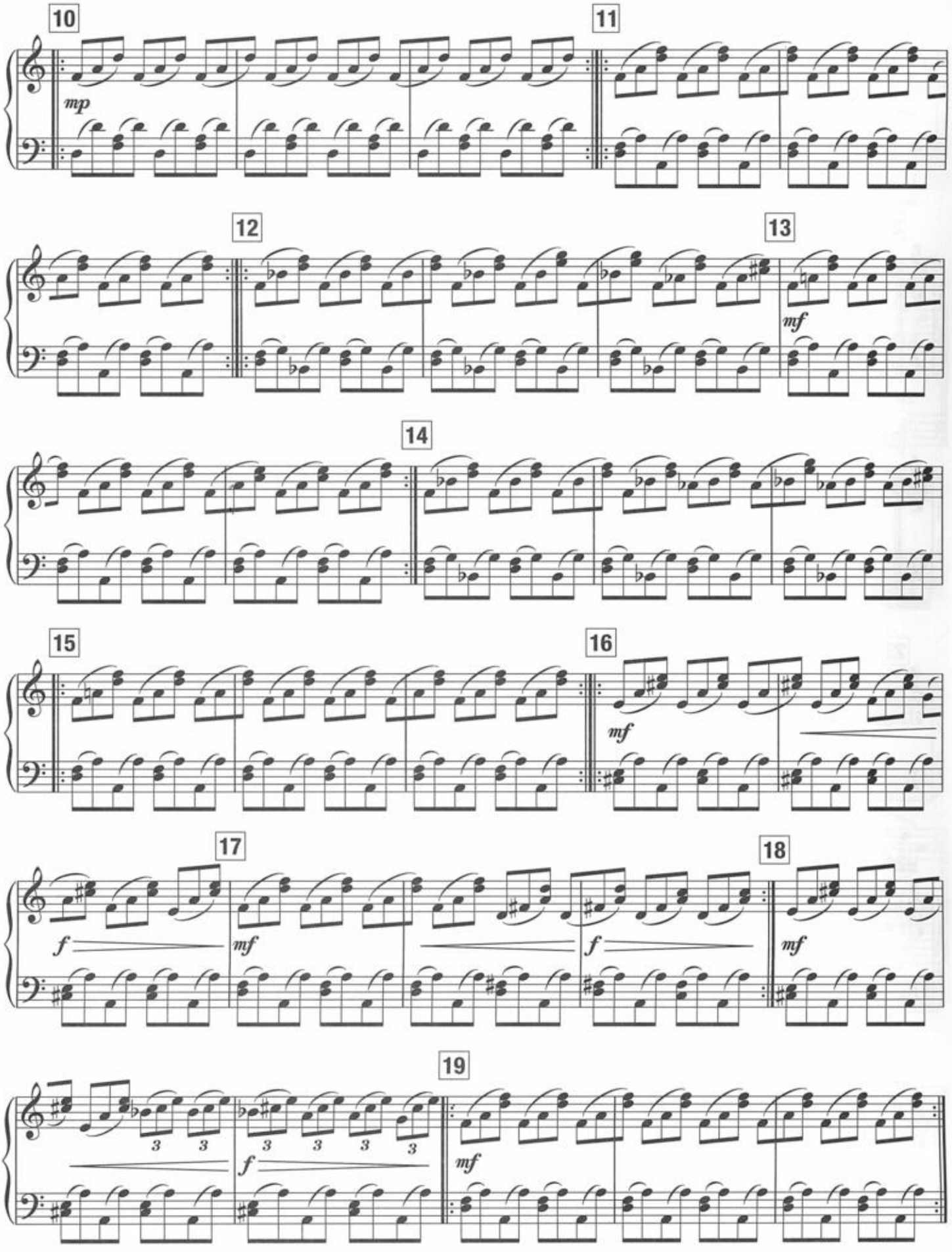

16
mf
cresc.
17
mf
cresc.
18
f

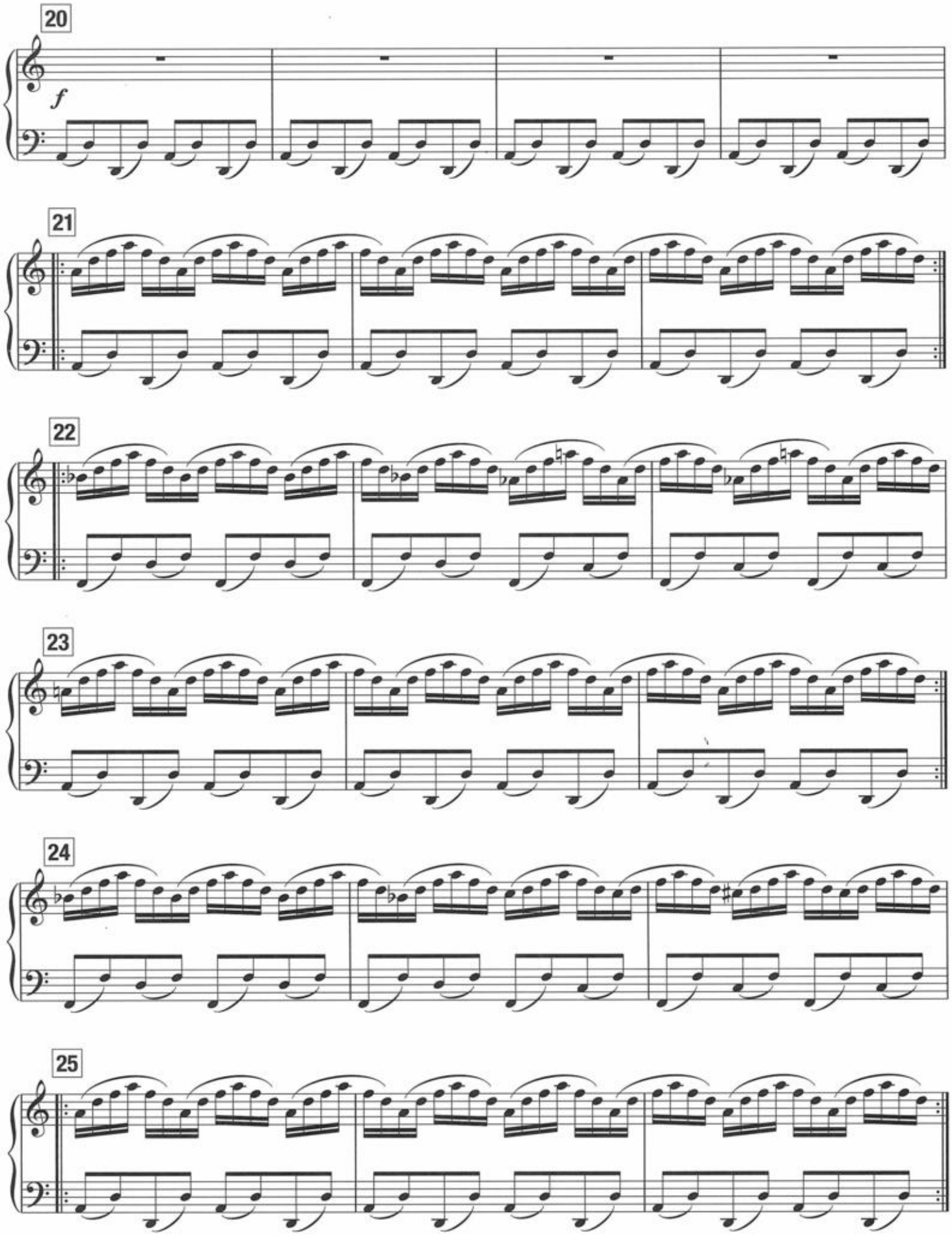

19
20
21
mf
f

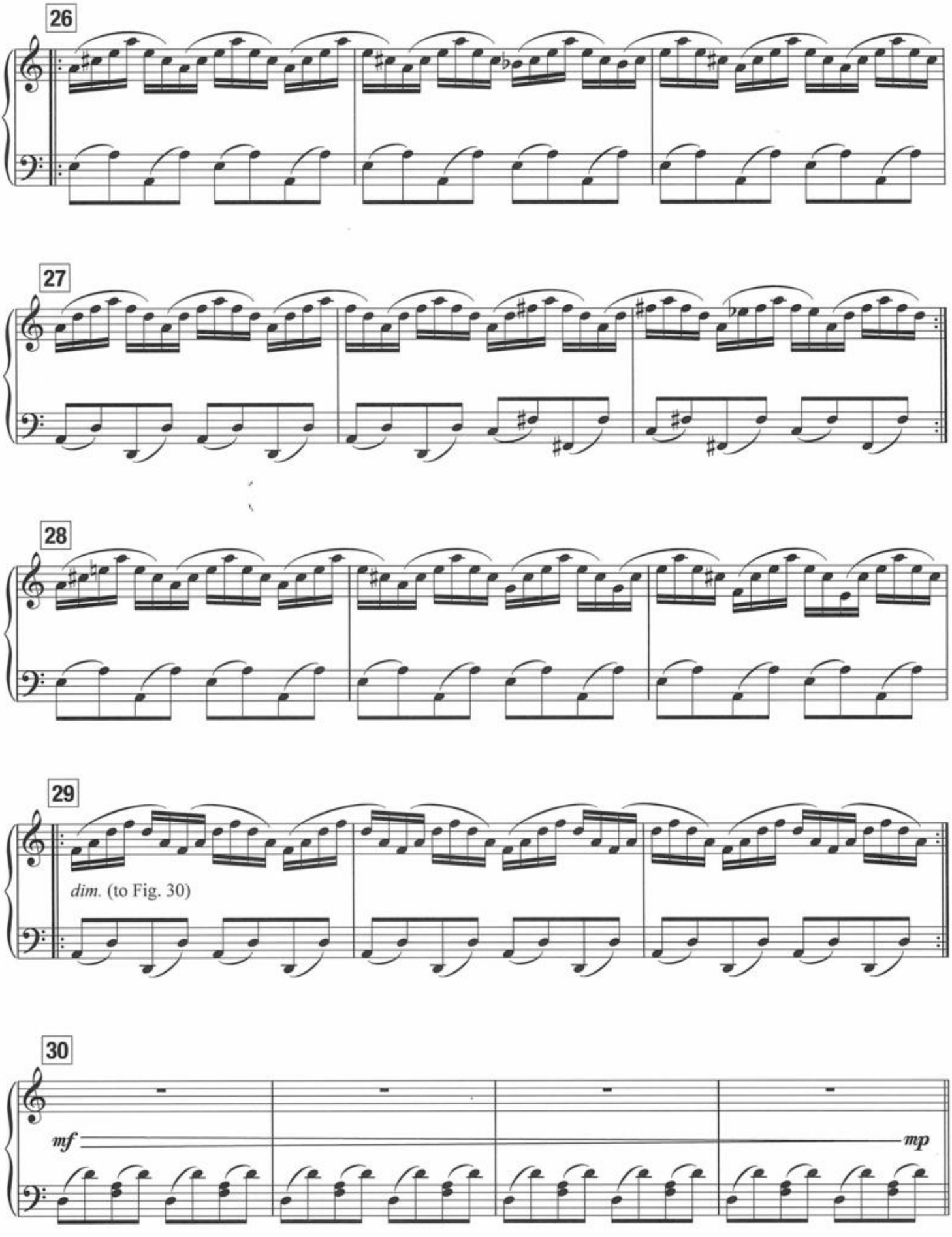

22
23
pp
cresc.
24
mf
mp
25
26
mf
mf
27
f
mf
28
f
mf
f
29
mp
p

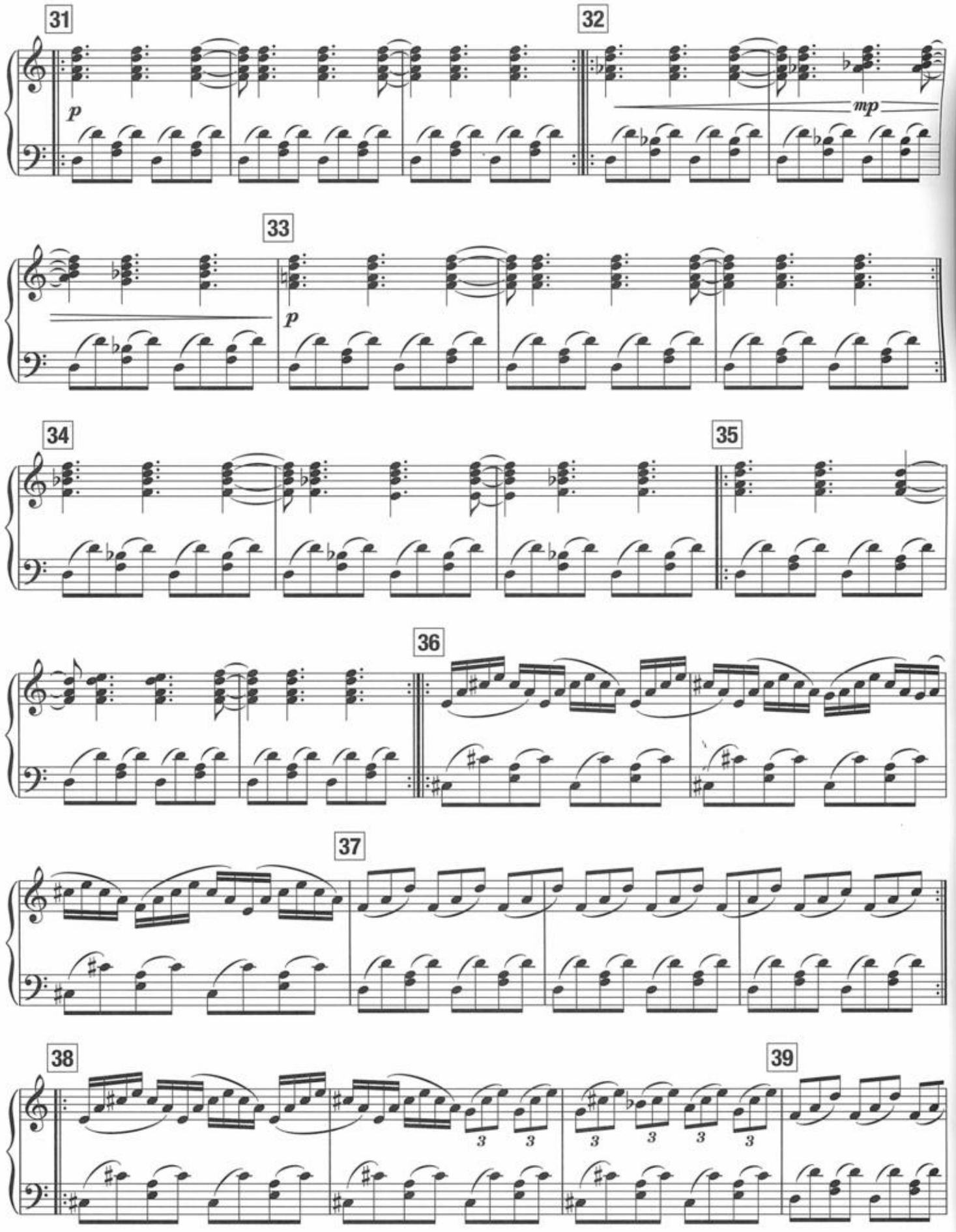

30
pp
8
31
mp
(8)
8
back to Fig. 30
(with repeat)
32
p
(8)
33
p (2nd time pp)
poco cresc.
34
mp (p)
35
dim.
36
poco rit. (2nd time)
pp (ppp)
FINE

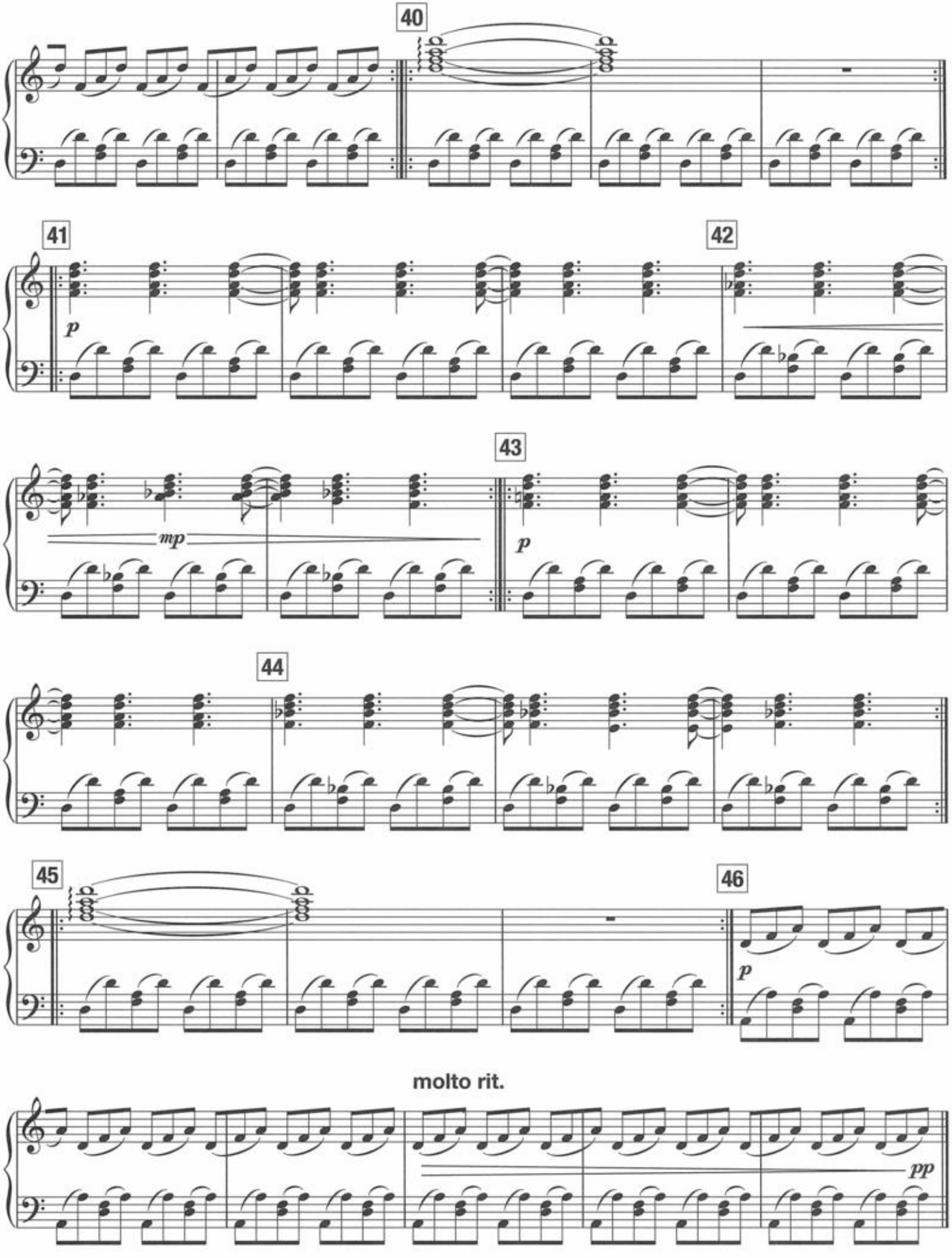

1
♩ = 120
12
sempre mp
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
mp
mf
3

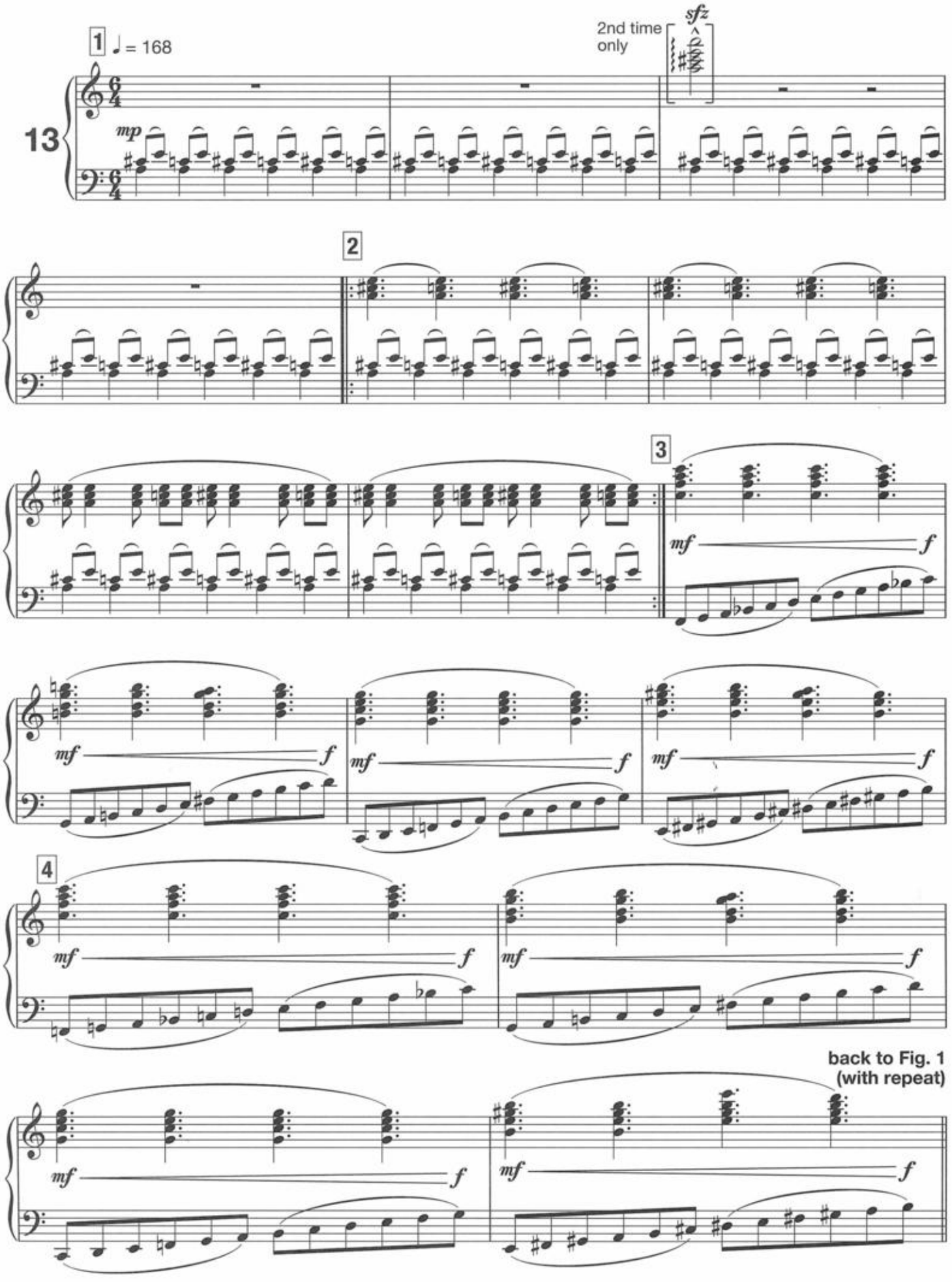

10
11
mp
12
13
mf
14
15
16
mf
17
18
f
mf
f
mf
19
3 3
3 3 3 3
f
mf

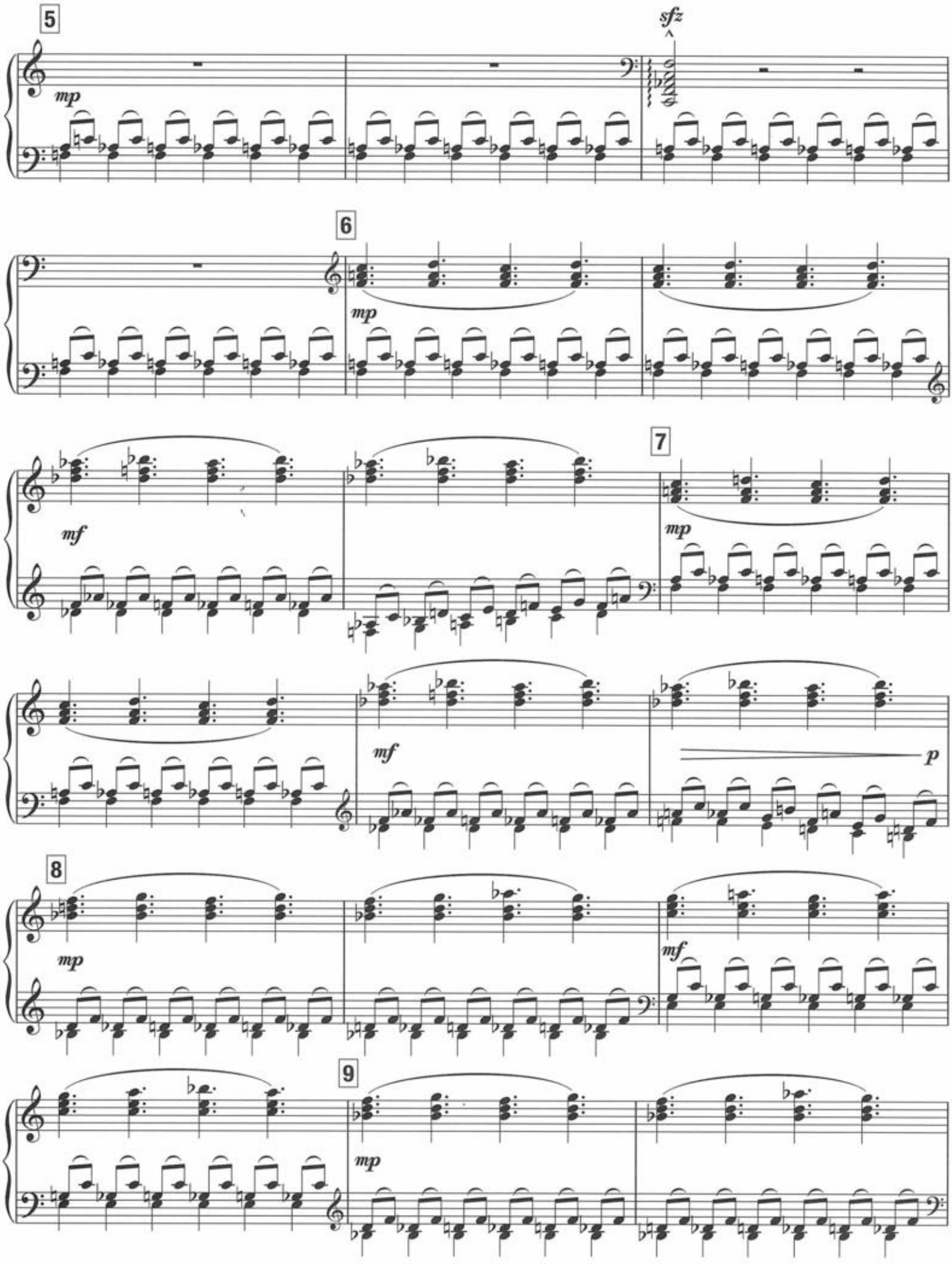

20
f
21
22
23
24
25

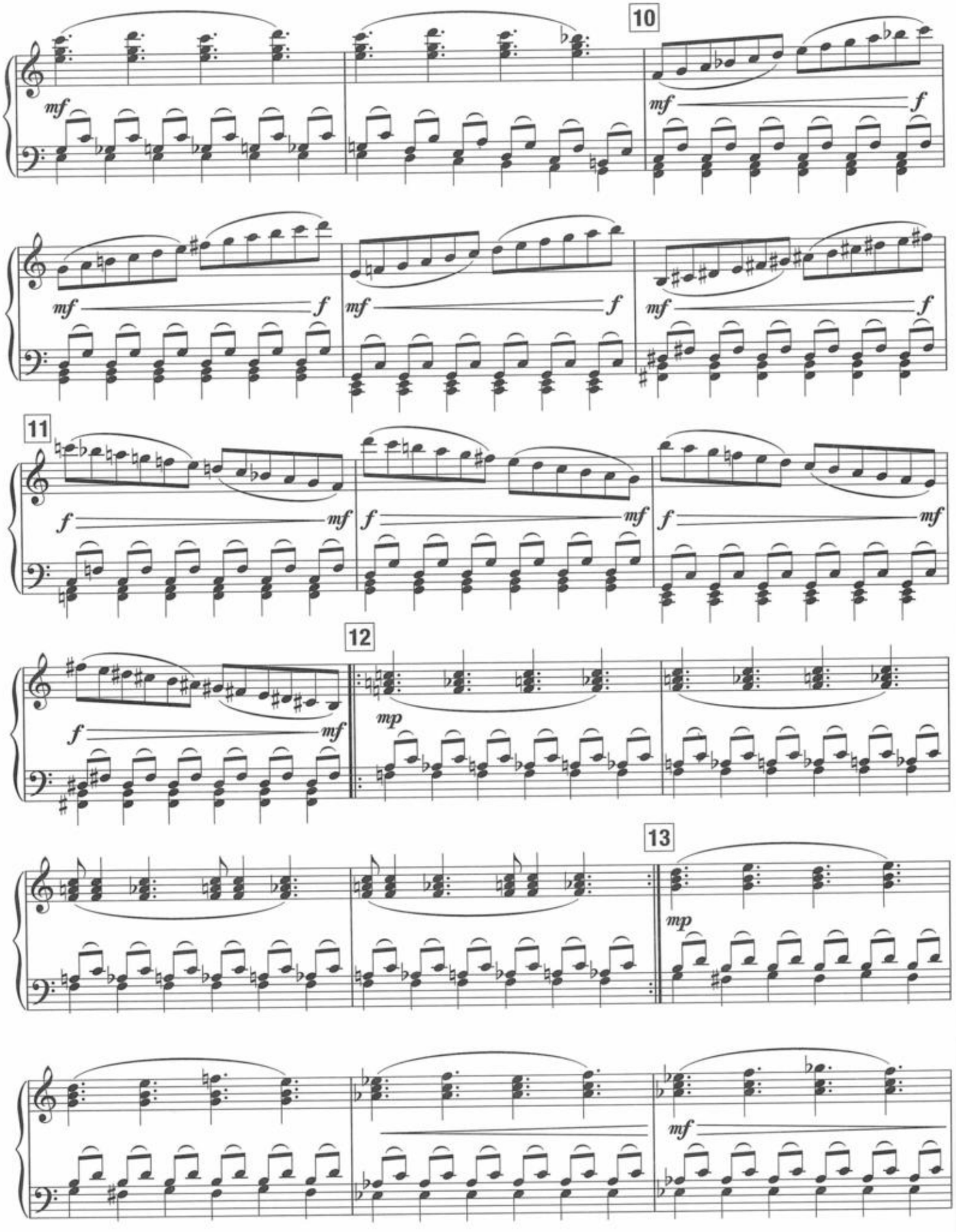

26
27
28
29
dim. (to Fig. 30)
30
mf
mp

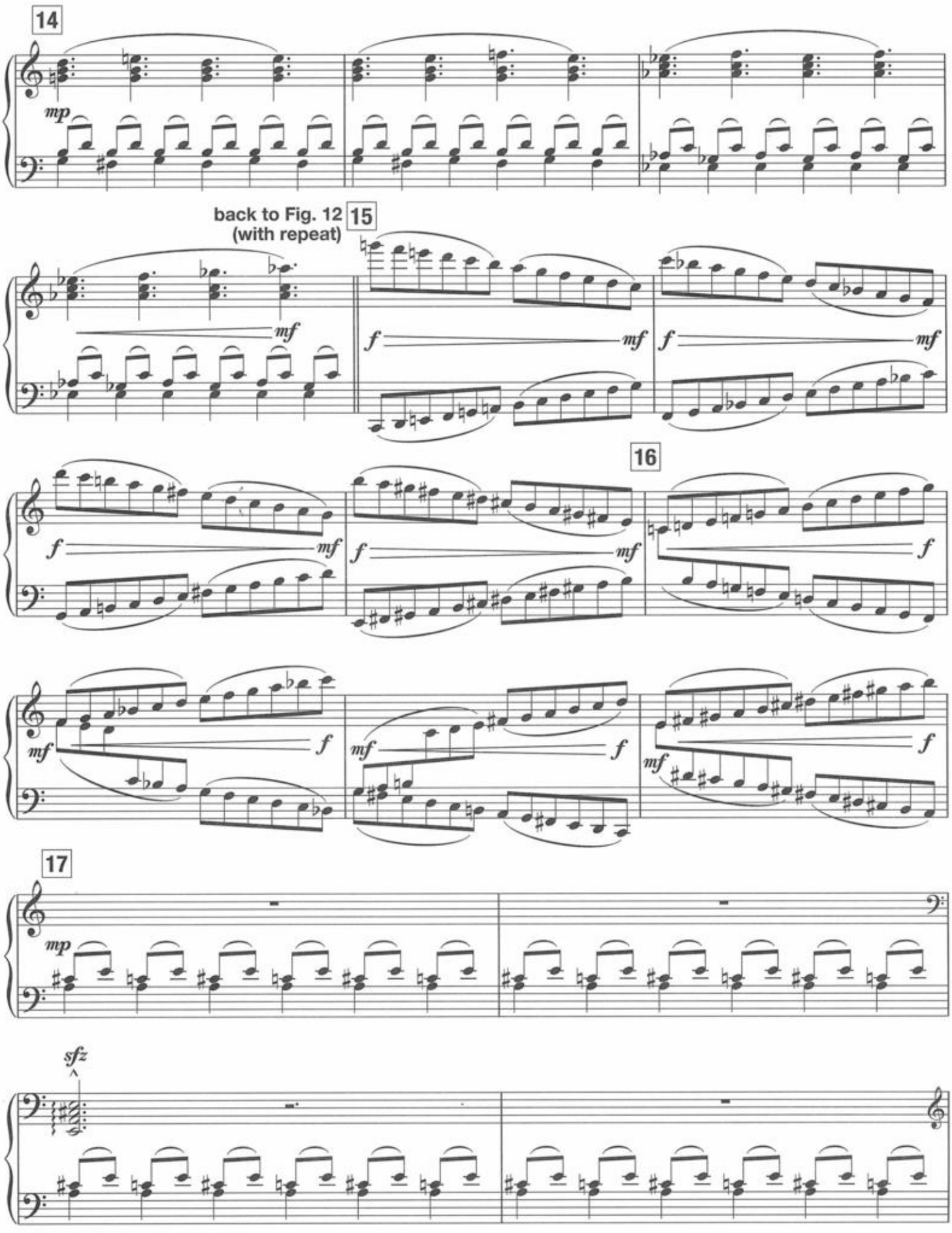

31
32
p
mp
33
p
34
35
36
37
38
39
3
3
3
3
3
3

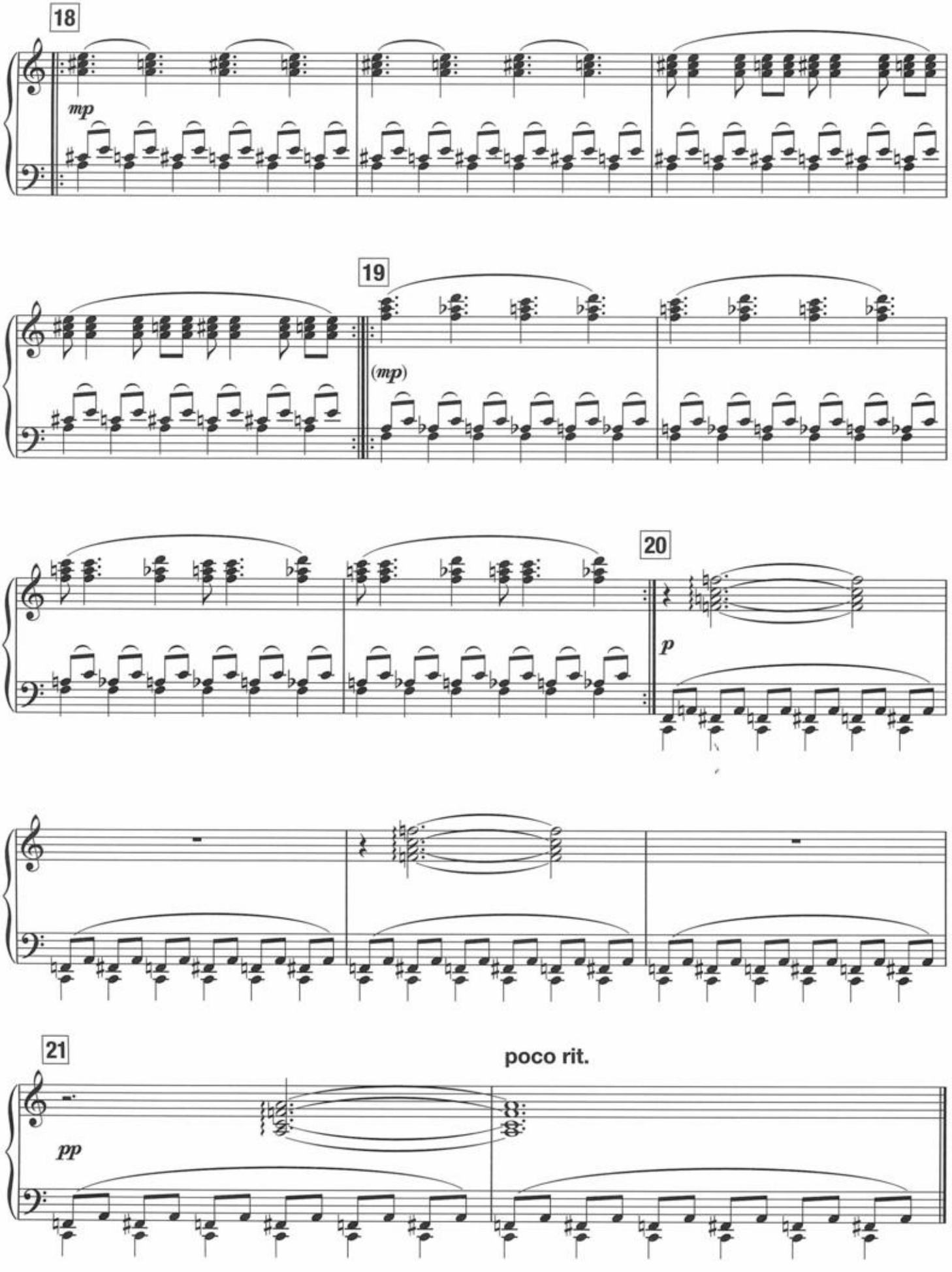

40
41
42
43
44
45
46
p
mp
p
p
molto rit.
pp

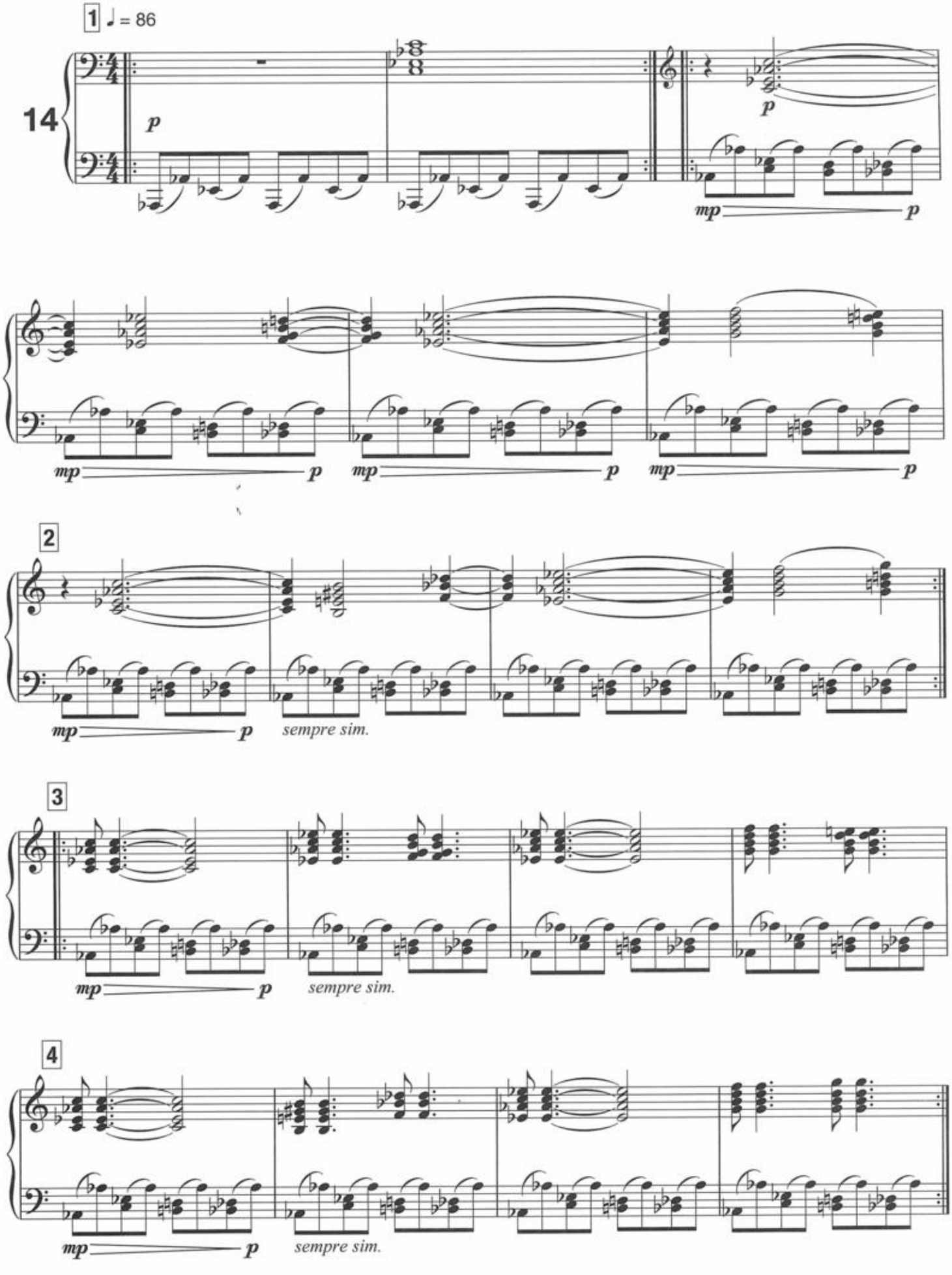

1
♩ = 168
2nd time only
sfz
13
mp
2
3
mf
f
4
back to Fig. 1 (with repeat)

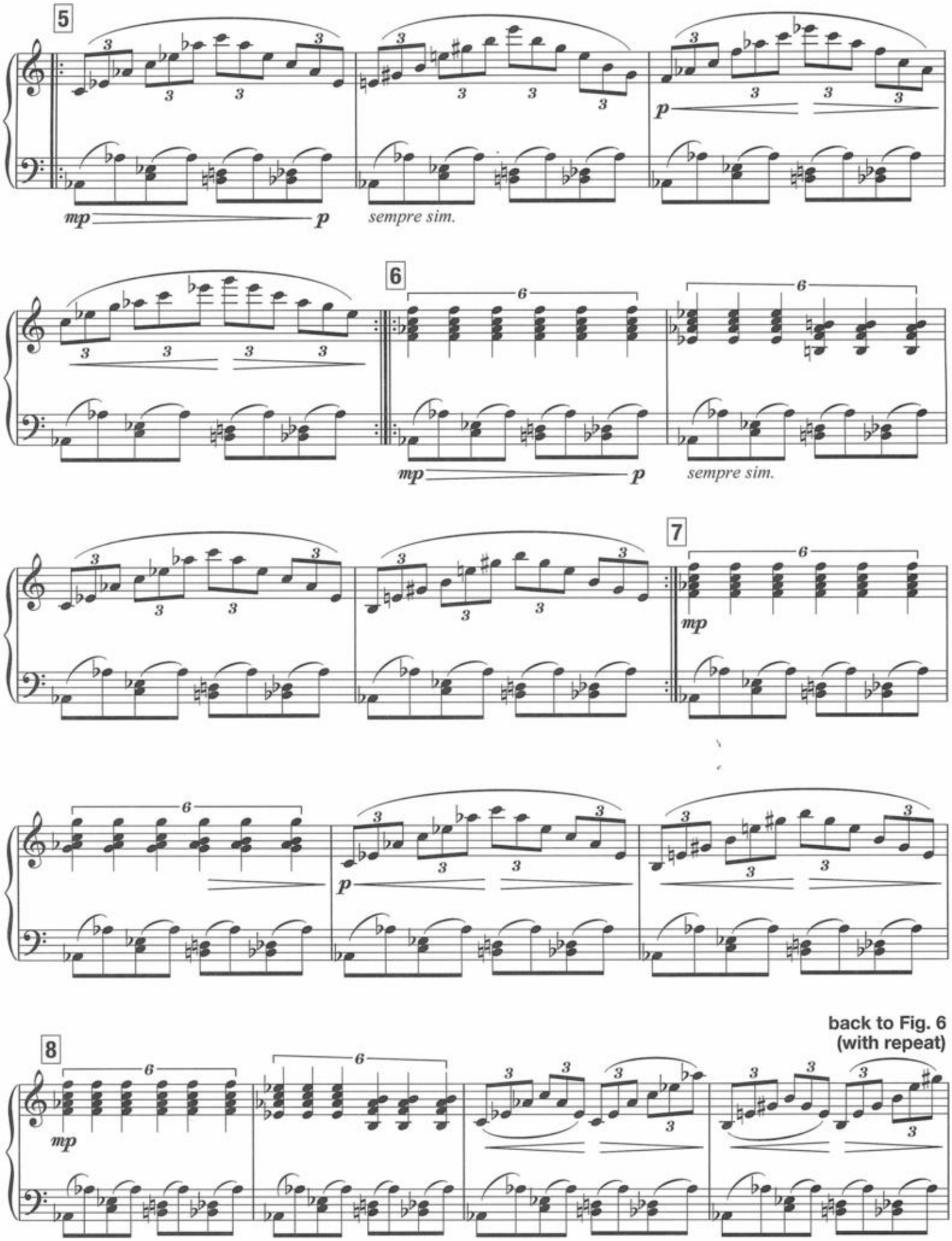

5
sfz
mp
6
mp
7
mf
mp
mf
p
8
mp
mf
9
mp

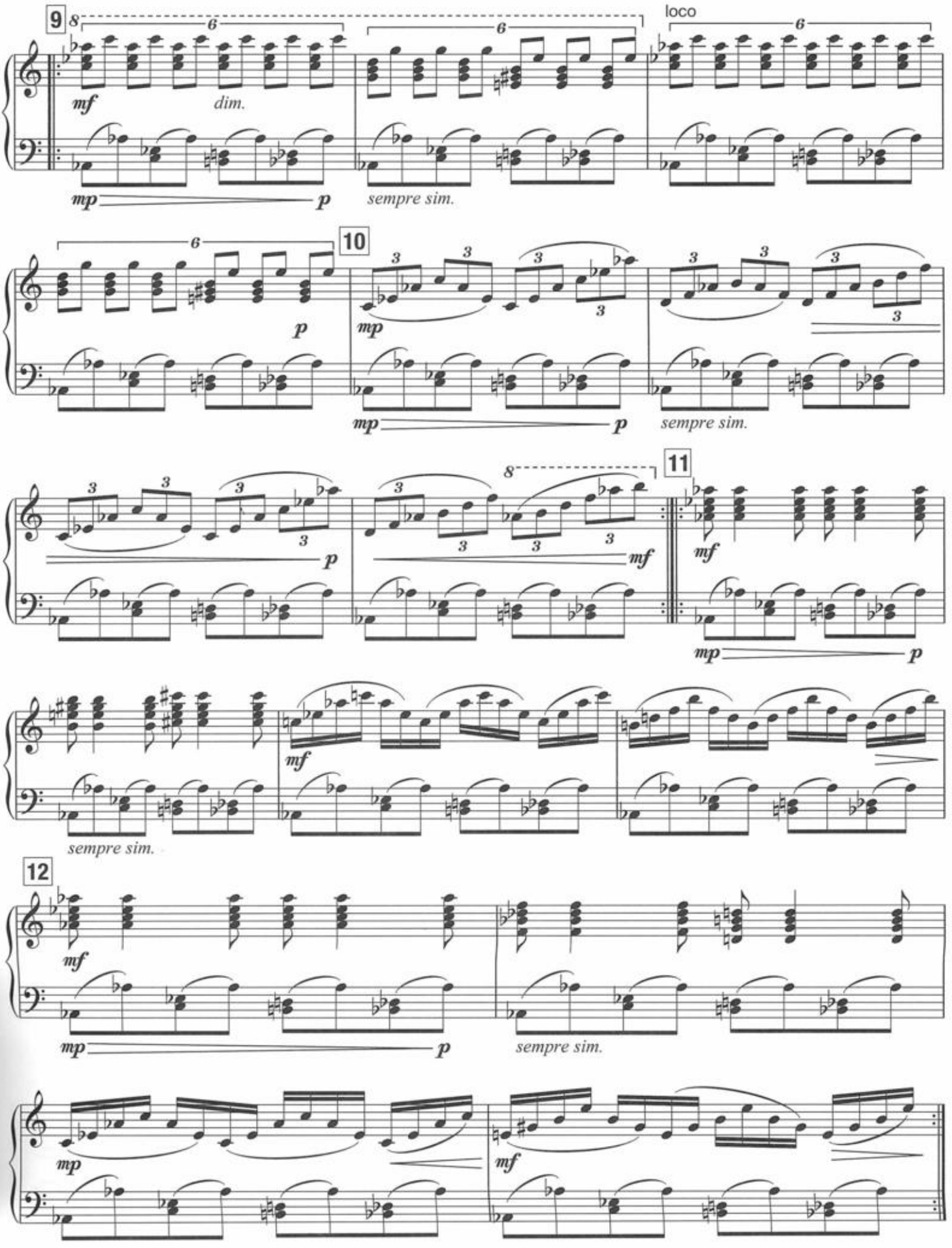

10
11
12
13
mf
f
mp

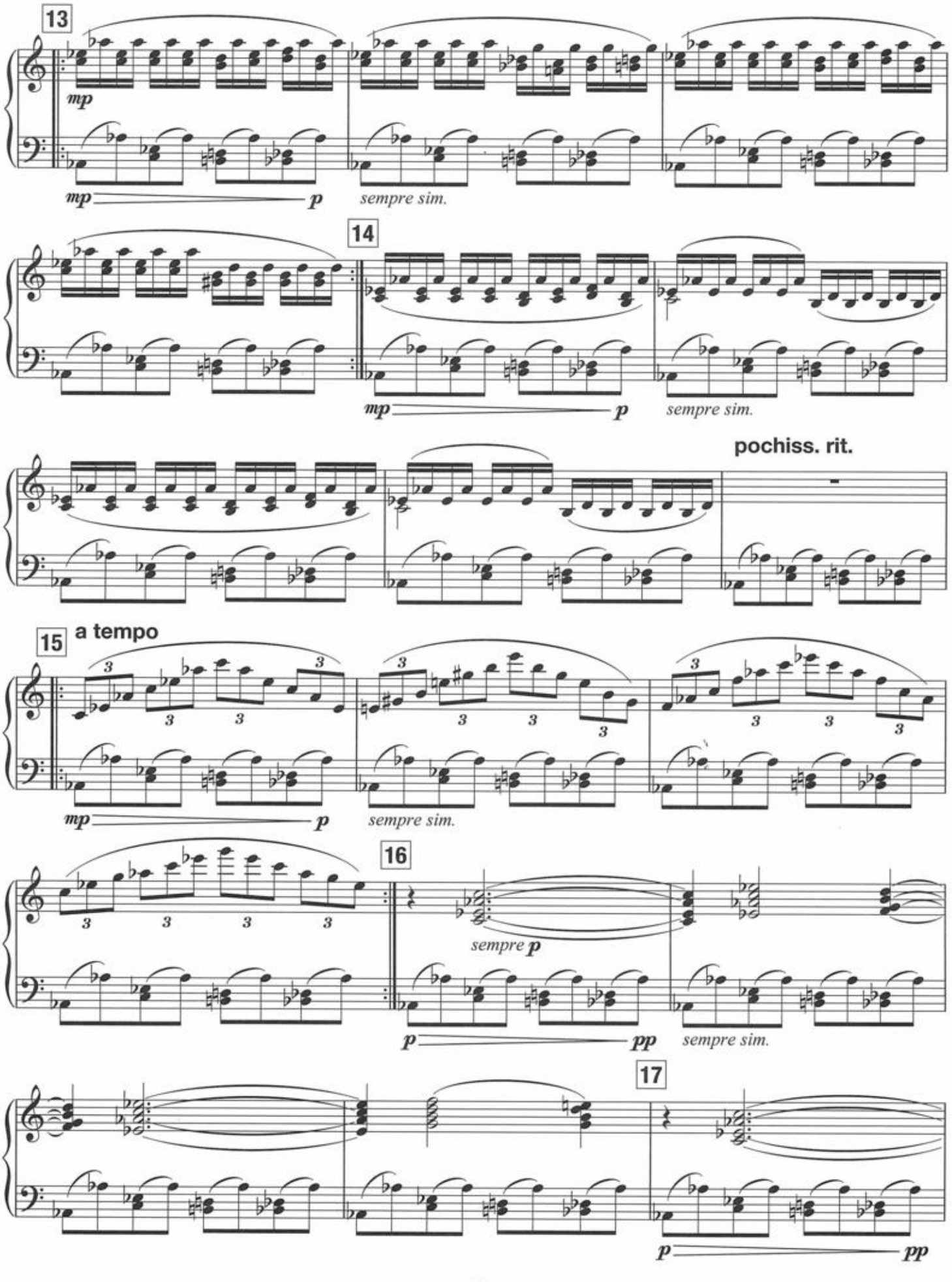

14
mp
back to Fig. 12
(with repeat)
15
mf
f
mf
f
mf
16
f
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f
mf
17
mp
sfz

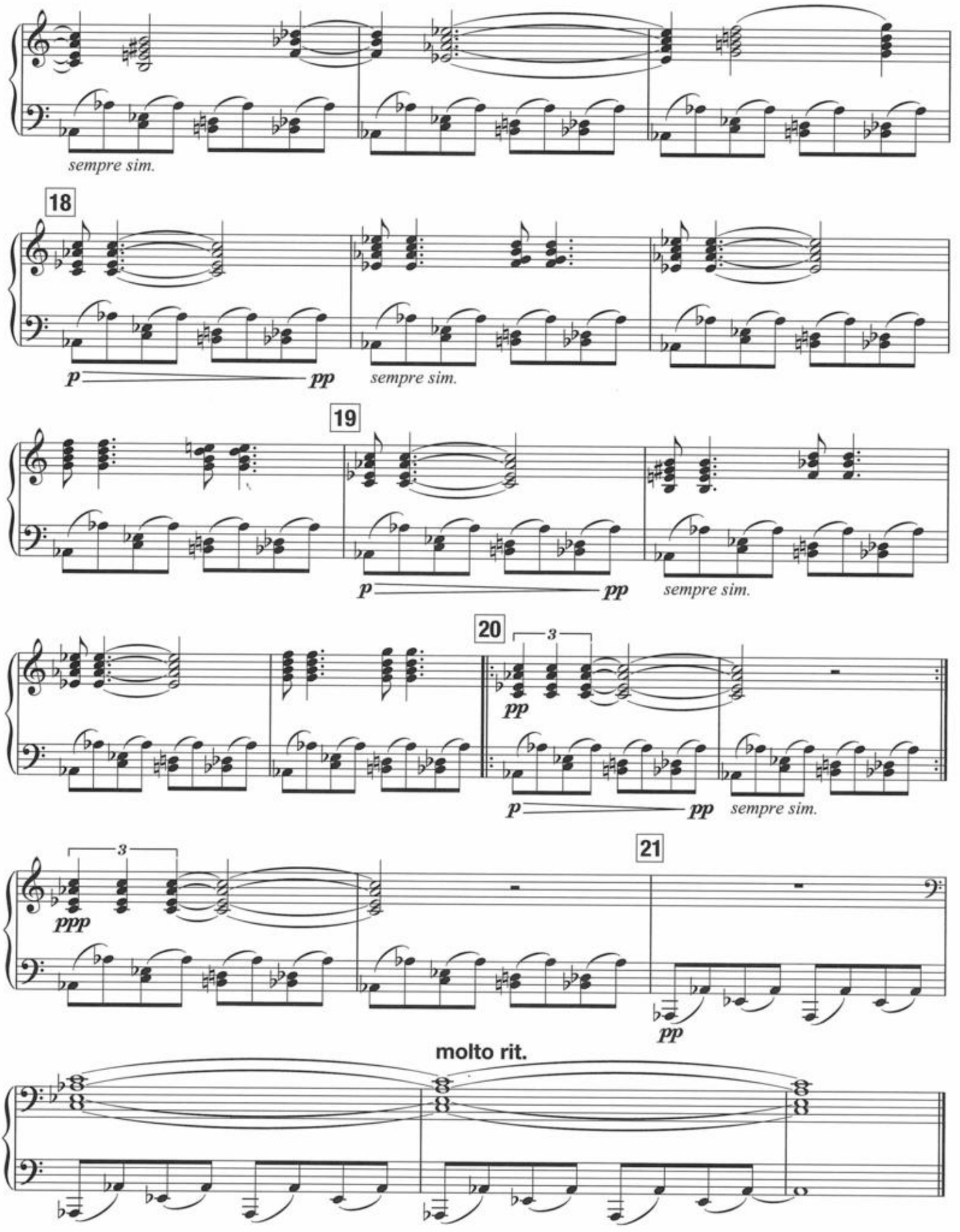

18
mp
19
(mp)
20
p
21
poco rit.
pp

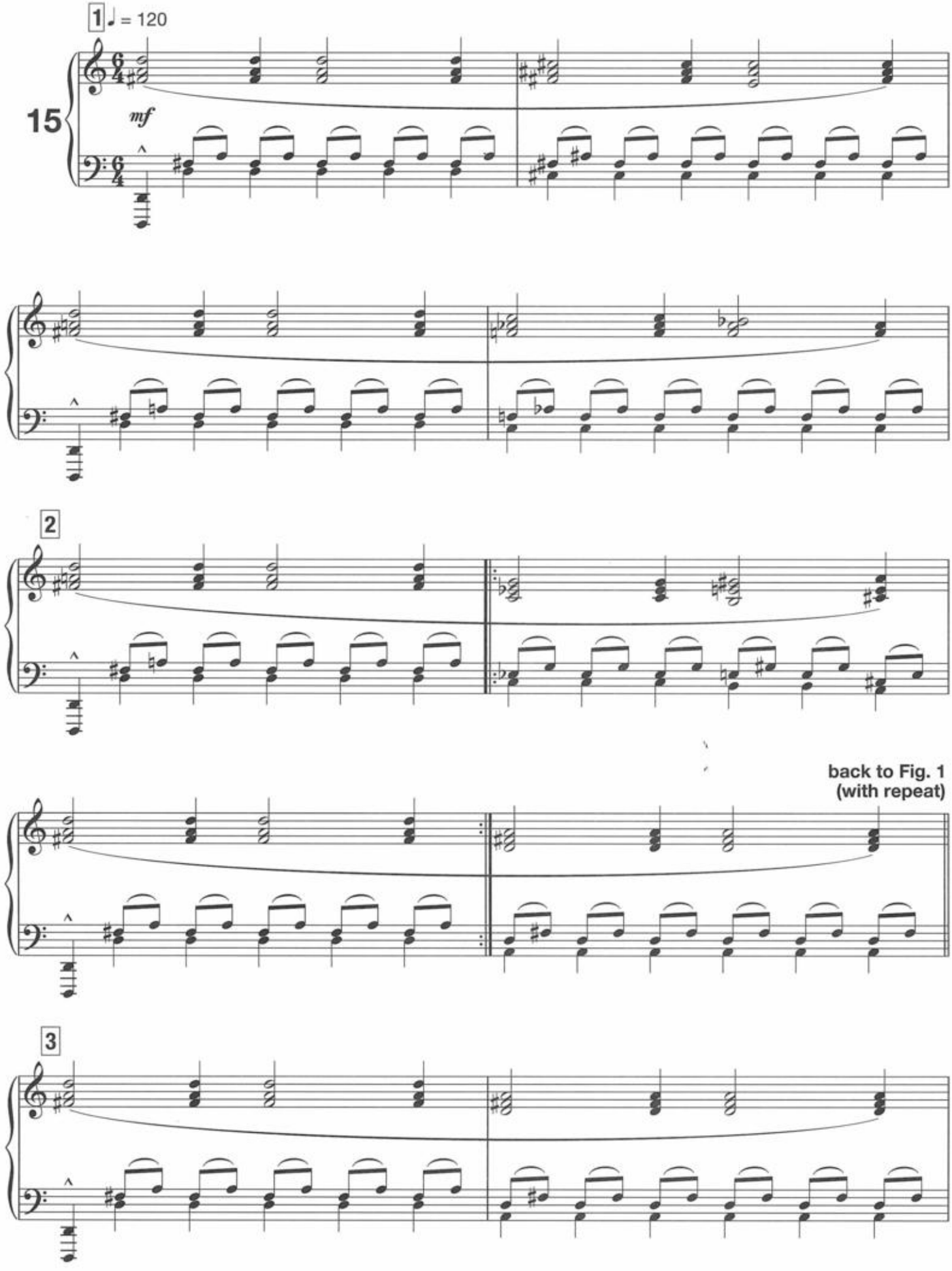

1 ♩ = 86
14
p
p
mp
p
mp
p
mp
p
2
mp
p
sempre sim.
3
mp
p
sempre sim.
4
mp
p
sempre sim.

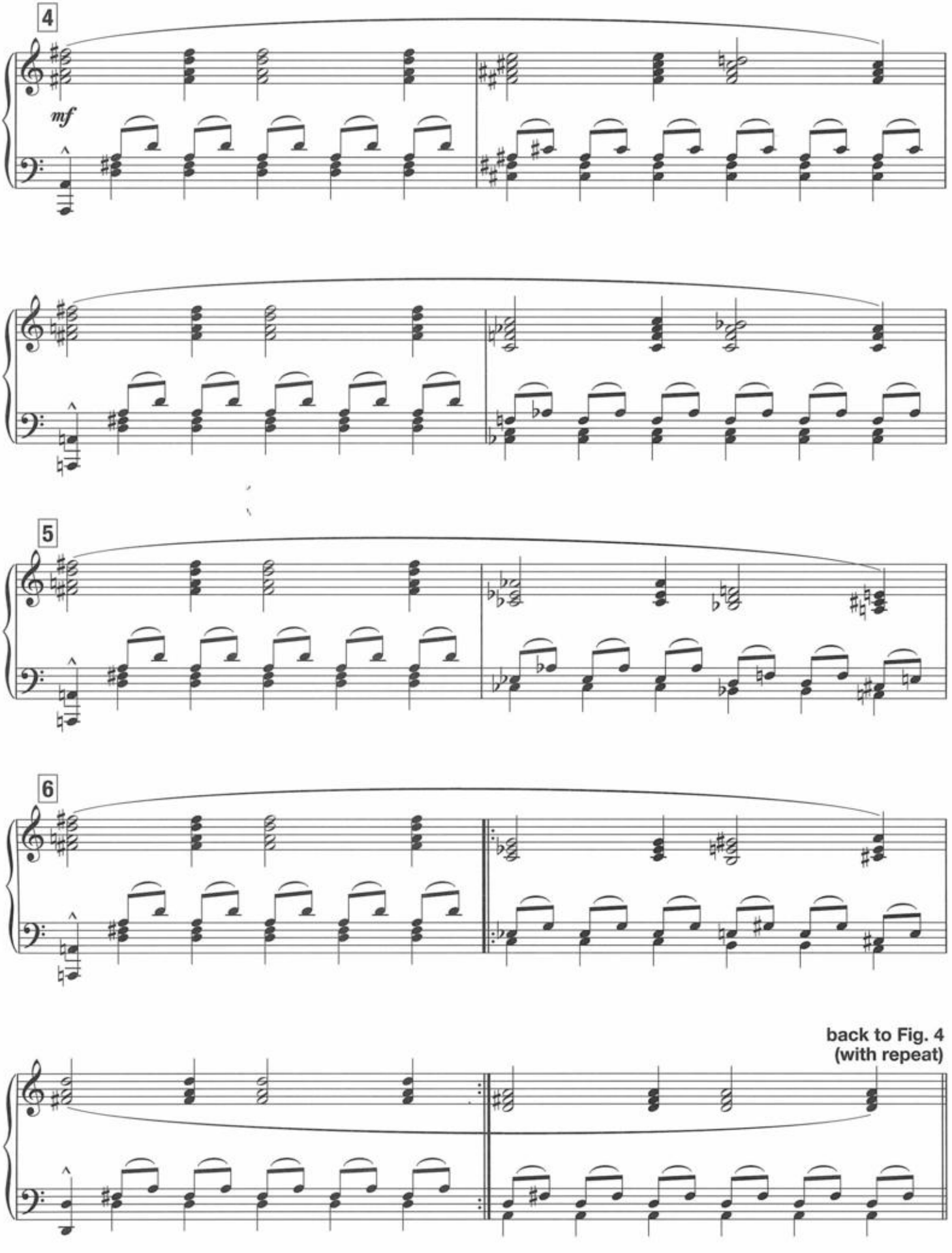

5
mp
p
sempre sim.
6
mp
p
sempre sim.
7
mp
p
8
mp
back to Fig. 6
(with repeat)

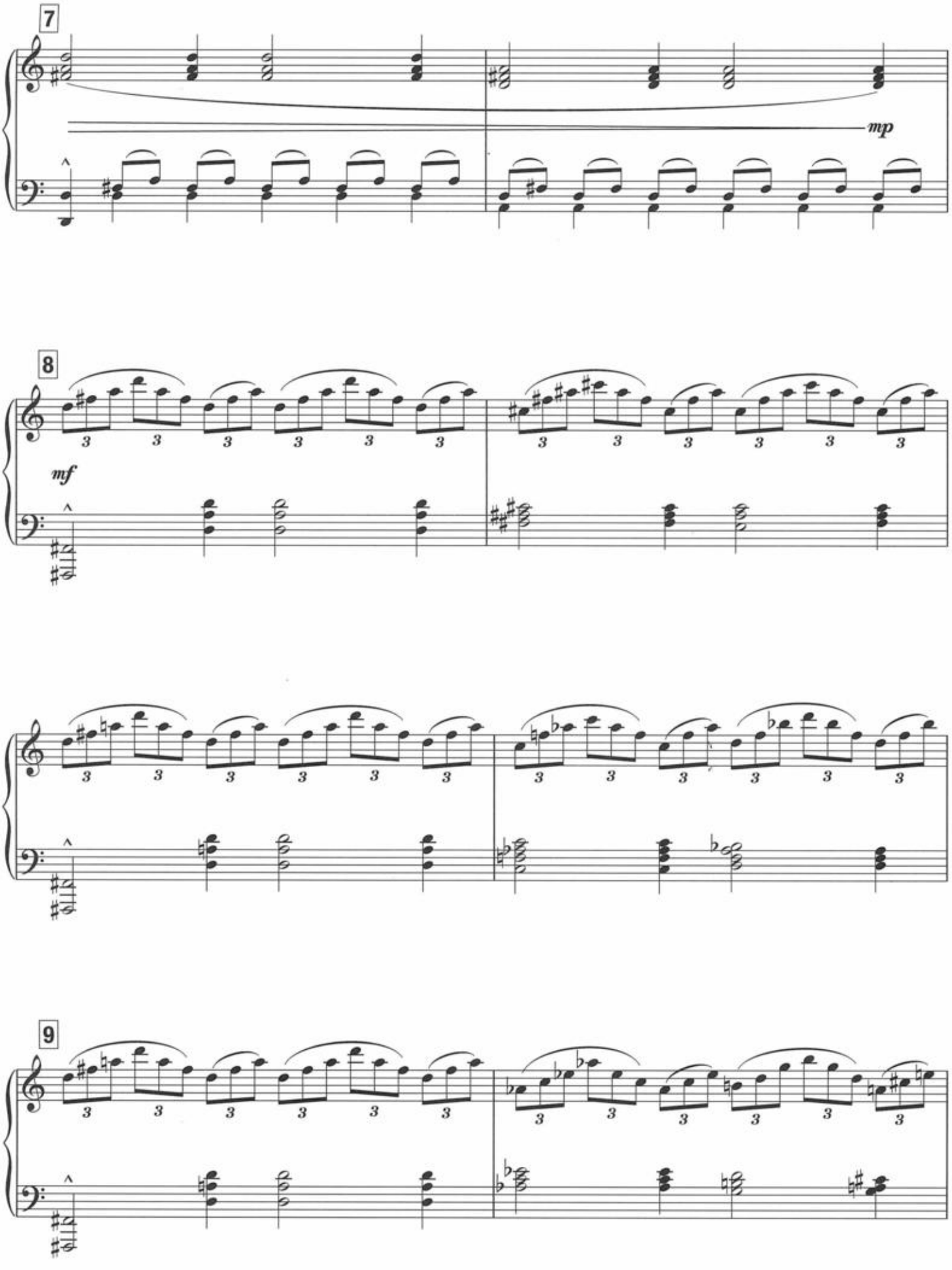

9
loco
mf
dim.
mp
p
sempre sim.
10
mp
p
sempre sim.
11
mf
mp
p
sempre sim.
12
mf
mp
p
sempre sim.
mp
mf

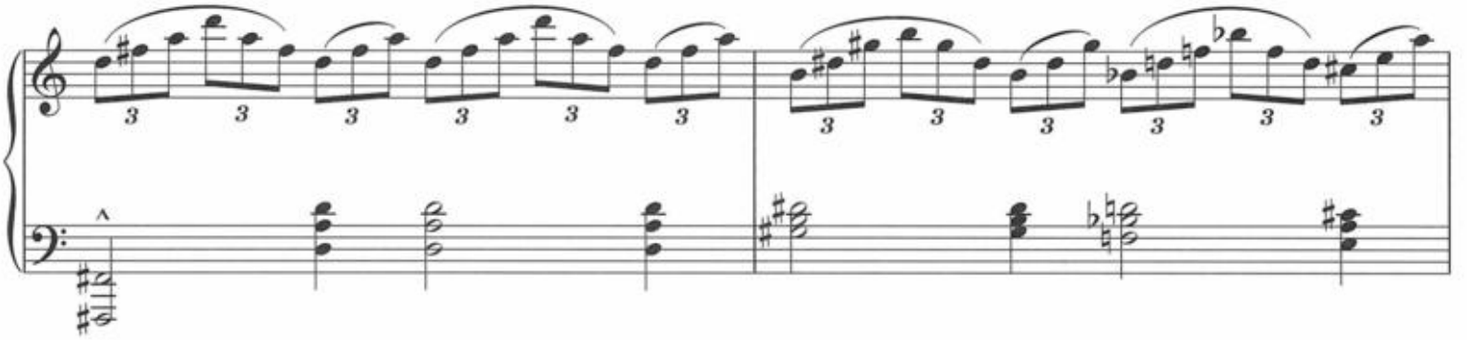

13
mp
mp
p
sempre sim.
14
mp
p
sempre sim.
pochiss. rit.
15
a tempo
mp
p
sempre sim.
16
sempre p
p
pp
sempre sim.
17
p
pp


sempre sim.
18
p
pp
sempre sim.
19
p
pp
sempre sim.
20
3
pp
p
pp
sempre sim.
21
3
ppp
pp
molto rit.

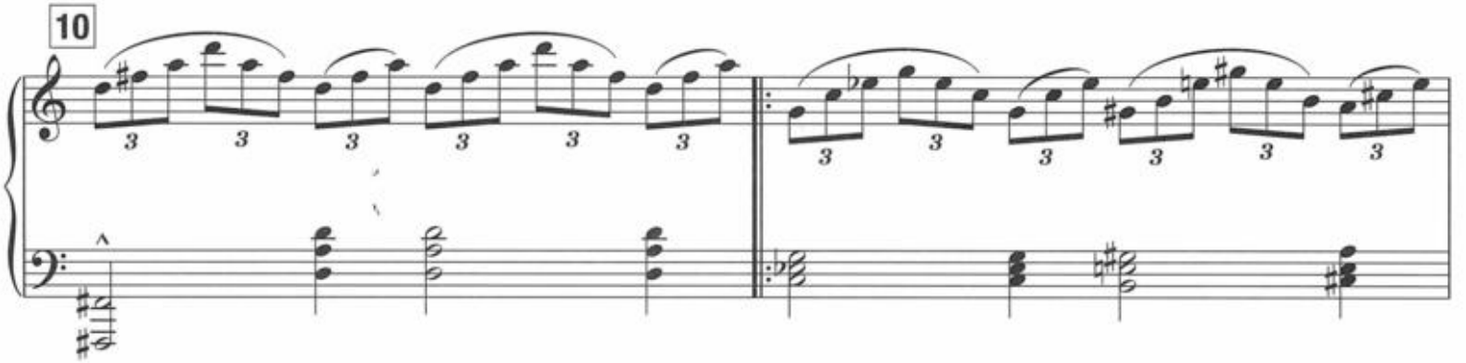

1 ♩ = 120
15
mf
2
back to Fig. 1
(with repeat)
3


4
mf
5
6
back to Fig. 4
(with repeat)

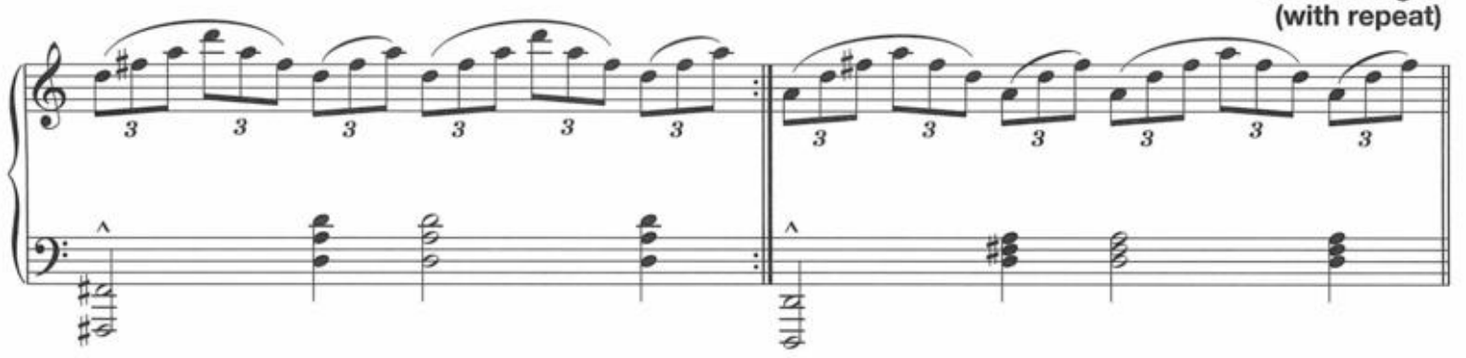

7
mp
8
mf
9



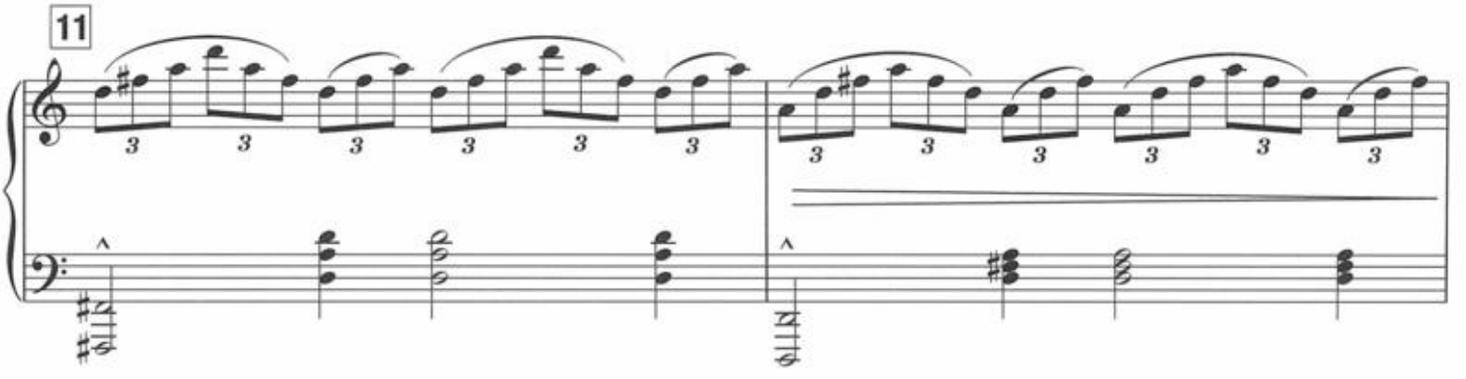
10

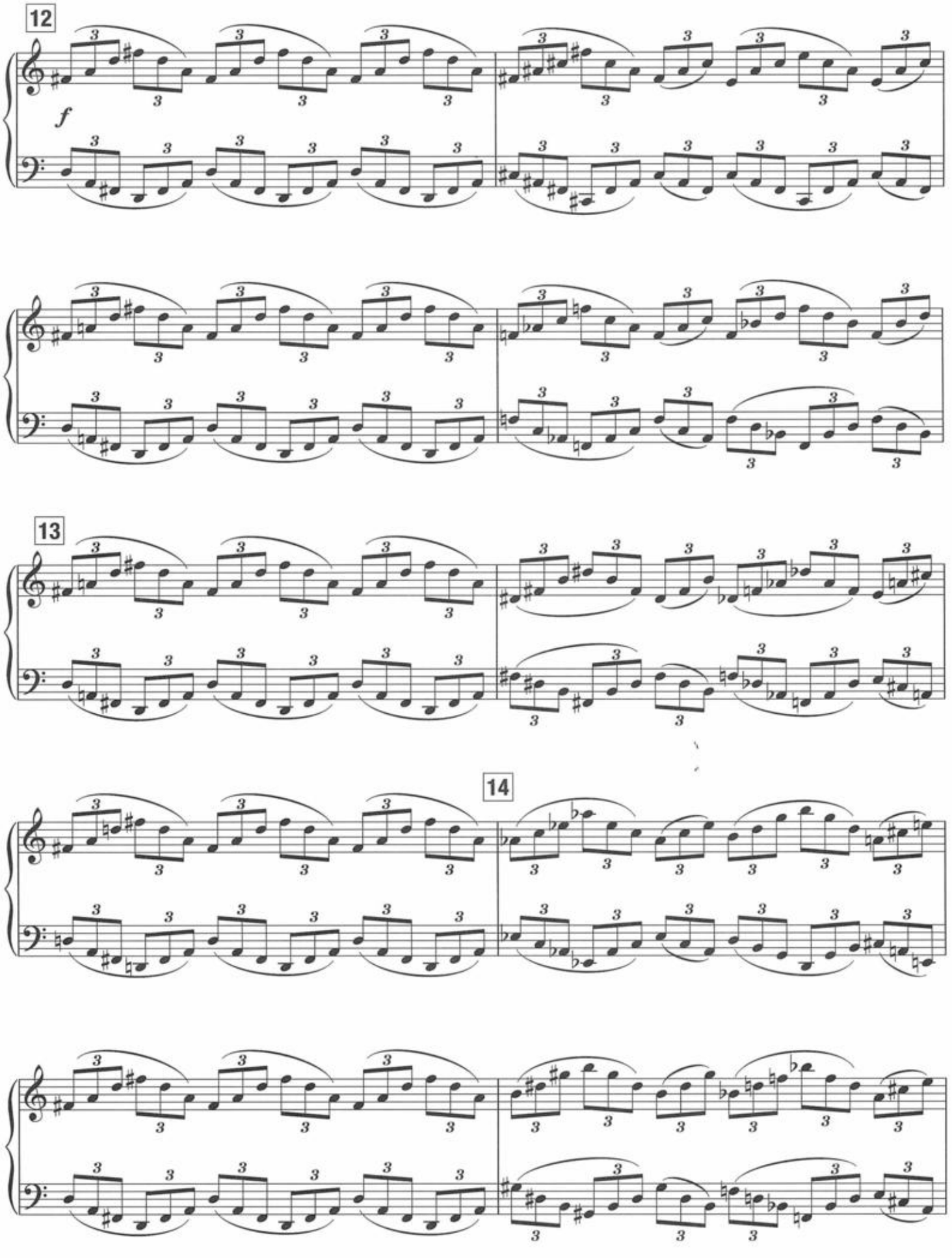


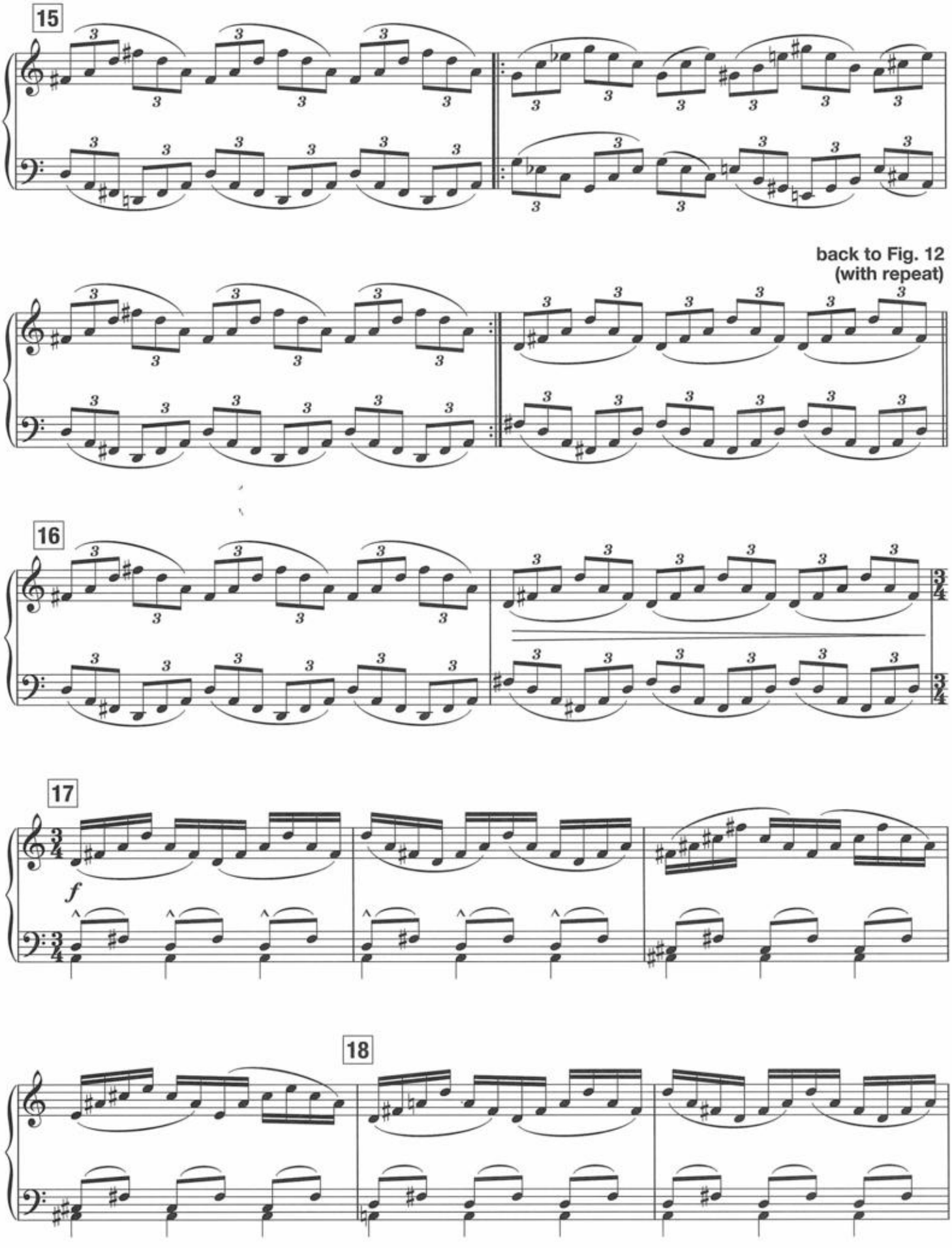
back to Fig. 8
(with repeat)

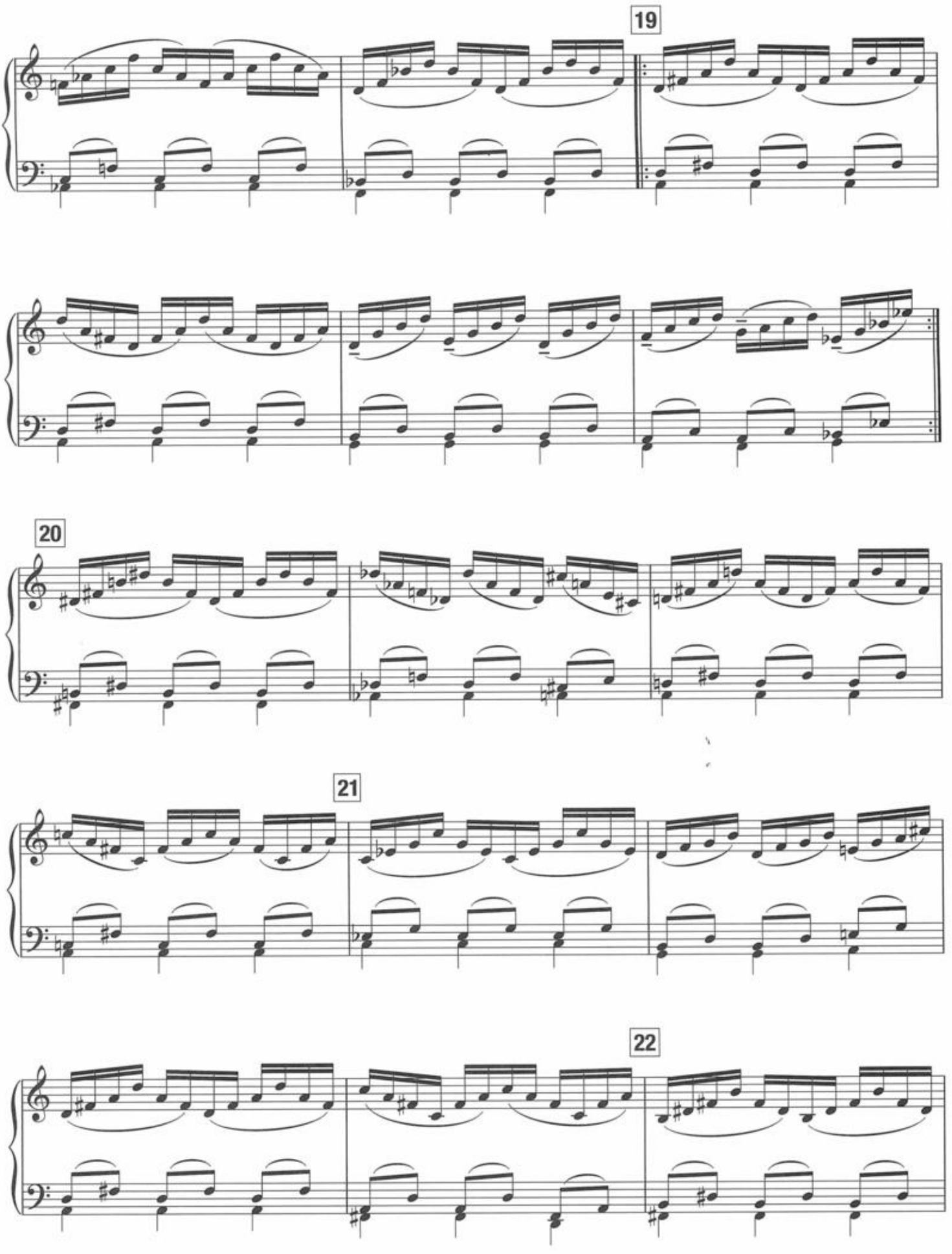


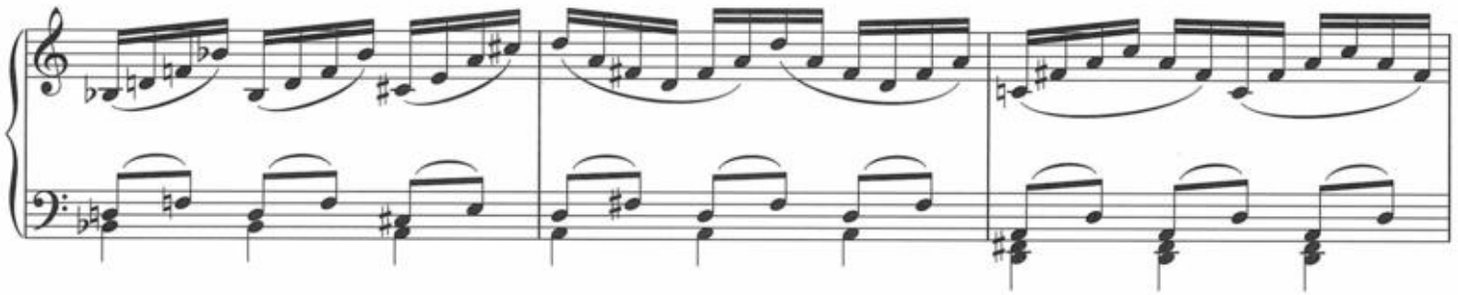
11



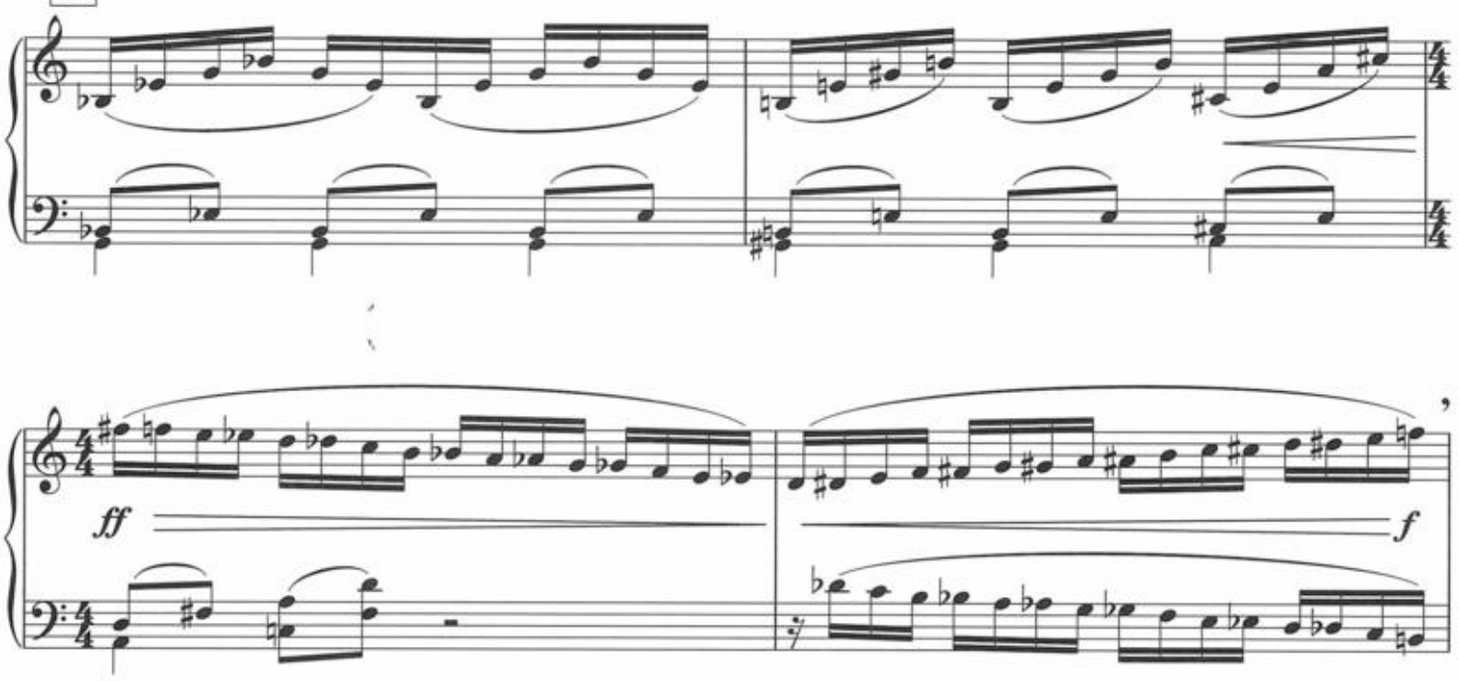

12
f
13
14


15
back to Fig. 12
(with repeat)
16
17
f
18


19
20
21
22

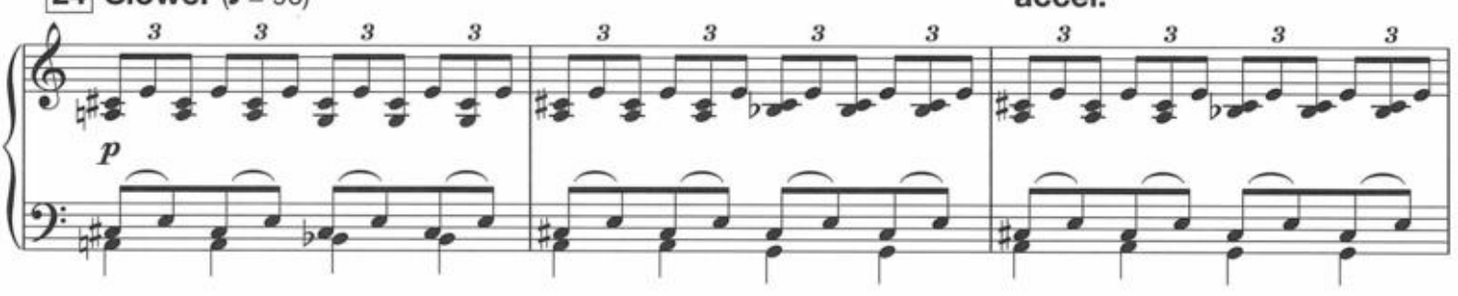


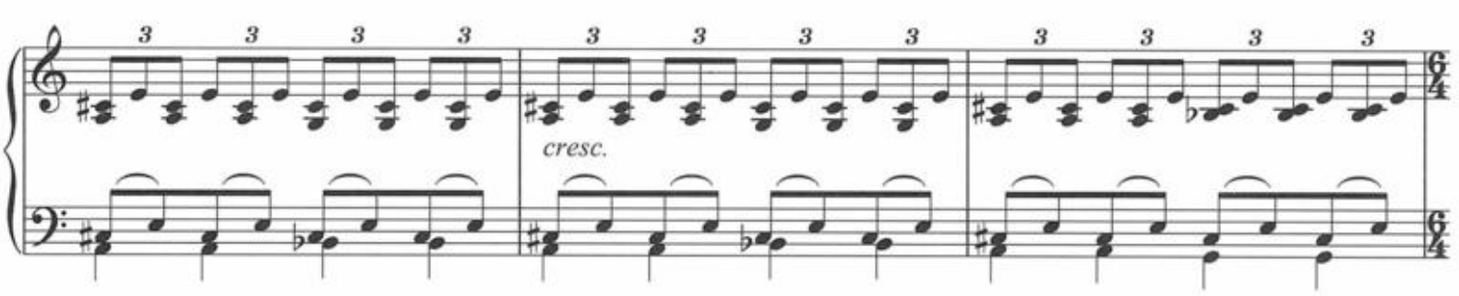
23

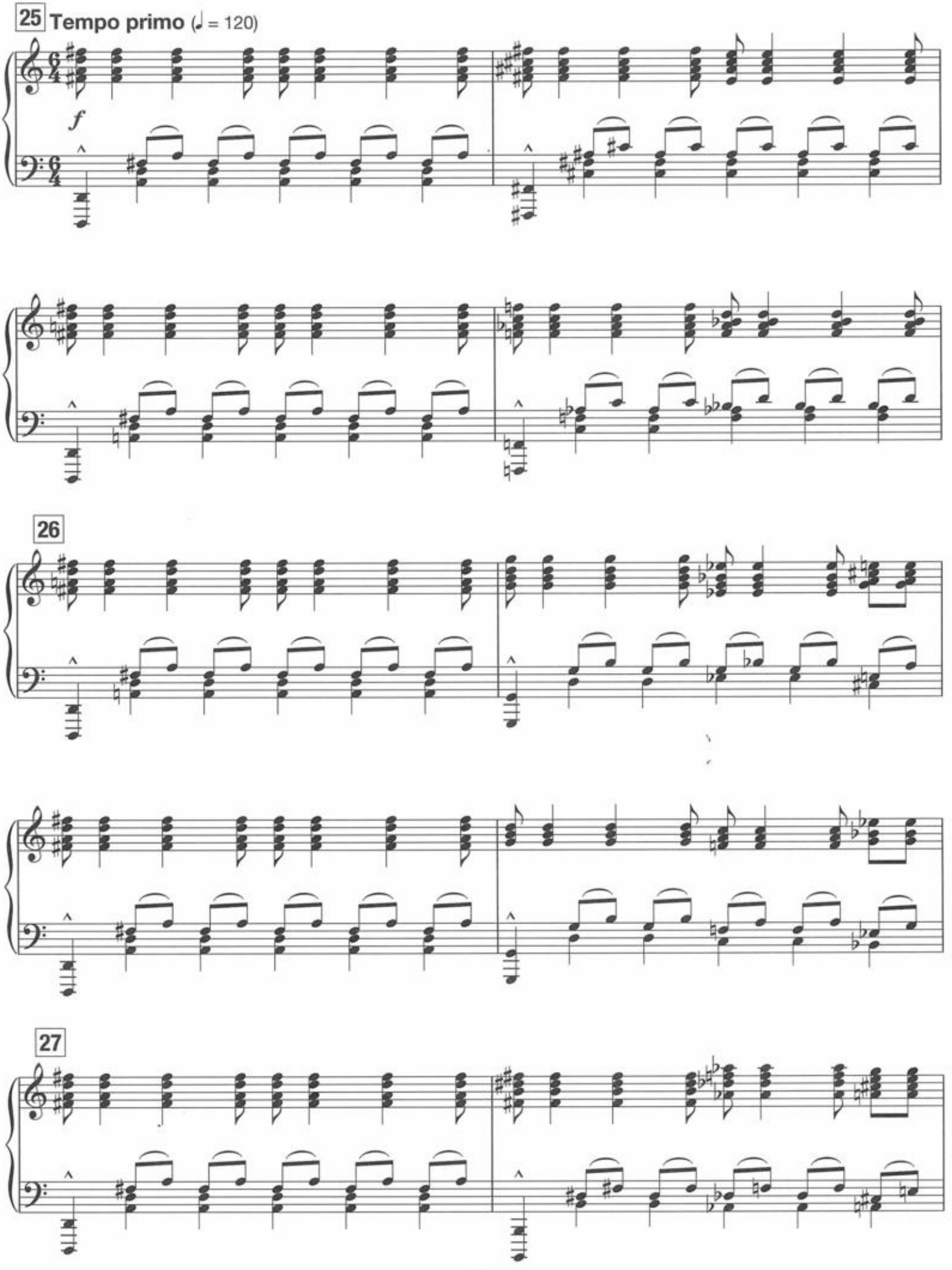


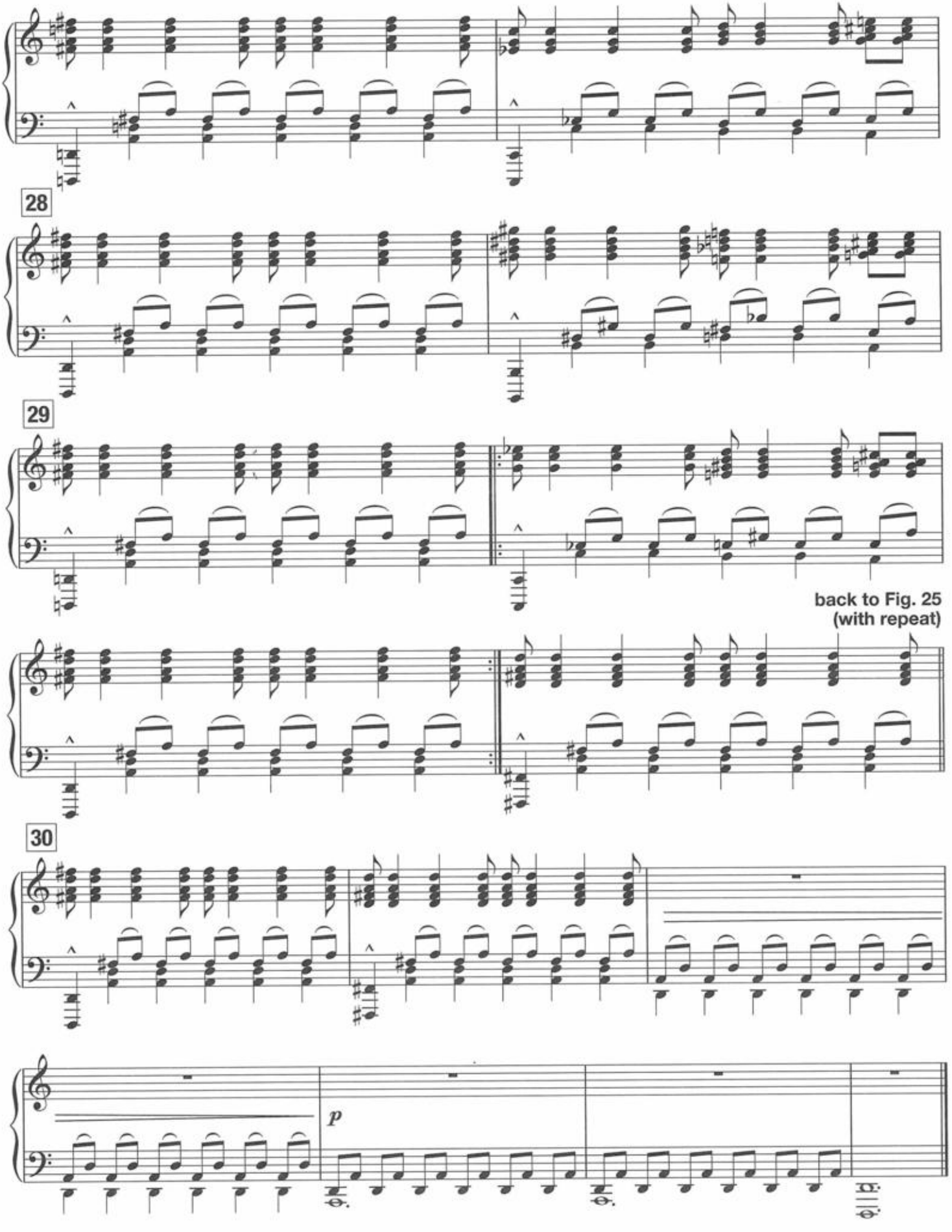
24 **Slower** (♩ = 96)

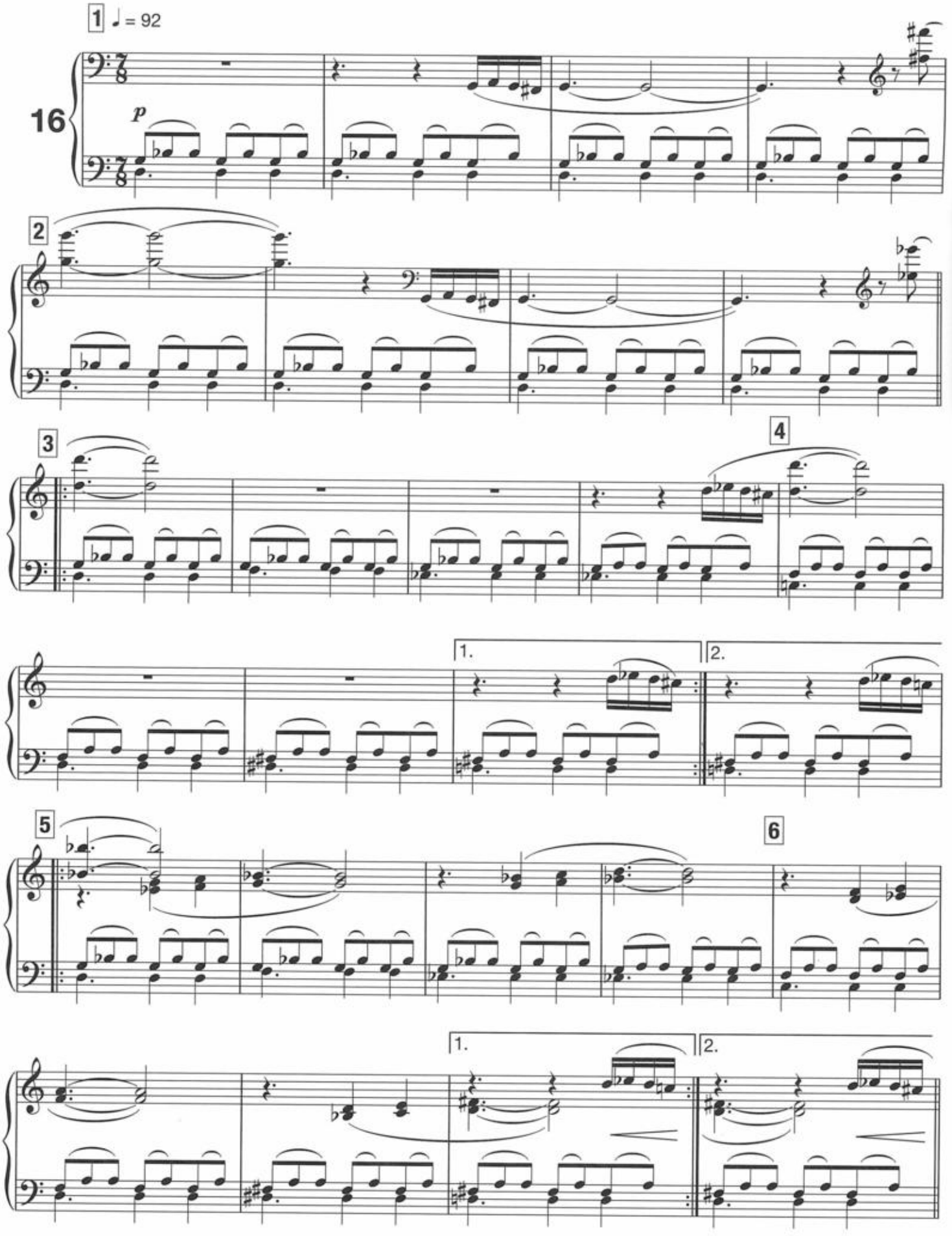
accel.

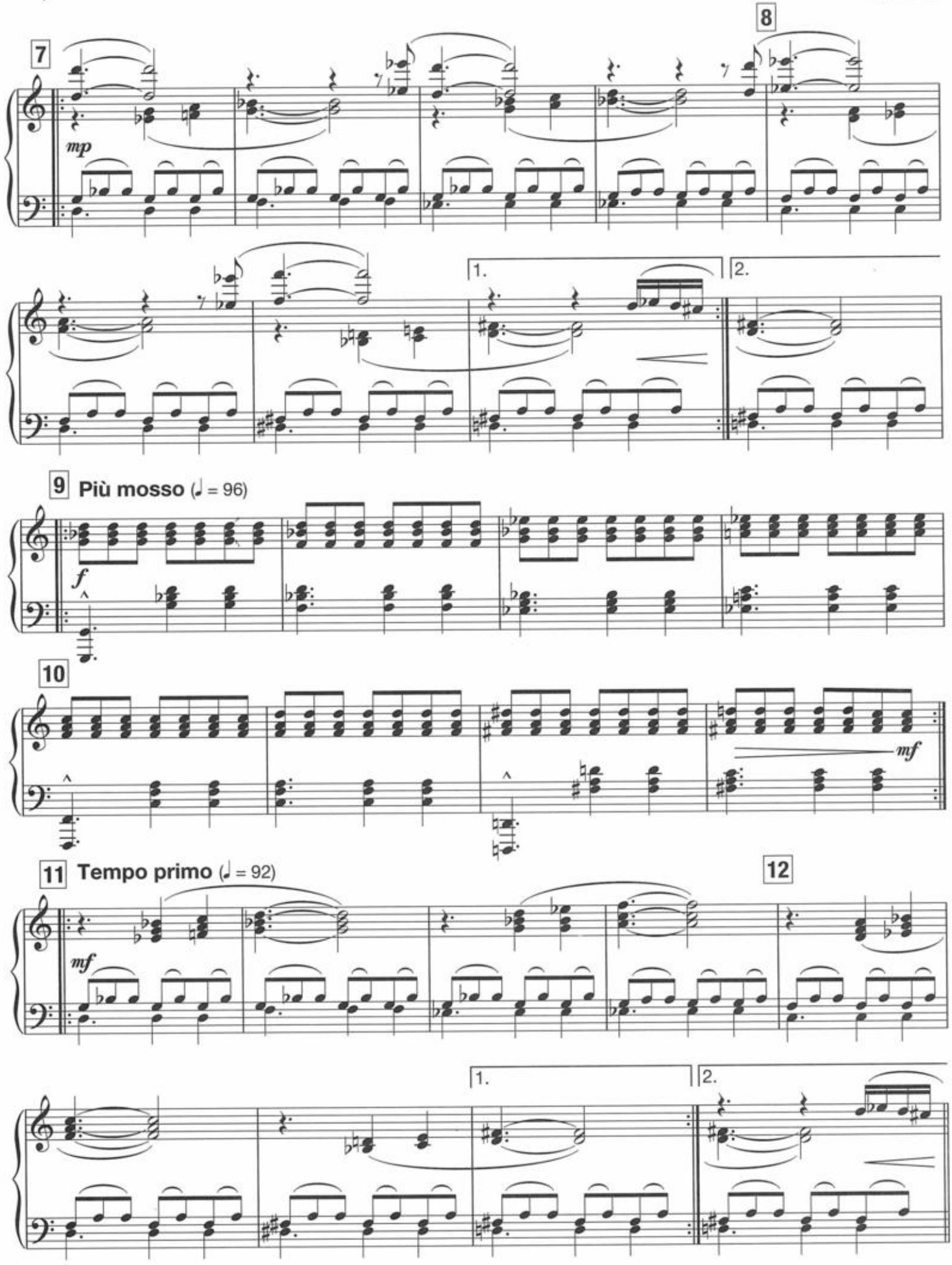


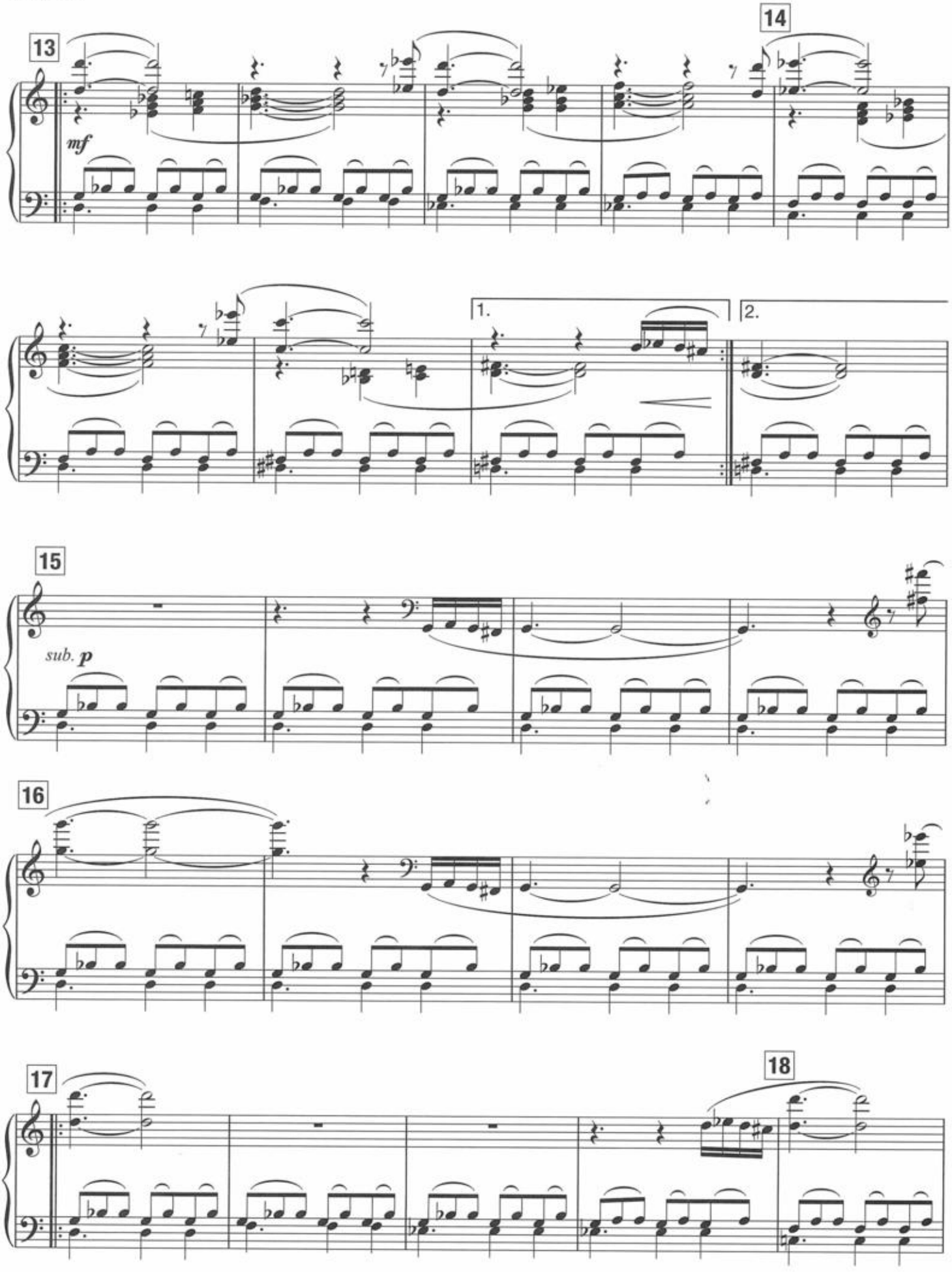


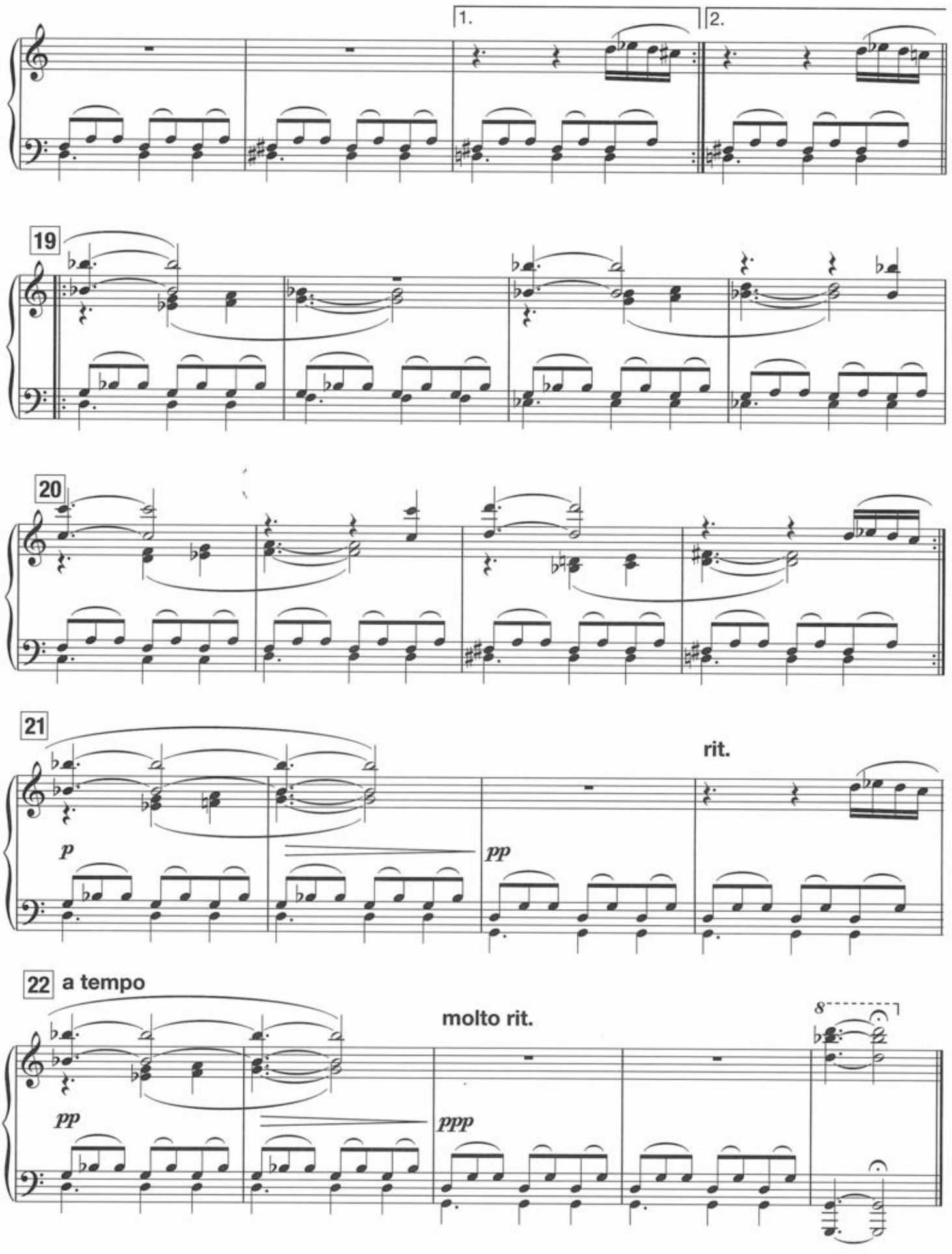

25 Tempo primo (♩ = 120)
f
26
27

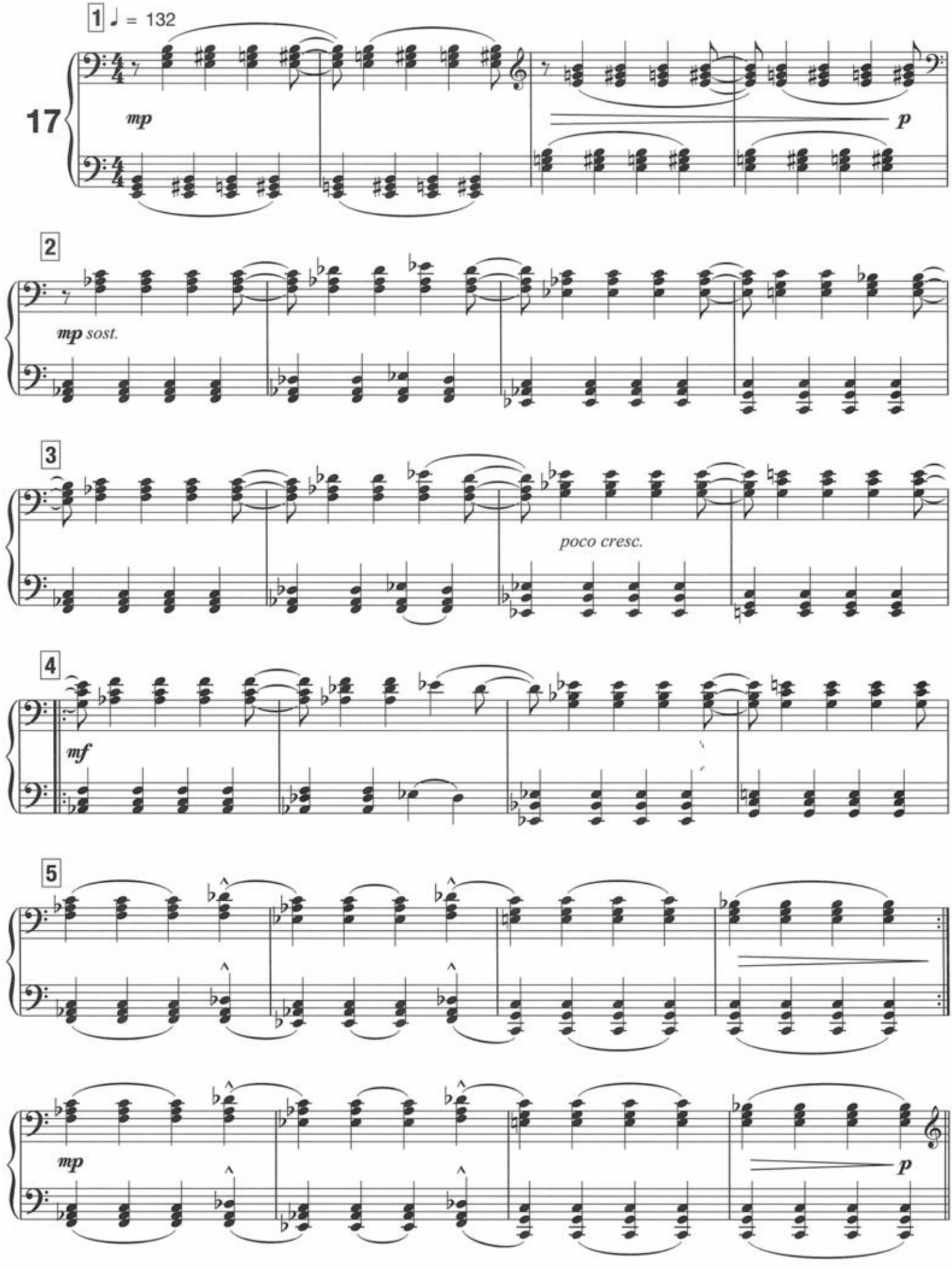

28
29
back to Fig. 25
(with repeat)
30
p

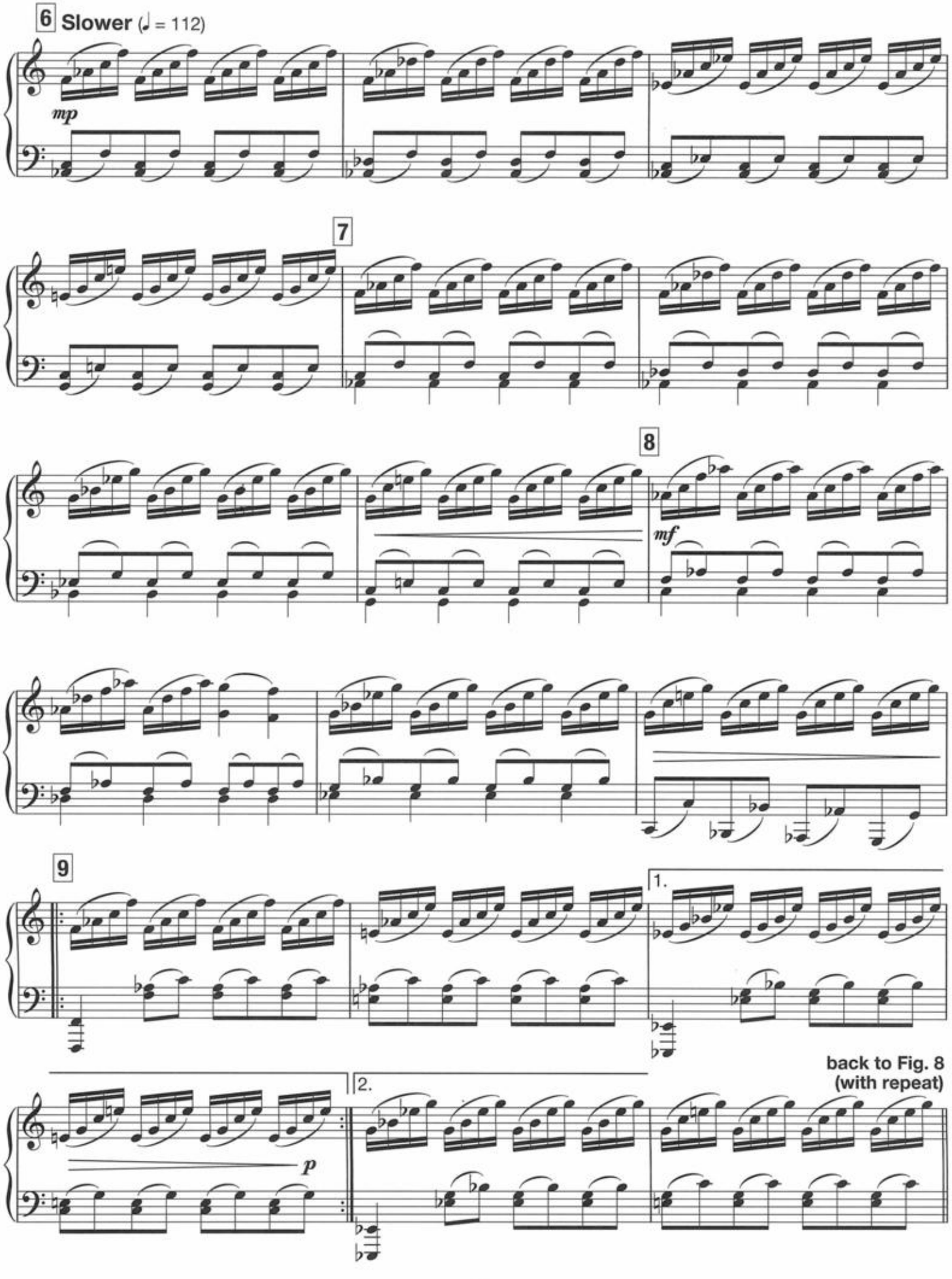

1
♩ = 92
16
p
2
3
4
1.
2.
5
6
1.
2.

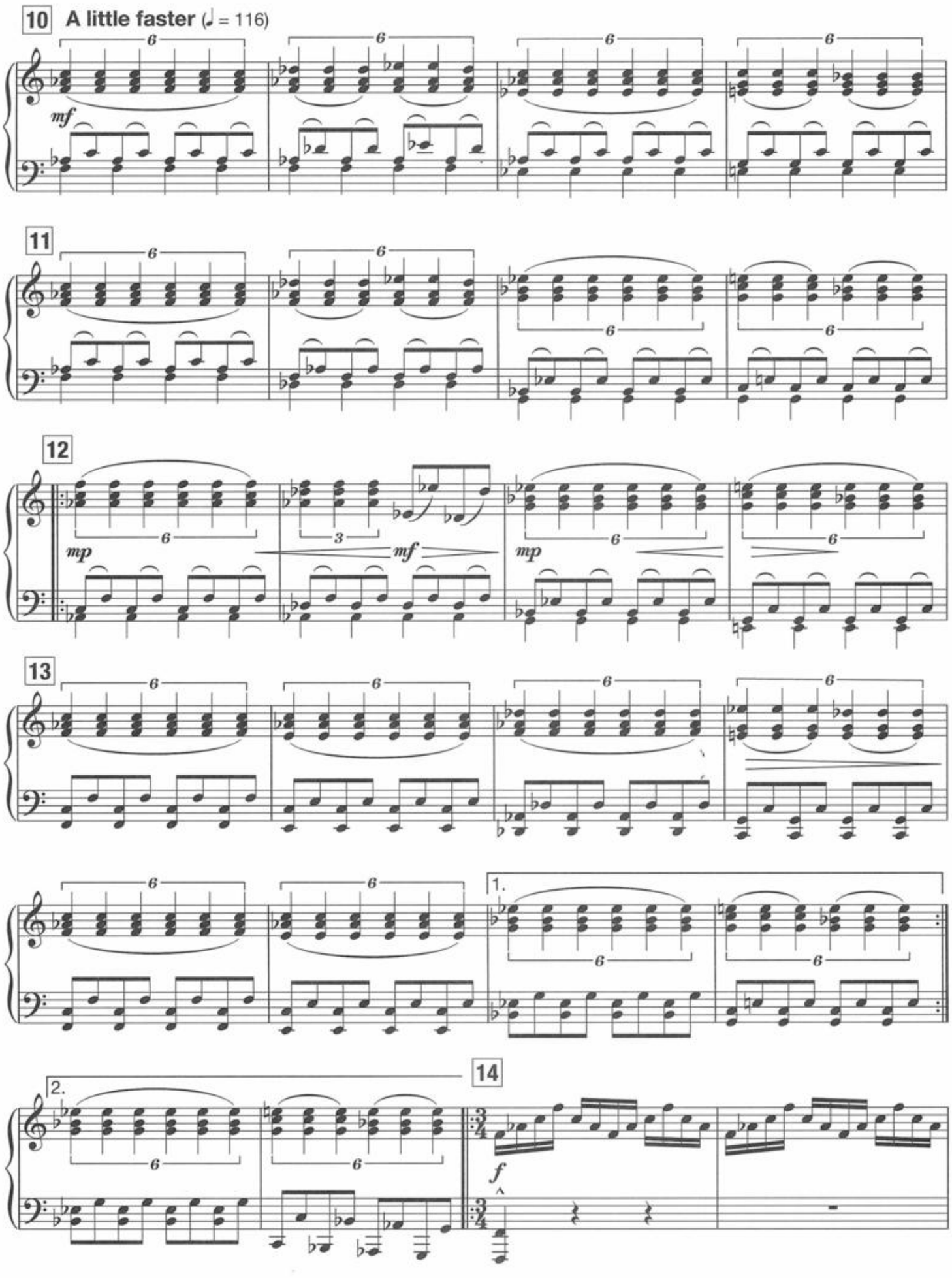

7
8
mp
1.
2.
9 Più mosso (♩ = 96)
f
10
mf
11 Tempo primo (♩ = 92)
12
mf
1.
2.

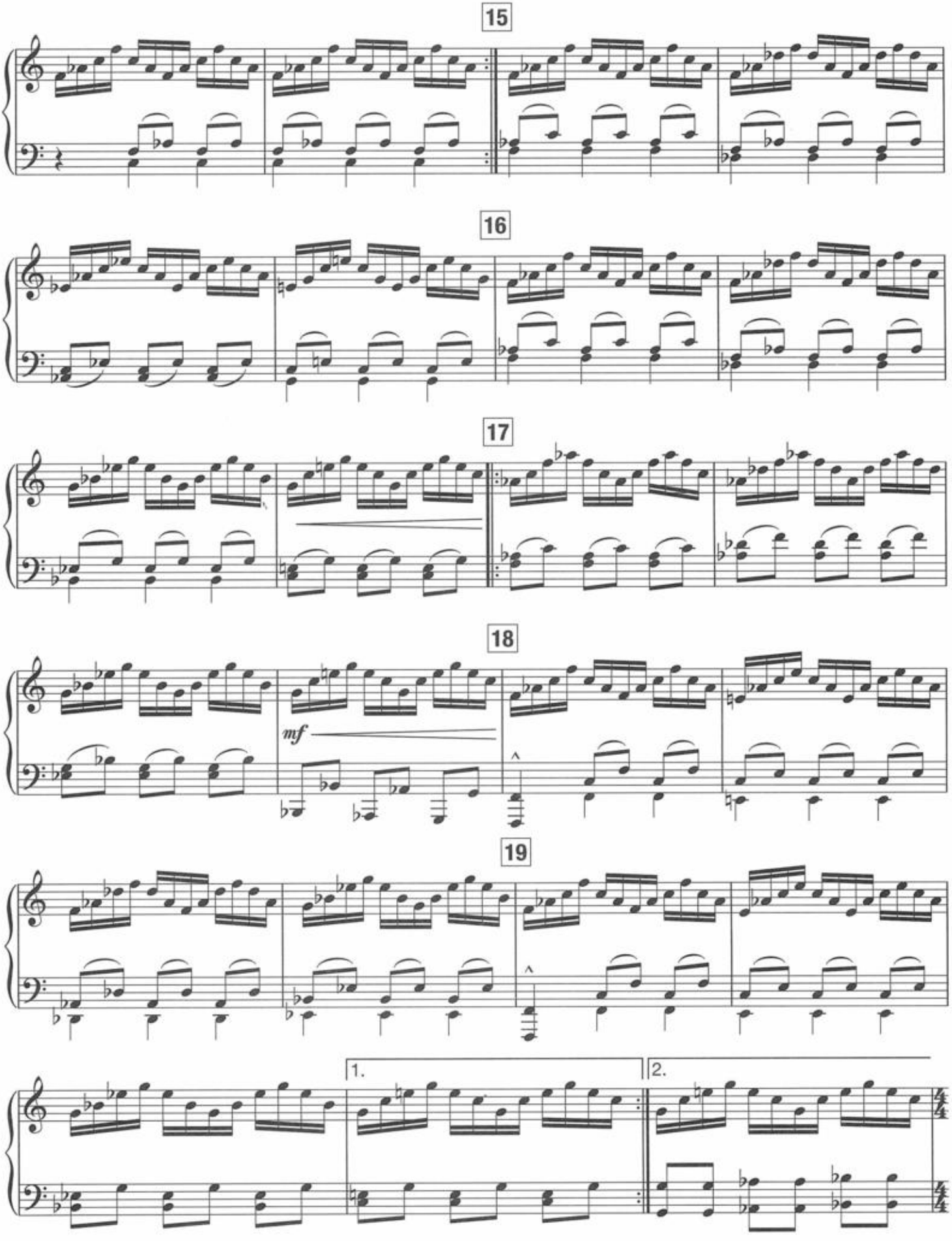

13
14
mf
1.
2.
15
sub. p
16
17
18

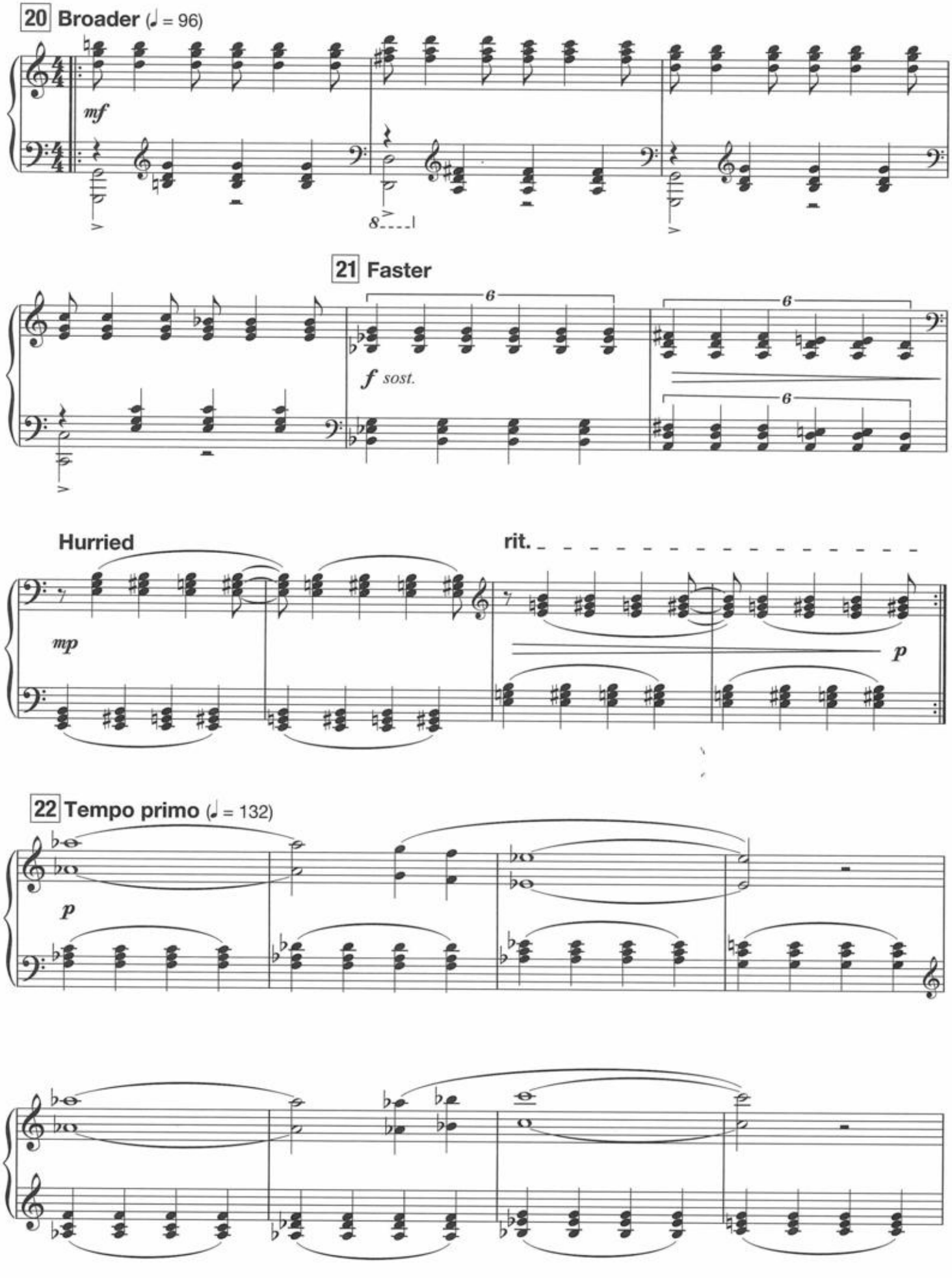

1.
2.
19
20
21
p
pp
rit.
22 a tempo
pp
molto rit.
ppp
8

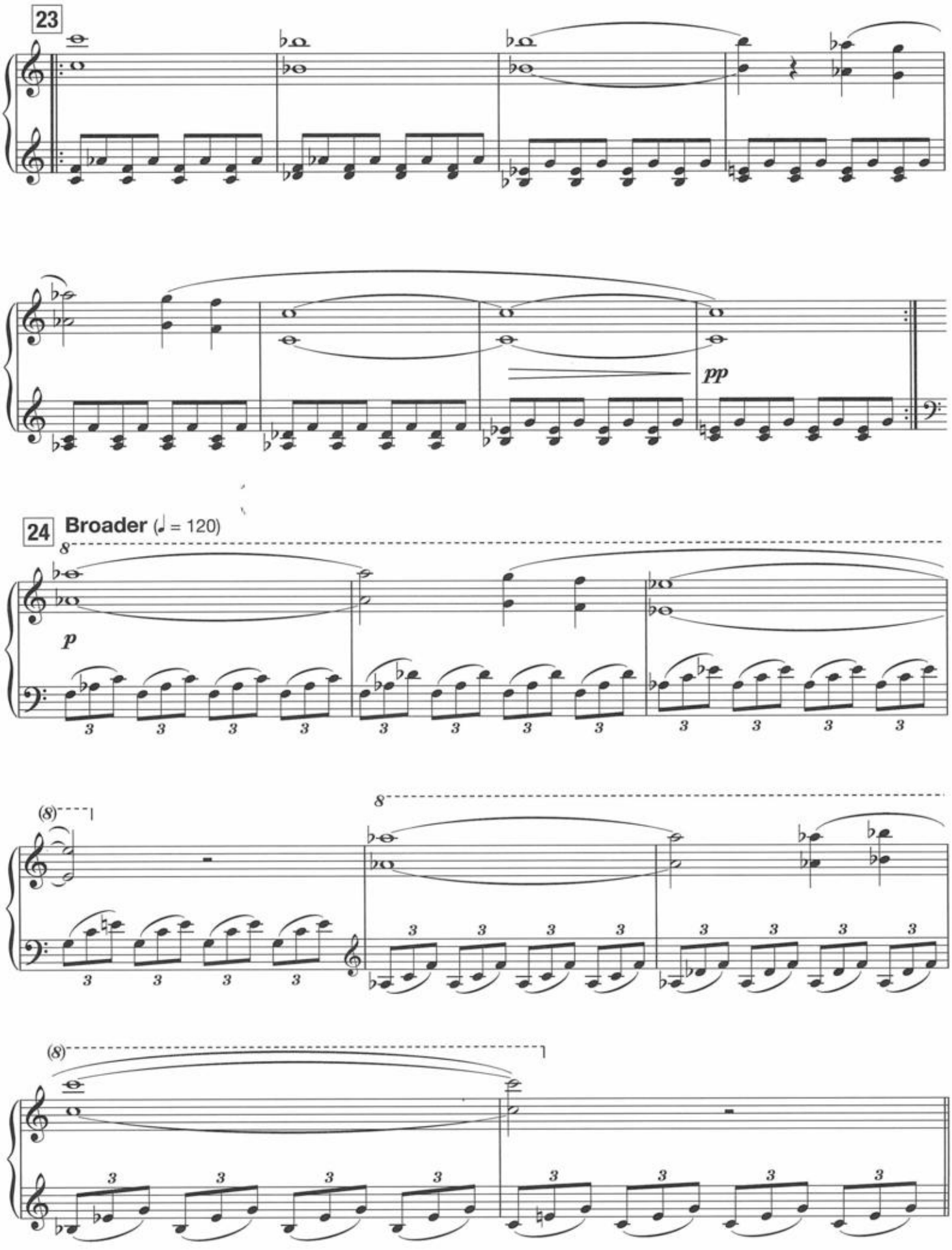

1 ♩ = 132
17
mp
p
2
mp sost.
3
poco cresc.
4
mf
5
mp
p

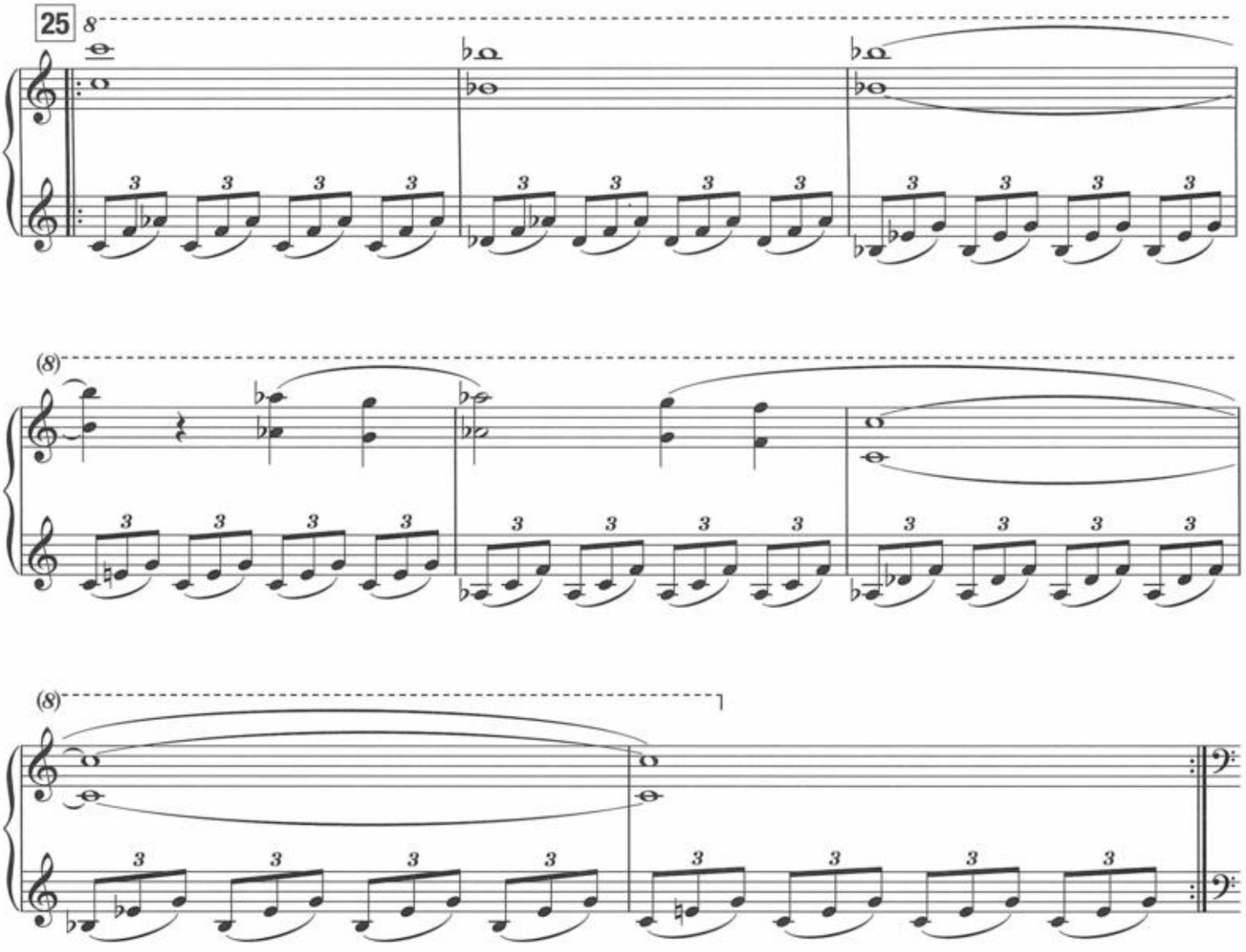

6 Slower (♩ = 112)
mp
7
8
mf
9
1.
2.
p
back to Fig. 8
(with repeat)

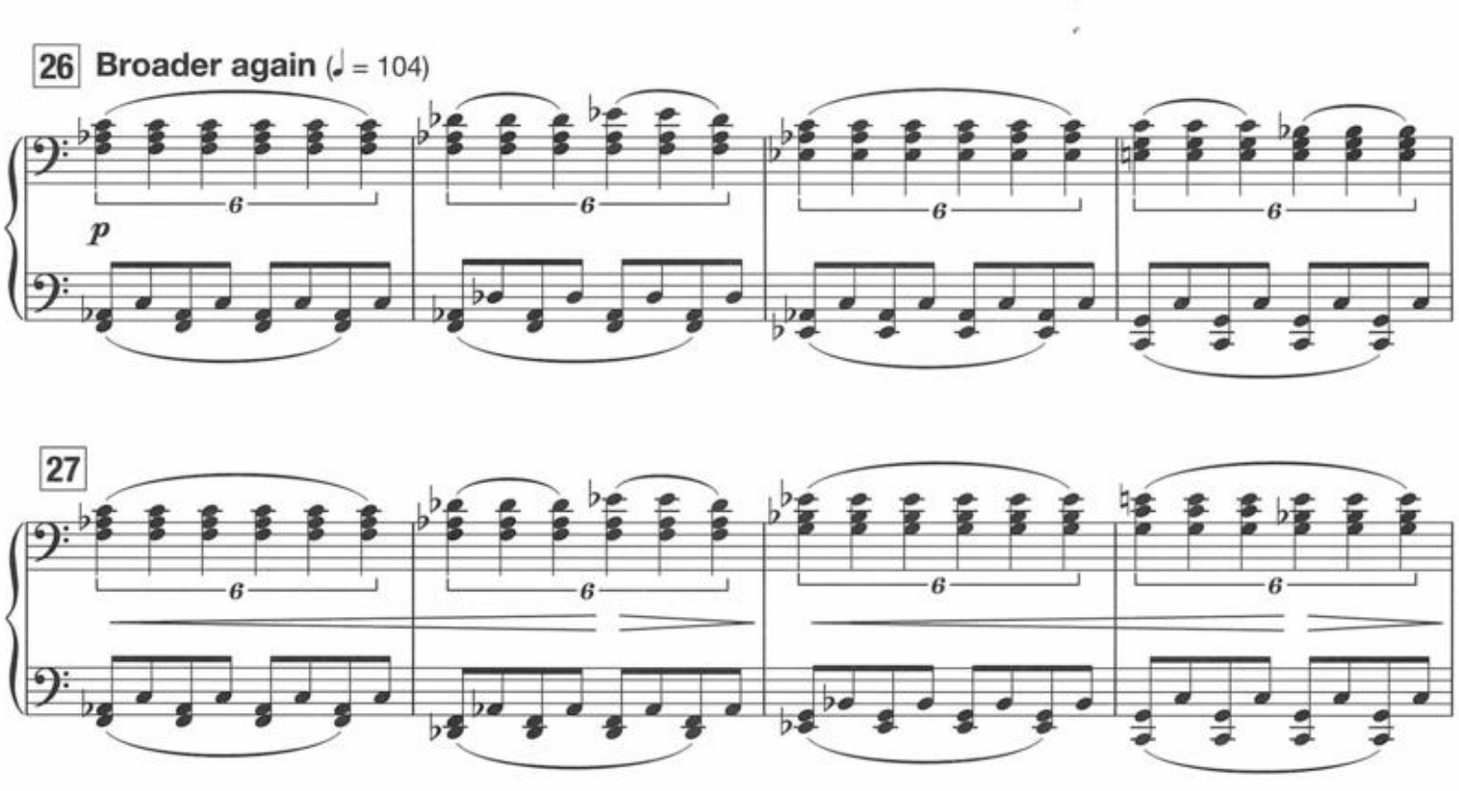

10
A little faster (♩ = 116)
mf
11
12
mp
3
mf
mp
13
1.
2.
14
f

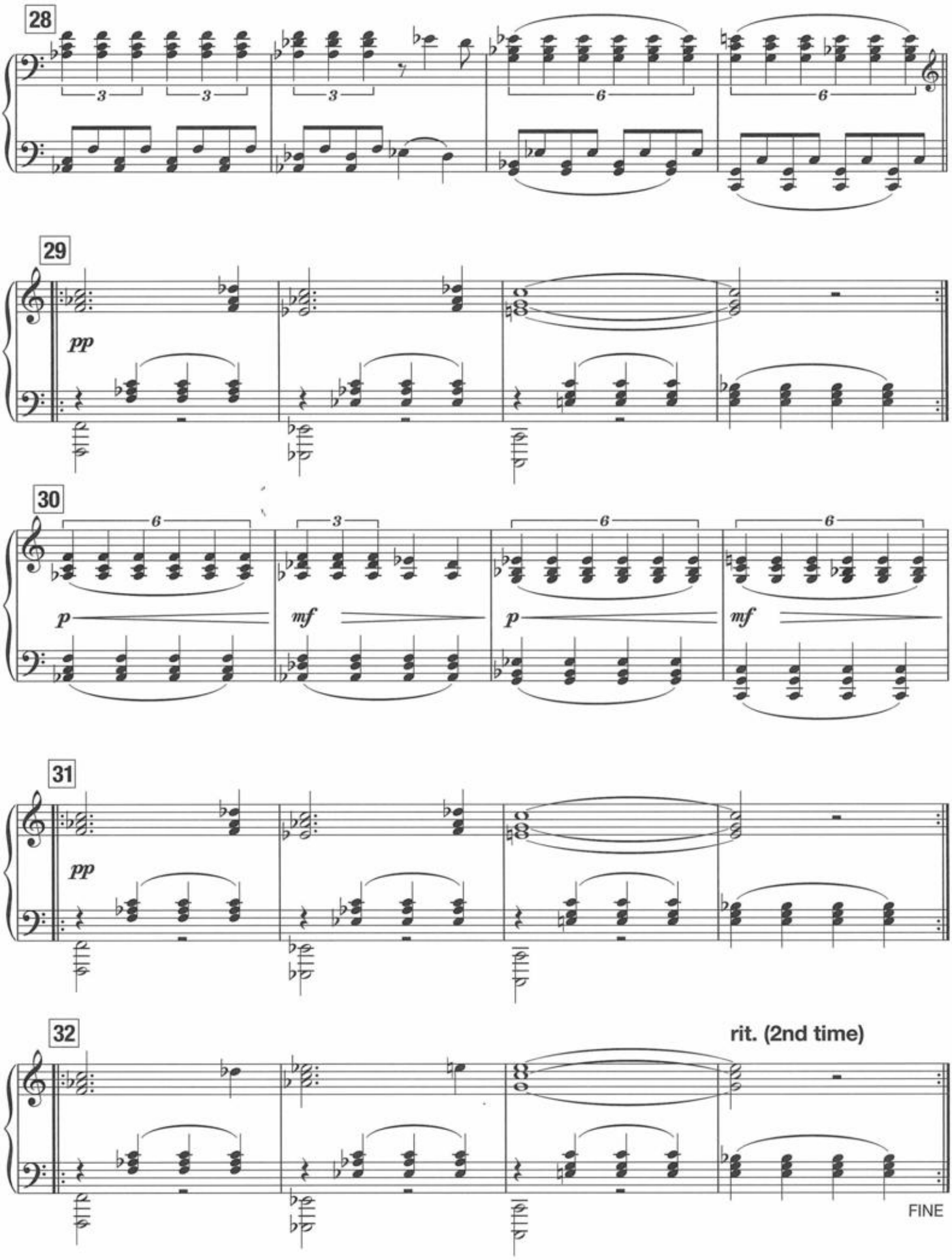

15
16
17
18
mf
19
1.
2.

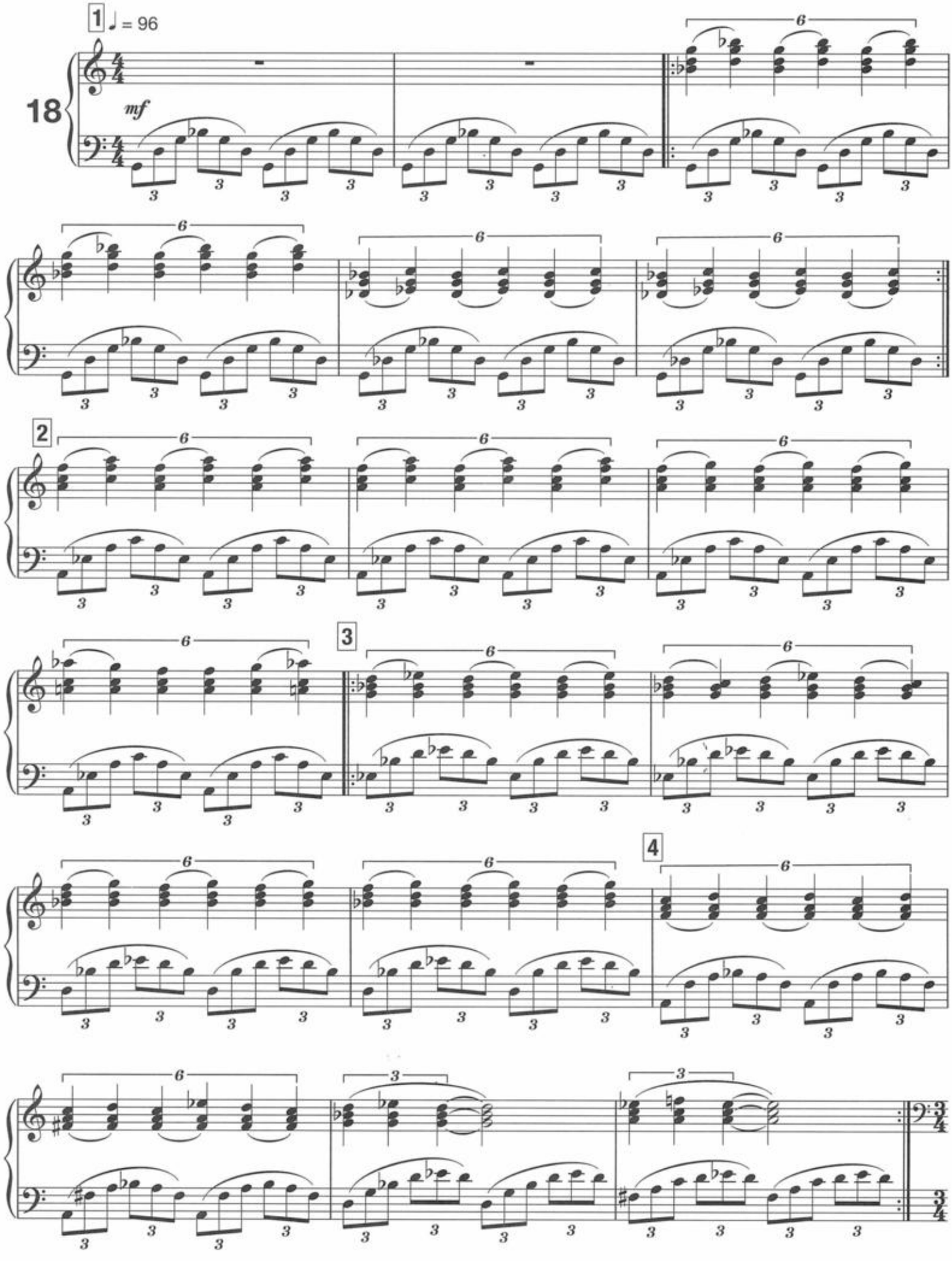

20 Broader (♩ = 96)
mf
8
21 Faster
6
f sost.
Hurried
rit.
mp
p
22 Tempo primo (♩ = 132)
p

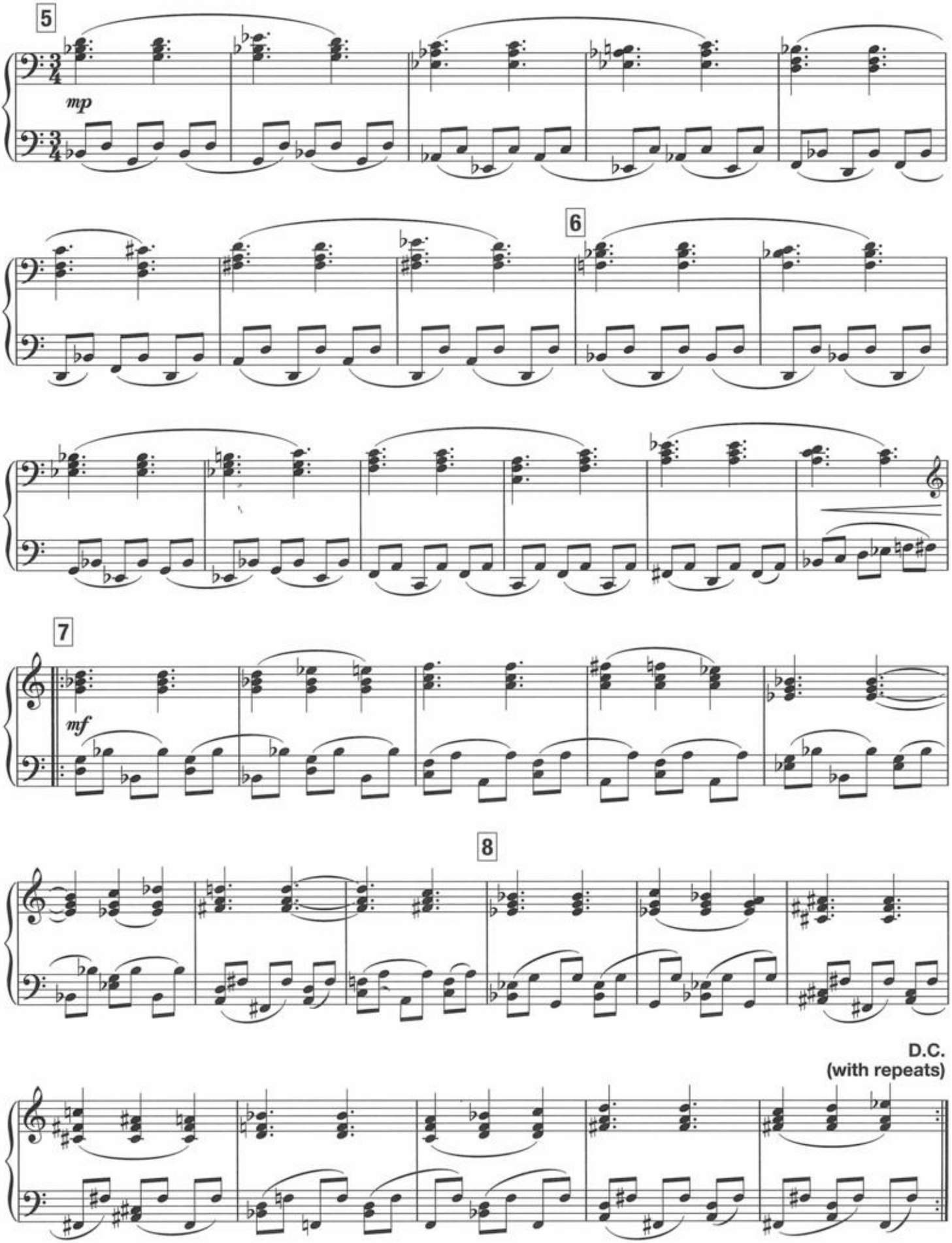

23
pp
24 Broader (♩ = 120)
p

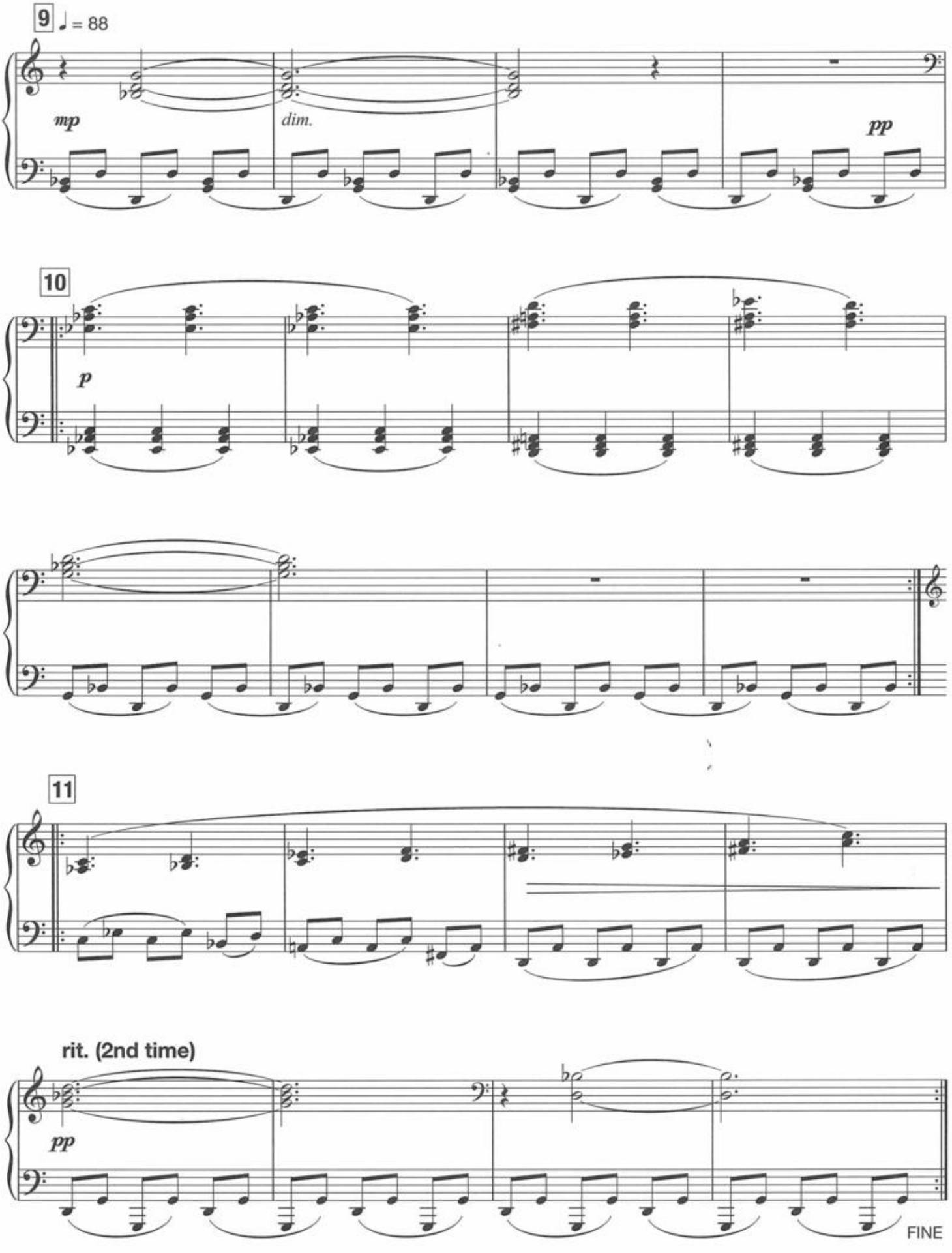

25
8
(8)
(8)

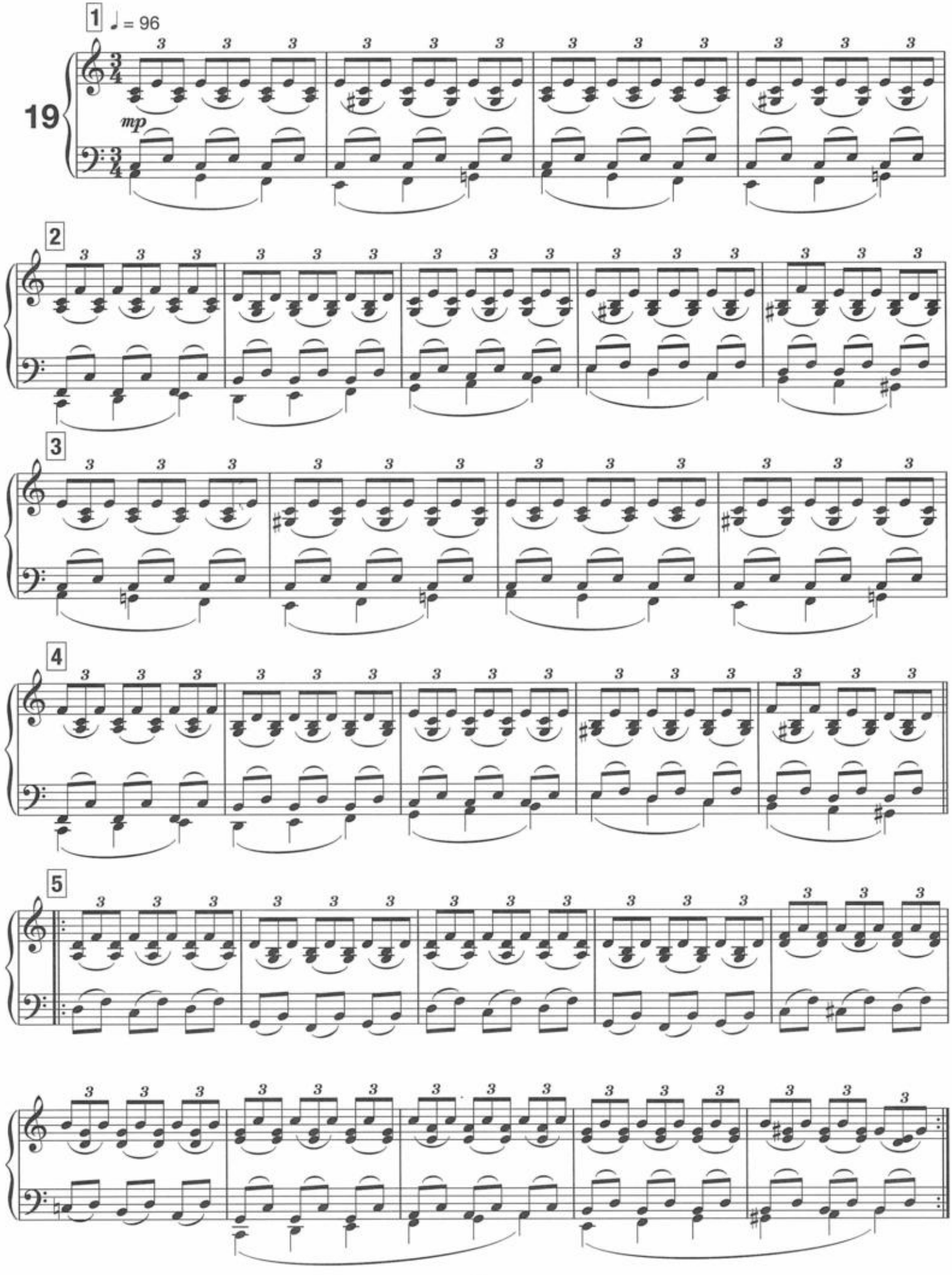

26 Broader again (♩ = 104)
p
27

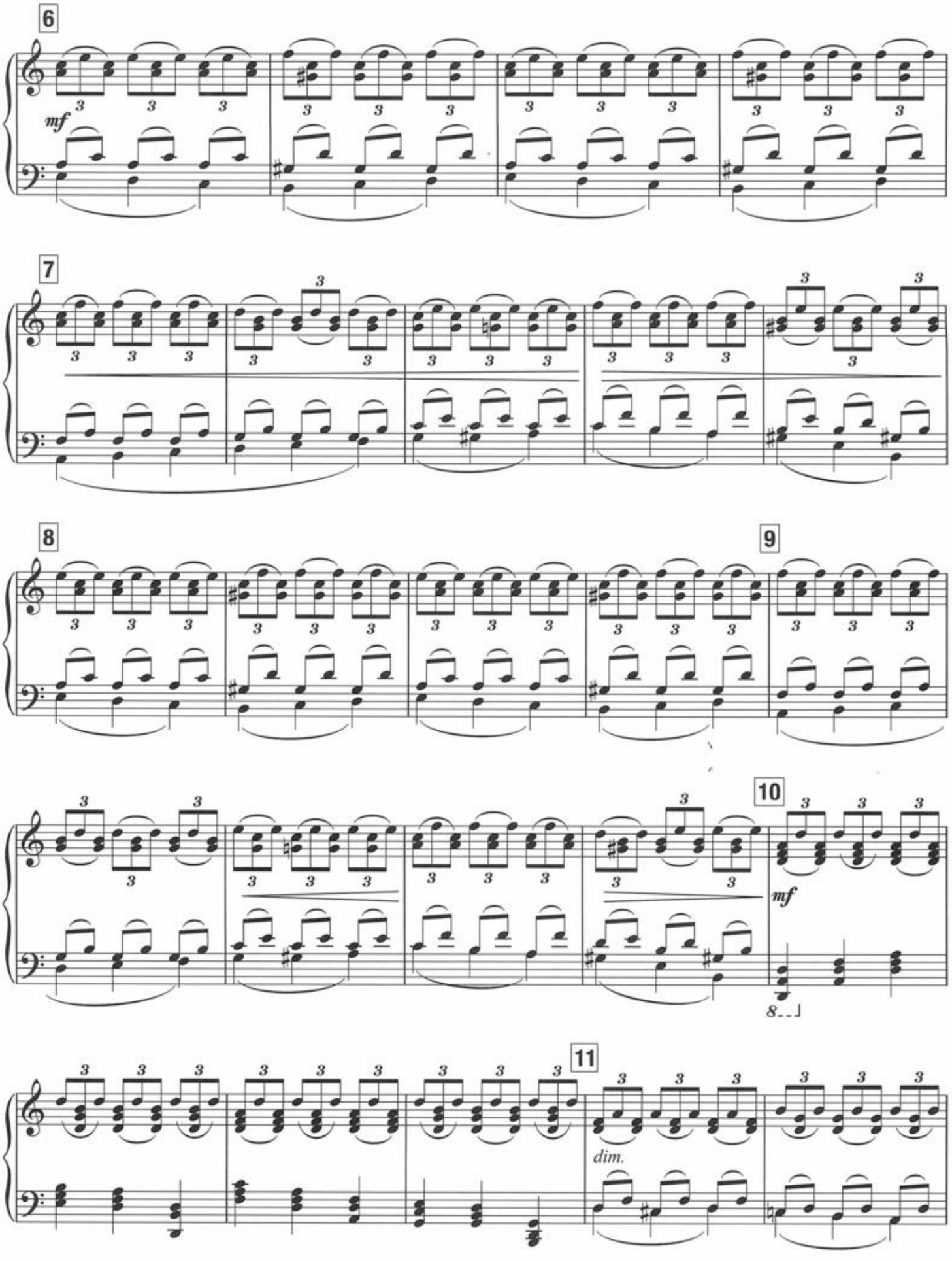

28
29
pp
30
p
mf
p
mf
31
pp
32
rit. (2nd time)
FINE

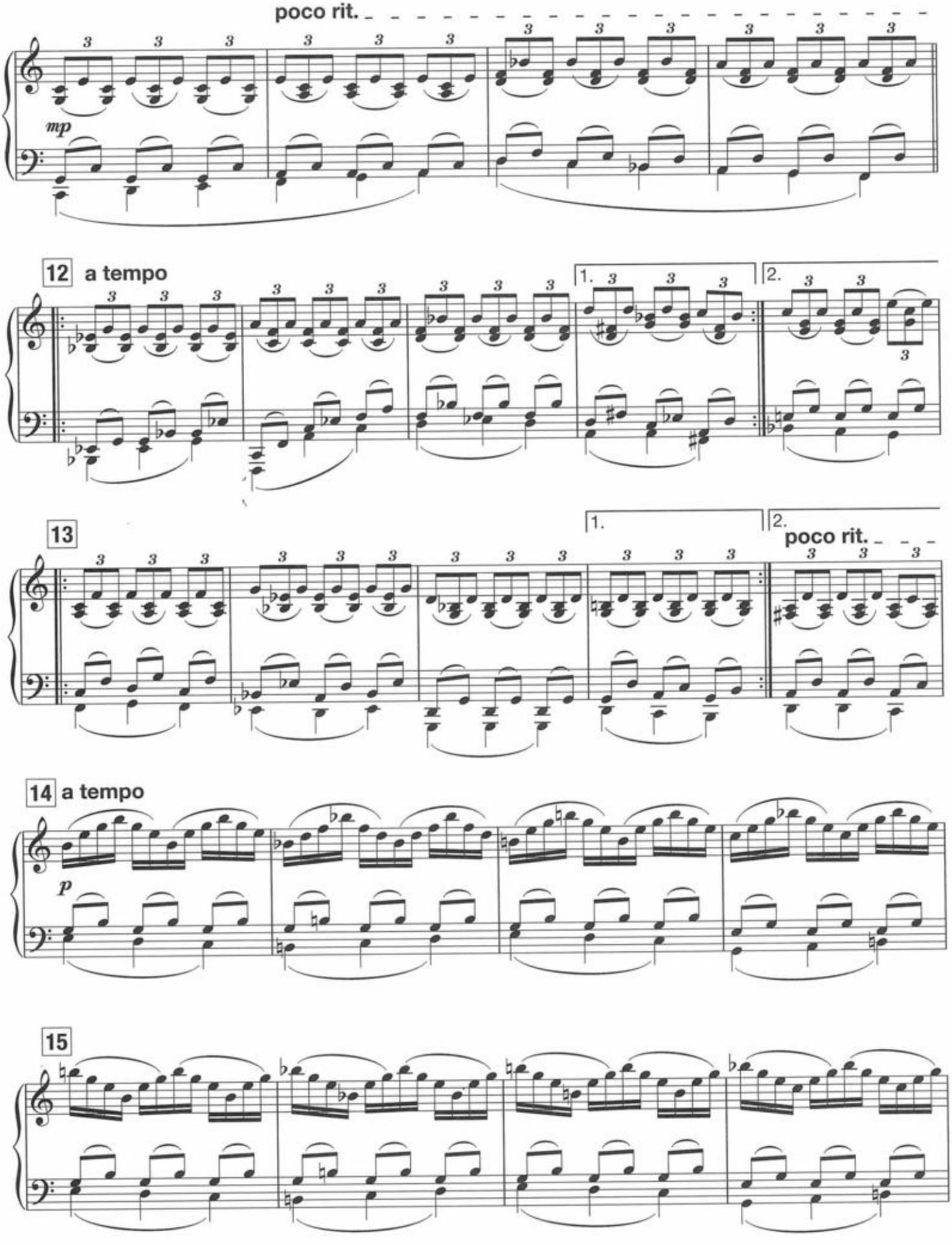

1
♩ = 96
18
mf
2
3
4

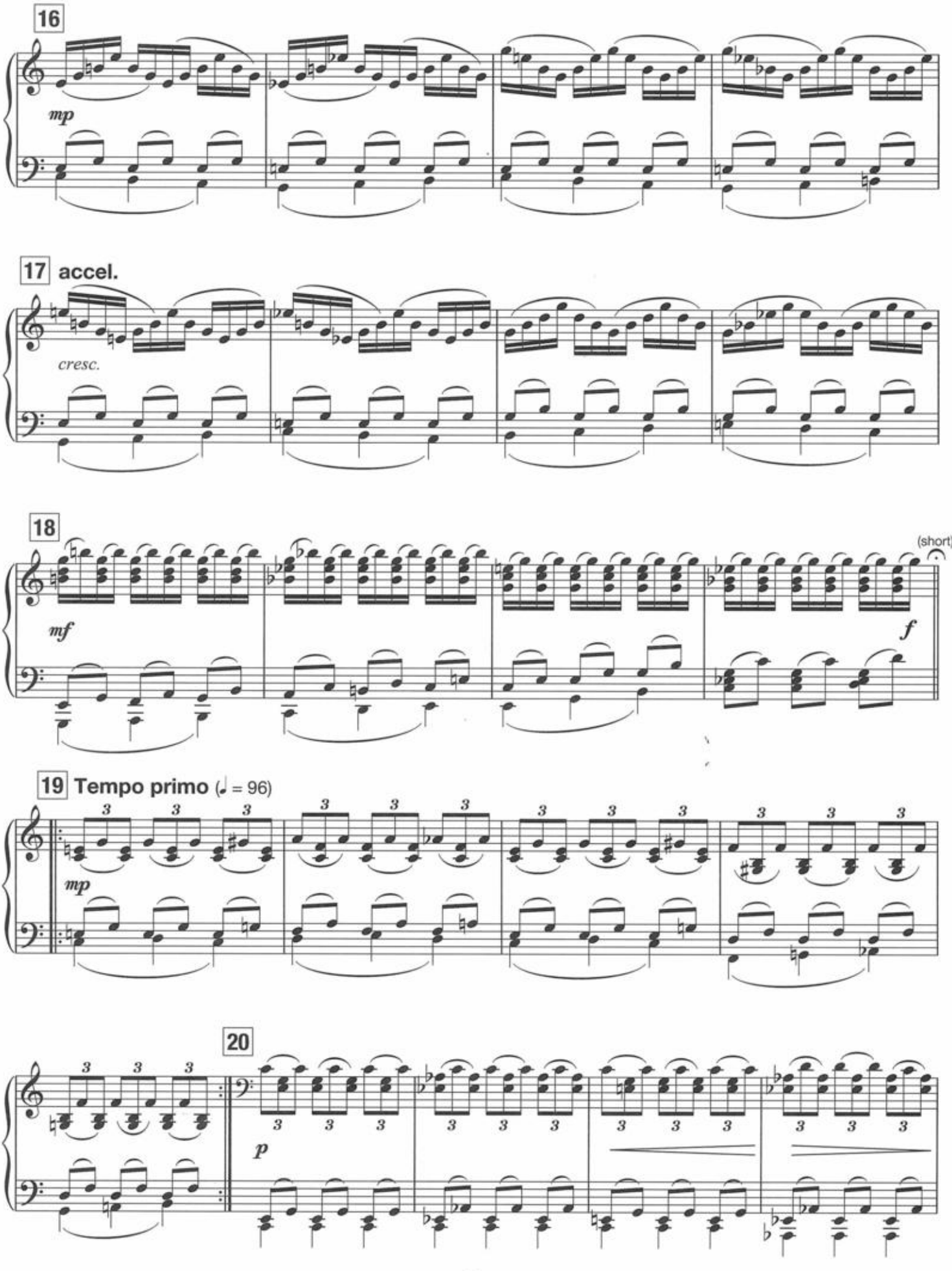

5
mp
6
7
mf
8
D.C.
(with repeats)

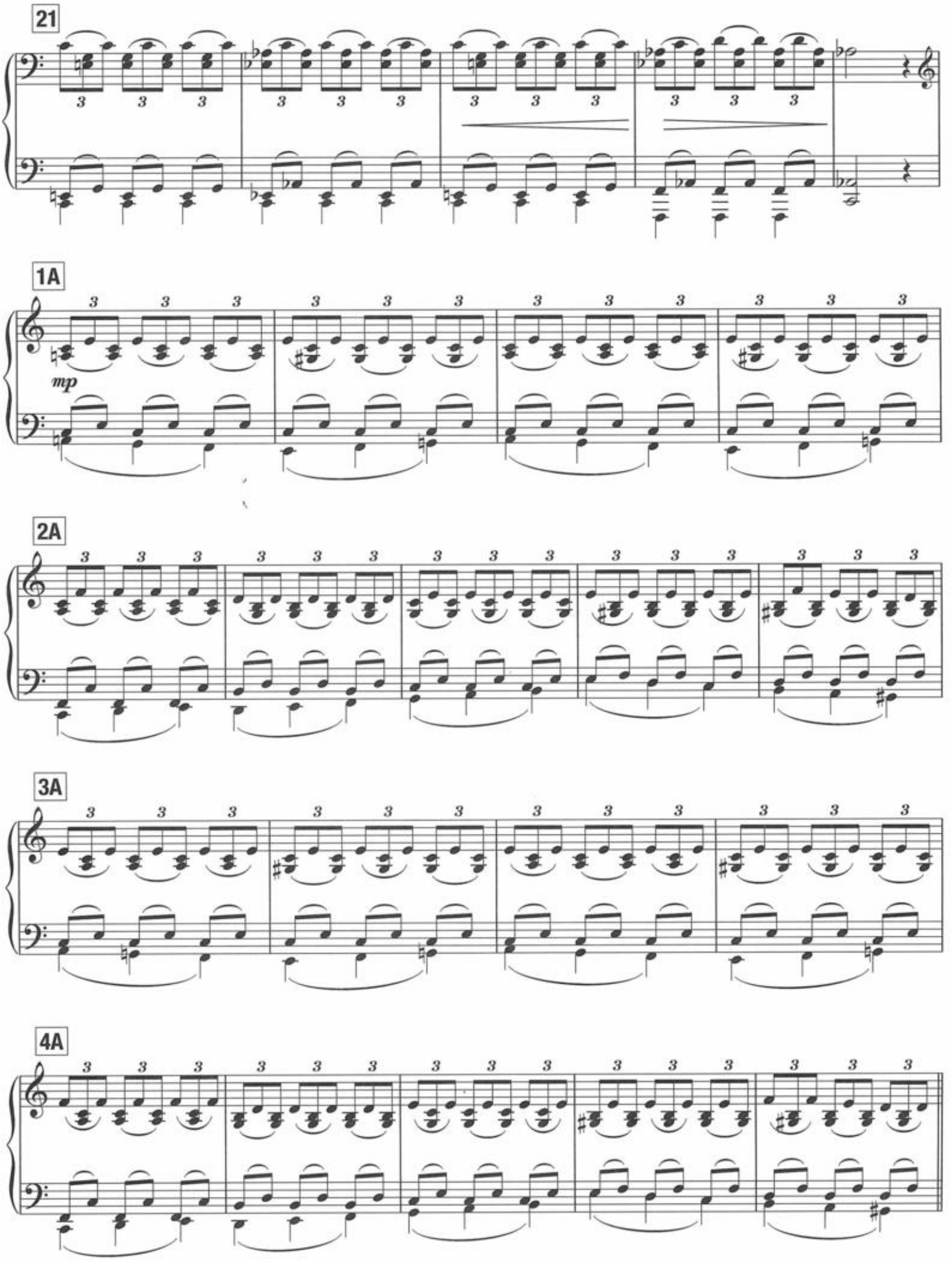

9
♩ = 88
mp
dim.
pp
10
p
11
rit. (2nd time)
pp
FINE

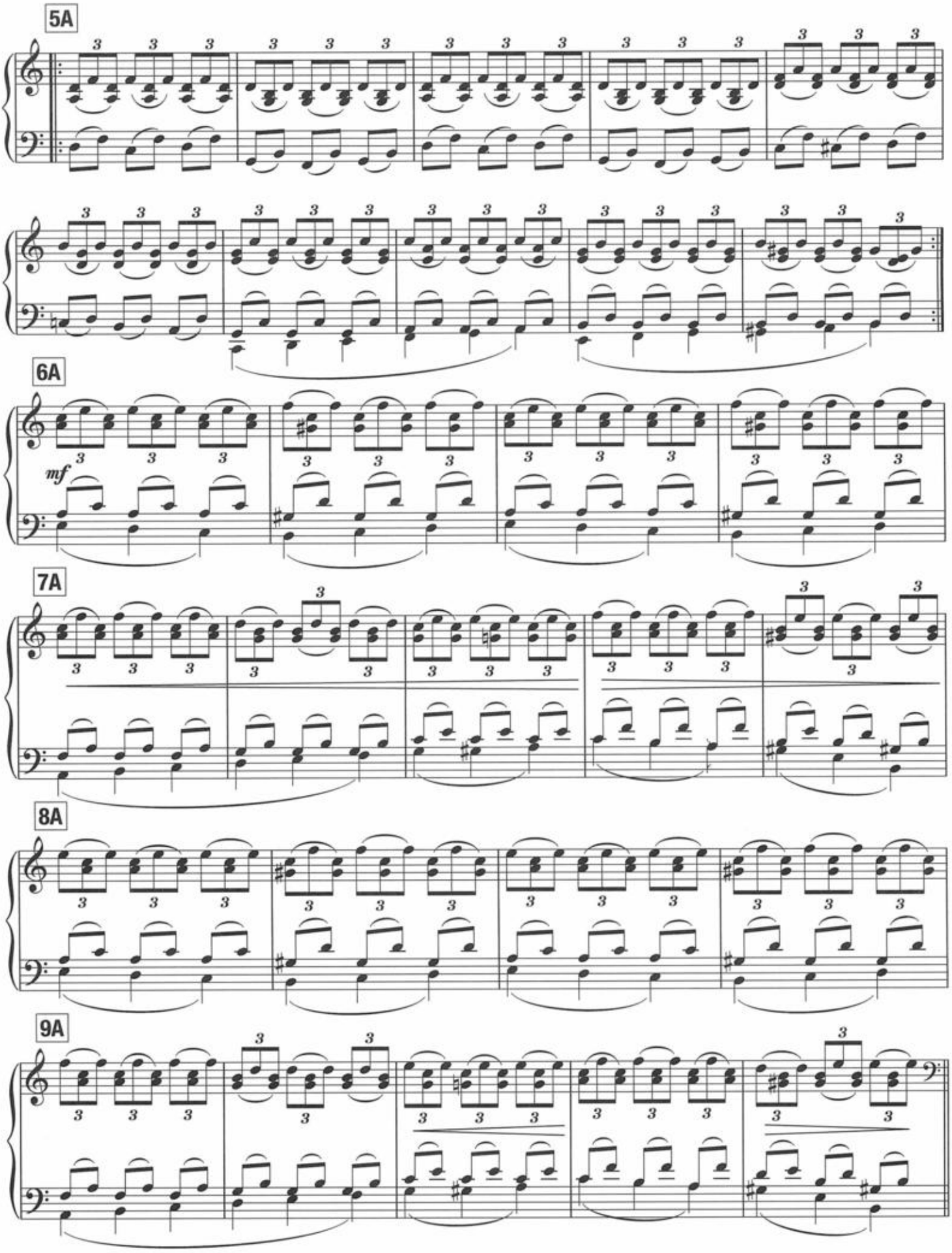

1
♩ = 96
19
mp
2
3
4
5

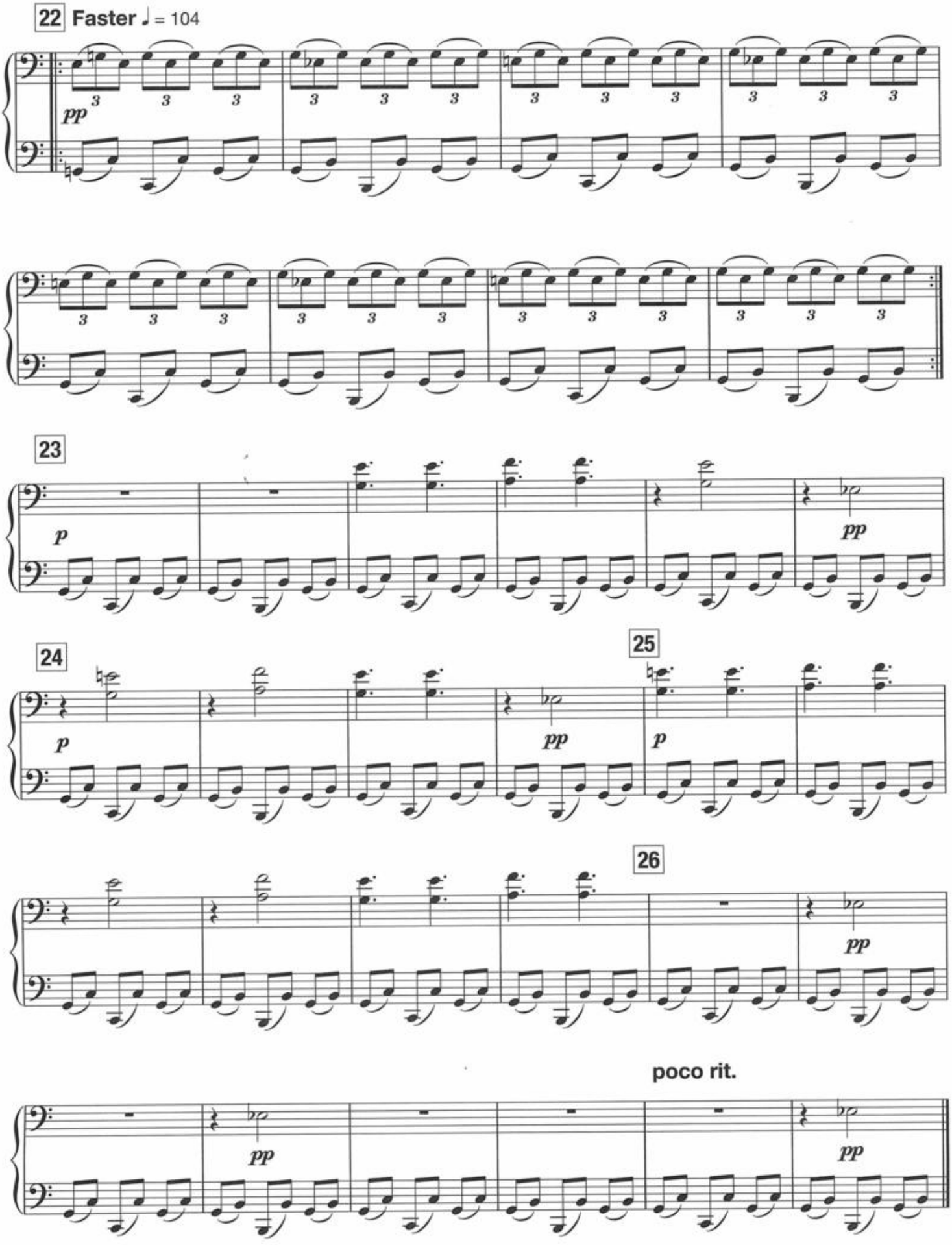

6
mf
7
8
9
10
mf
8
11
dim.

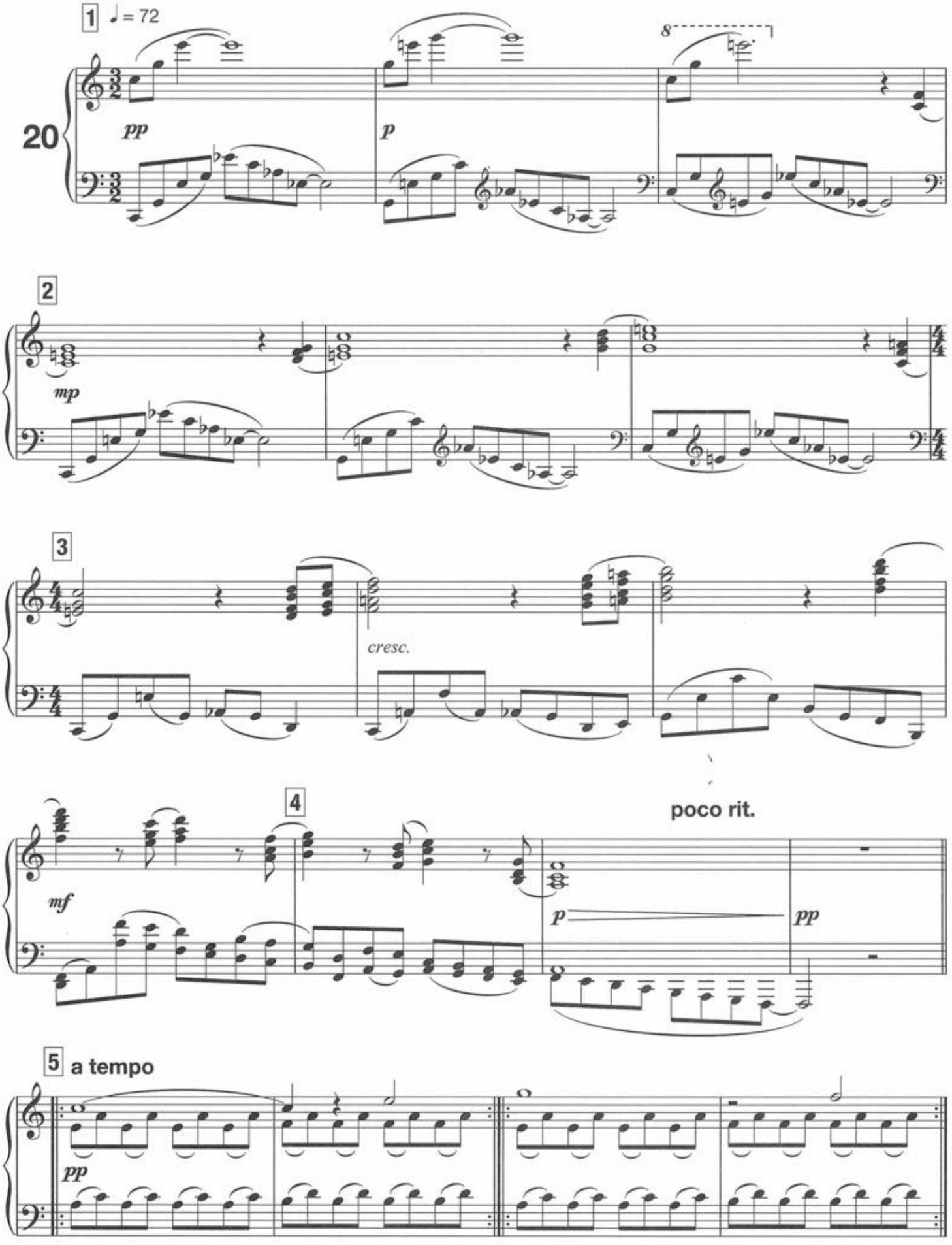

poco rit.
mp
12 a tempo
1.
2.
13
1.
2.
poco rit.
14 a tempo
p
15

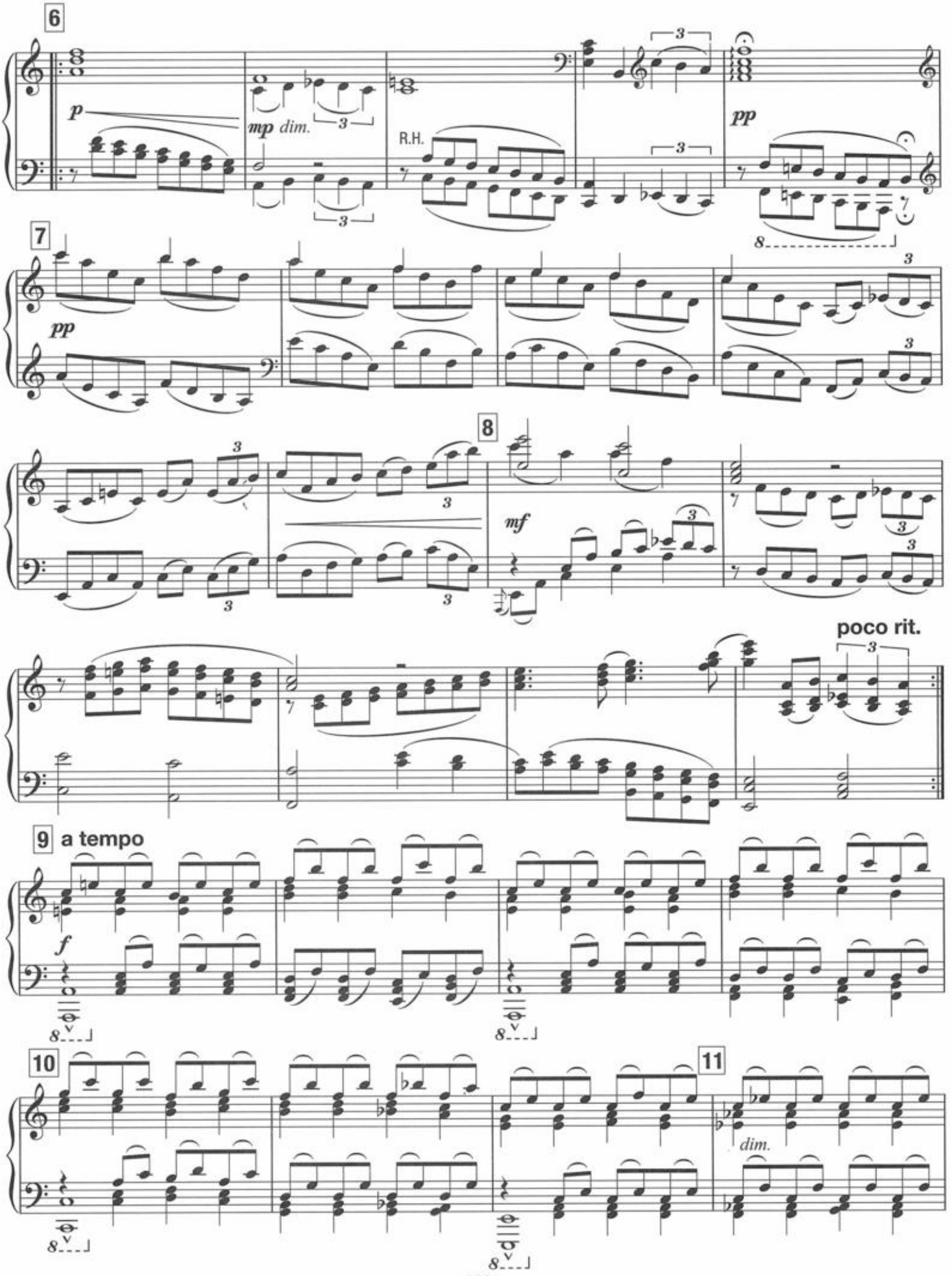

16
mp
17 accel.
cresc.
18
mf
(short)
f
19 Tempo primo (♩ = 96)
mp
20
p

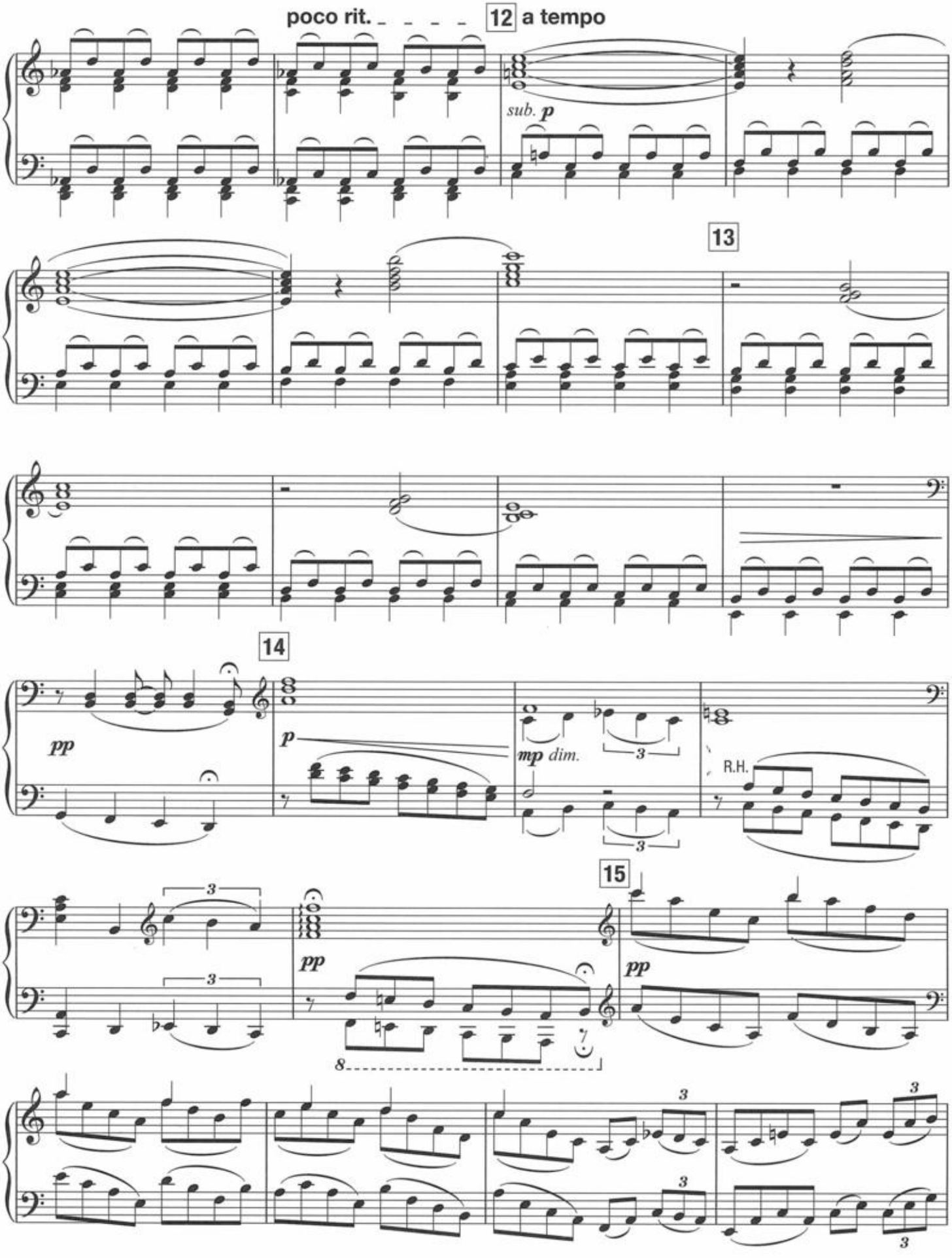

21
1A
mp
2A
3A
4A

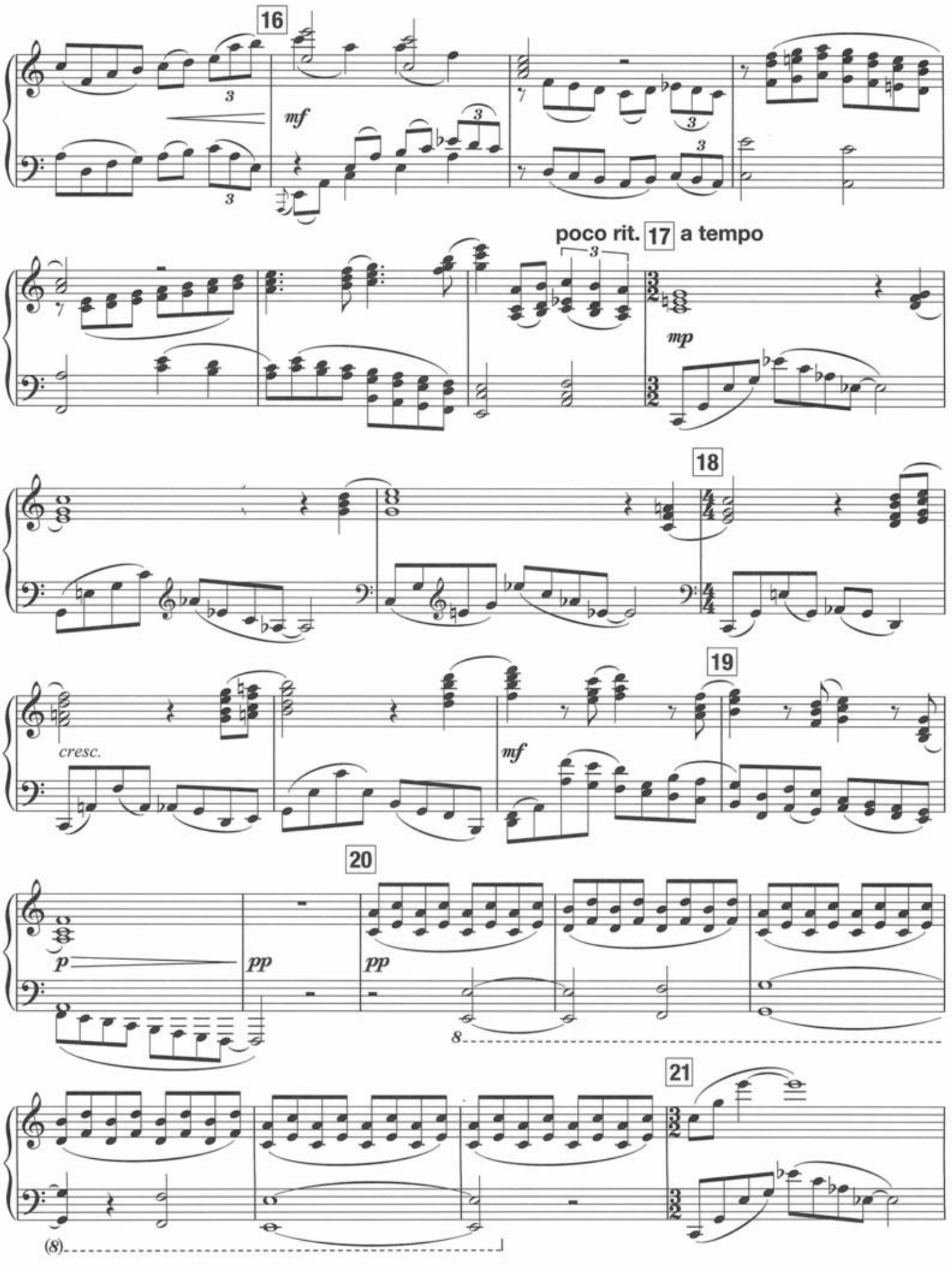

5A
6A
mf
7A
8A
9A

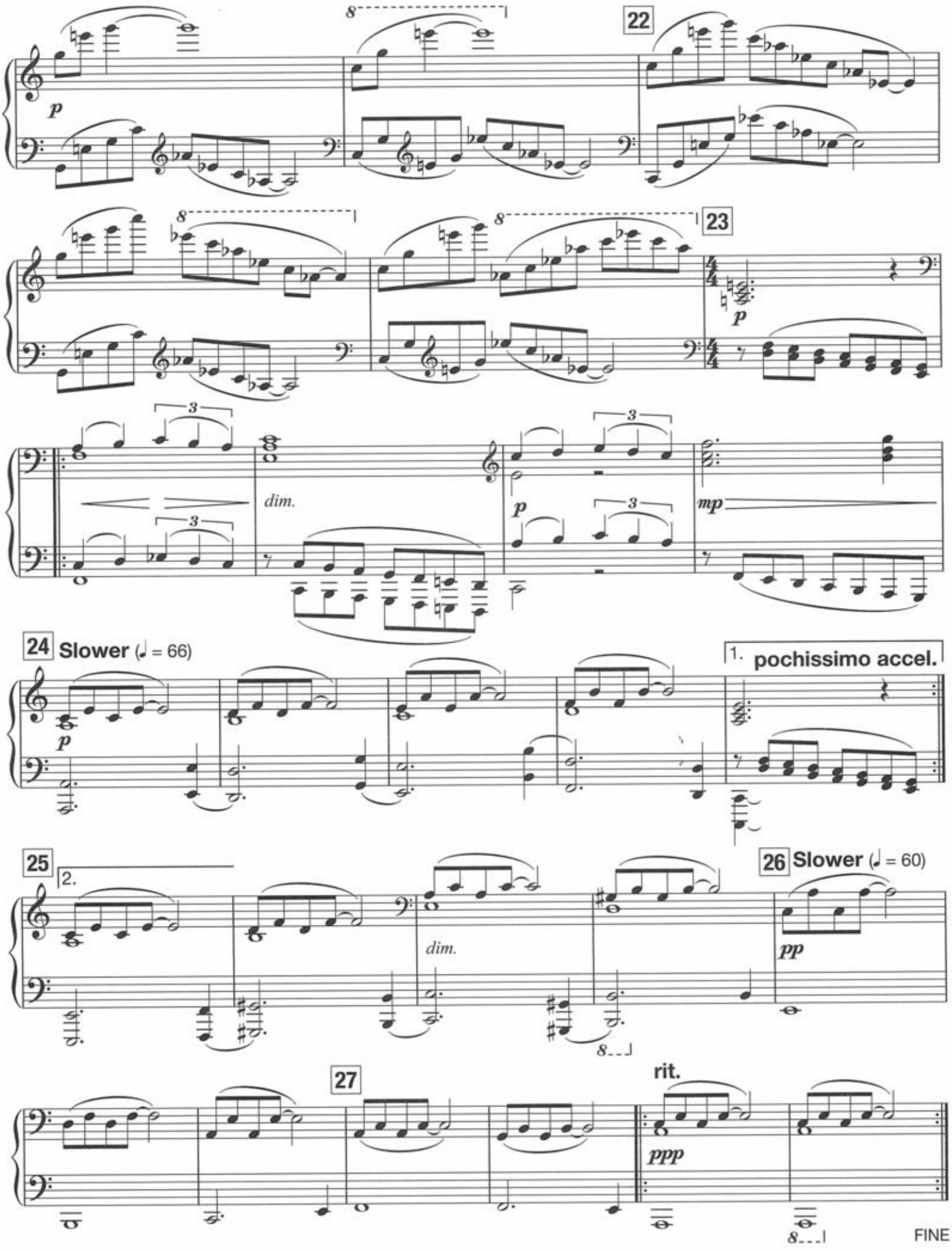

22 Faster ♩ = 104
pp
23
p
pp
24
p
25
pp
p
26
pp
poco rit.
pp
pp


1
♩ = 72
20
pp
p
8
2
mp
3
cresc.
4
mf
poco rit.
p
pp
5 a tempo
pp


6
p
mp dim.
R.H.
pp
7
pp
8
mf
poco rit.
9 a tempo
f
10
11
dim.


poco rit.
12
a tempo
sub. p
13
14
pp
p
mp dim.
R.H.
15
pp
pp


16
mf
poco rit.
17
a tempo
mp
18
19
cresc.
mf
20
p
pp
pp
8
21
(8)


22
23
dim.
dim.
24 Slower (♩ = 66)
1. pochissimo accel.
25
2.
26 Slower (♩ = 60)
27
rit.
FINE

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