

Orchestra Excerpts for NZSSSO 2026 – Viola

In addition to your short solo piece, please play the following orchestral excerpts (between the red brackets).

Please introduce each item before playing.

We suggest you listen to recordings to determine a suitable tempo for each excerpt and look at the score – available on the audition page – for context

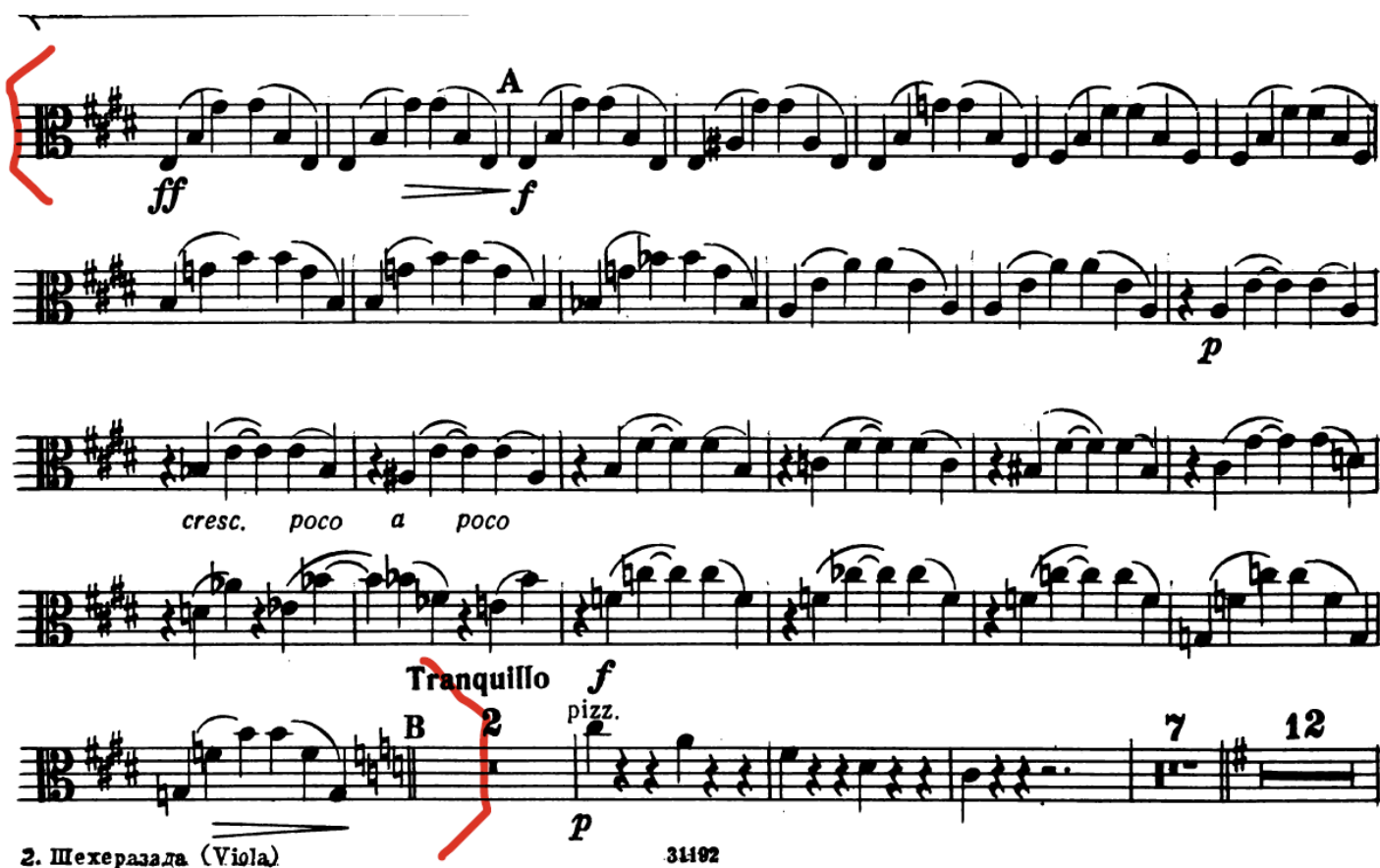
Viola

Rimsky-Korsakov – Scheherazade

Excerpt 1 – Movement 1, 2 bars before Figure A, ending at Figure B

Minimum tempo – dotted minim (half bar) = 50.

Please play as legatissimo as possible



ff *f* *p*

cresc. poco a poco

Tranquillo f *pizz.* *p*

2. Шехеразада (Viola) **31192**

Excerpt 2 – Movement 3, Figure N to the first pizzicato note, 6 bars before Figure O

Minimum tempo – dotted crotchet, (each bar in 1), 50bpm

Clarity of chromatics is important here, along with phrasing and musical direction of melody.

The musical score is written for a string quartet, with staves for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello/Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/4. The excerpt begins with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic. The first staff (Violin I) has measures numbered 1 through 8, followed by a double bar line and the letter 'N'. A red bracket highlights the first measure after the double bar line. The tempo marking 'Con moto' appears above the staff. The second staff (Violin II) has measures numbered 3 and 3. The third staff (Viola) has a *f* (forte) dynamic marking. The fourth staff (Cello/Double Bass) has a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking, a *f* dynamic, and a red bracket highlighting the first measure after the double bar line. The fifth staff (Cello/Double Bass) has a *p* (piano) dynamic and an 'arco' marking. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

Excerpt 3 – Movement 3, Figure M to N

Minimum tempo – quaver = 140bpm. (look at the score for an explanation of the time signatures in this movement (2/8, 6/16, 3/8))

Articulation to be observed, control of the right arm is key here.

Figure M to N

sf con forza

sf

p poco cresc.

f cresc.

31192

Viola

17

N pizz.

sf f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15