Move, Then Find the Reference

Distinguish frequency variation from amplitude variation; return to the reference pitch after movement.

1 · STUDY THE LABELED TRACES (WORKED EXAMPLES)

Each trace below is already labeled with its signal type — study the pattern before the listening test in Round 2. All signals are at C♯5 (554.365 Hz).

A



Pitch (frequency) varies

signal: frequency-varying

B



Pitch stays constant

signal: steady

C



Amplitude varies; pitch constant

signal: amplitude-only

D



Pitch (frequency) varies again

signal: frequency-varying

2 · CHOOSE FROM AUDIO (DIAGRAMS HIDDEN)

Listen to each item. Circle or write: **steady**, **frequency-varying**, or **amplitude-only**. Derive answers from the signal, not from performance style.

Item A

Listen

steady / frequency-varying / amplitude-only

→ _____

Item B

Listen

steady / frequency-varying / amplitude-only

→ _____

Item C

Listen

steady / frequency-varying / amplitude-only

→ _____

Item D

Listen

steady / frequency-varying / amplitude-only

→ _____

3 · PLAY AND RETURN

Two attempts. Hold C♯5 (554.365 Hz). Sustain steadily, then the teacher guides a short pitch variation. After the variation, stop and predict where the reference pitch was. Re-bow and sustain. The teacher confirms start pitch, return pitch, and comfort of movement.

Attempt	Starting pitch accurate?	Teacher observed movement?	Return pitch accurate?	Comfortable?
1				
2				

Performance rubric: starting/return pitch, teacher-confirmed movement and comfort. No violin-technique certification: this is ear-training context only.

Try it Before listening to Round 2, predict whether each item will have a moving pitch trace or a flat one. Answers come from the audio signal — not from how the sound was produced. Check: does the pitch go up and down? That is frequency-varying. Does only the loudness change? That is amplitude-only.

Listen: scan or visit **tissimo.co/worksheets/violin-vibrato-reference-check**
Synthetic pure-tone audio — answers from signal type, not performance

Round 1: A = frequency-varying · B = steady · C = amplitude-only · D = frequency-varying · Round 2: A = steady · B = frequency-varying · C = amplitude-only · D = steady · Reference: C♯5 = MIDI 73 = 554.365 Hz · -25¢ = 546.417 Hz · Answers from signal type, not performance claims.

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