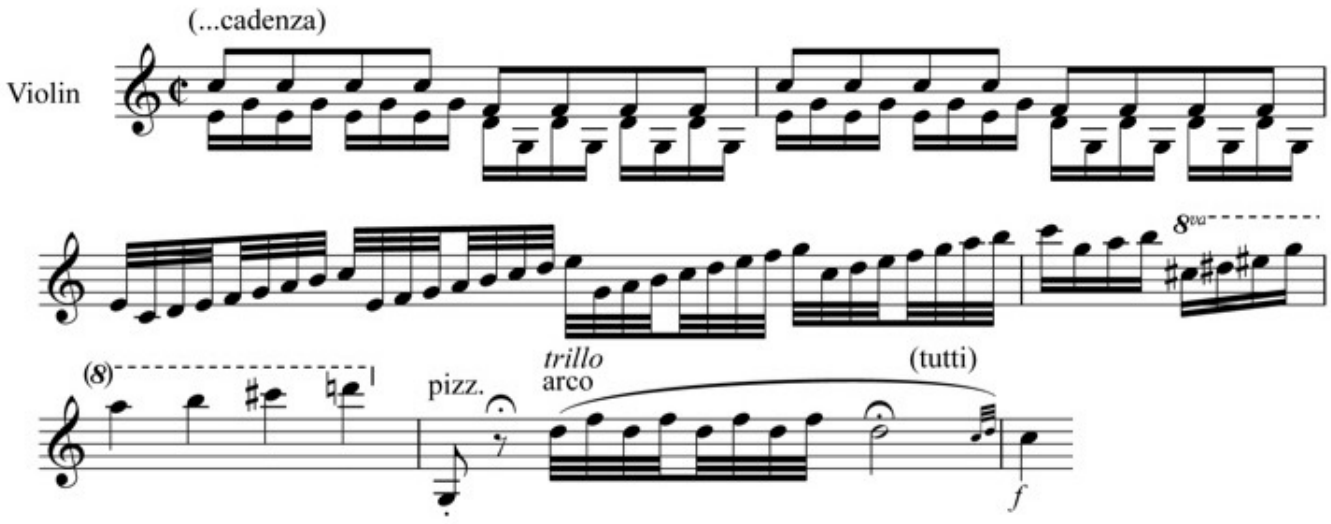
a journal of the Society for Music Theory

MTO 23.1 Examples: Palmer, Humorous Script Oppositions in Classical Instrumental Music

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online)
http://www.mtosmt.org/issues/mto.17.23.1/mto.17.23.1.palmer.php

Example 1. Mozart's *Ein musikalischer Spaß*, K. 522, iii, mm. 72–78



Example 2. Haydn’s Symphony no. 60, i, mm. 67–86

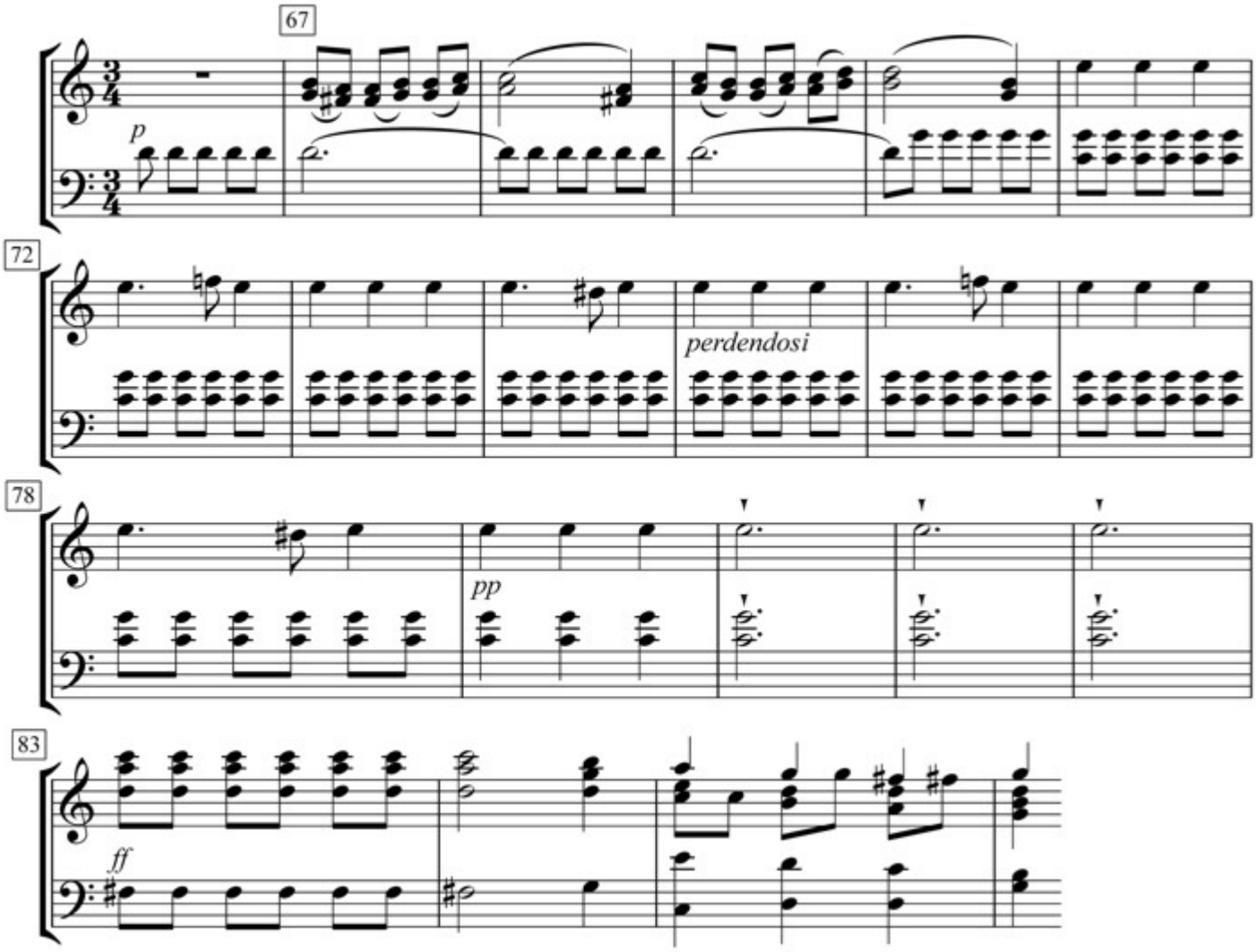


Figure 1. “Fish tank” joke text script oppositions

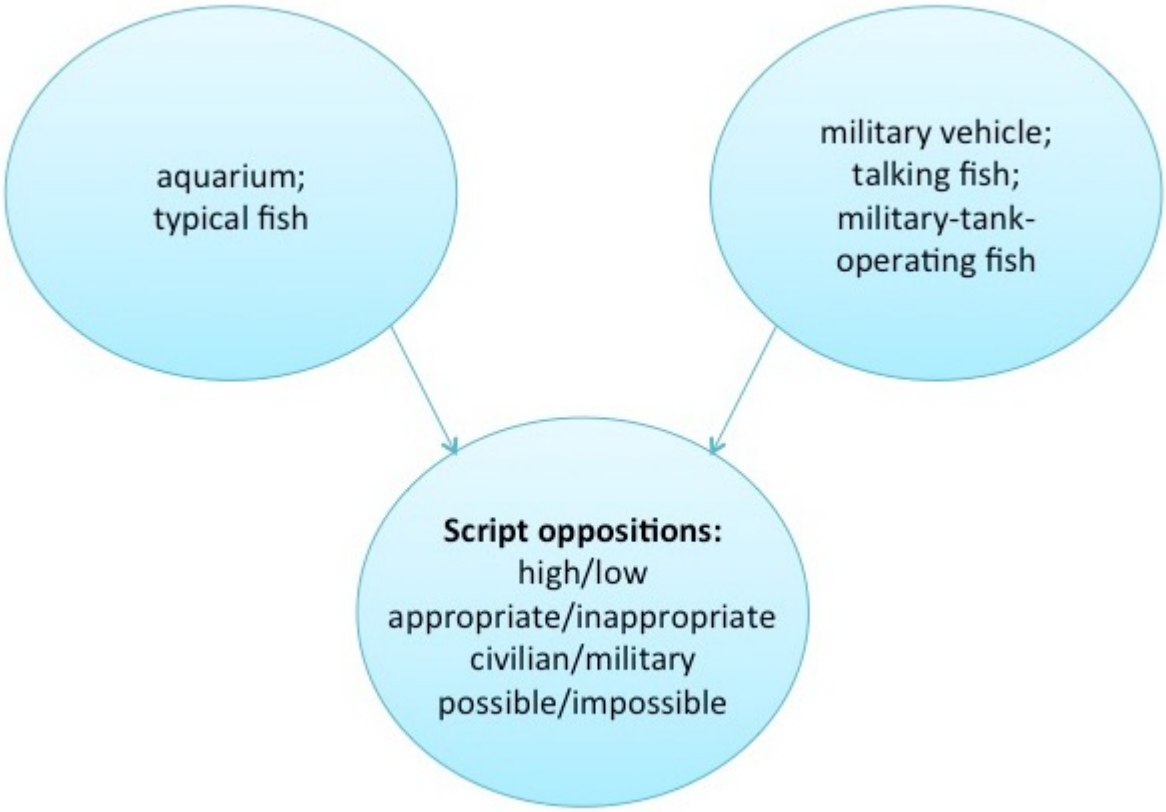


Figure 2. Typical opposition

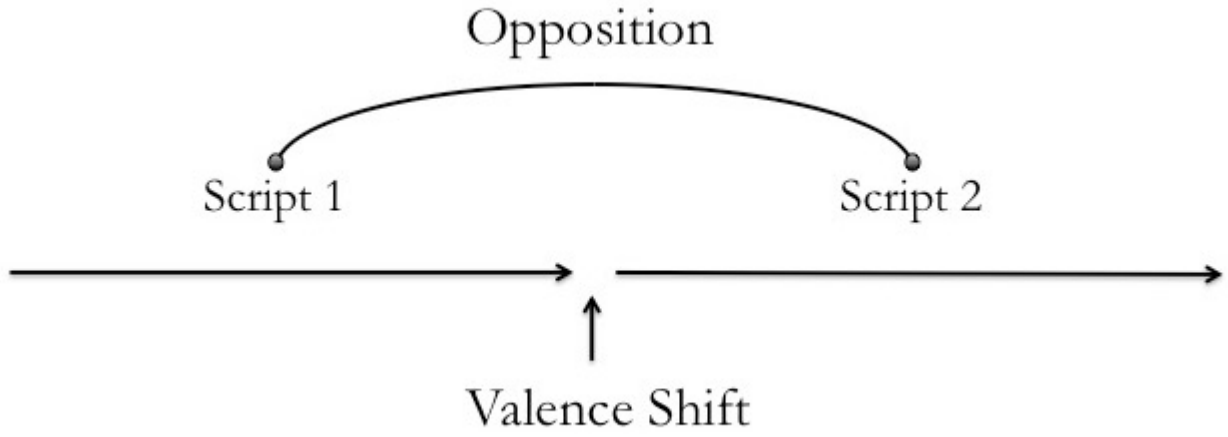


Figure 3. Emotional valence and social status conveyed by musical topics

Most Positive Emotional Valence

Low Social Status	gag-like, ridiculous, country dances, *Ländler*, some Scherzi, *contredanse*, *musette*	sophisticated, *brilliant*, *minuet, French overture, hunt, fanfare*
	pedestrian, *Turkish*	solemn, panicked, *serioso*, *lament, Sturm und Drang*

High Social Status

Most Negative Emotional Valence

Example 3a. Haydn's Symphony no. 60, iii, mm. 39–48

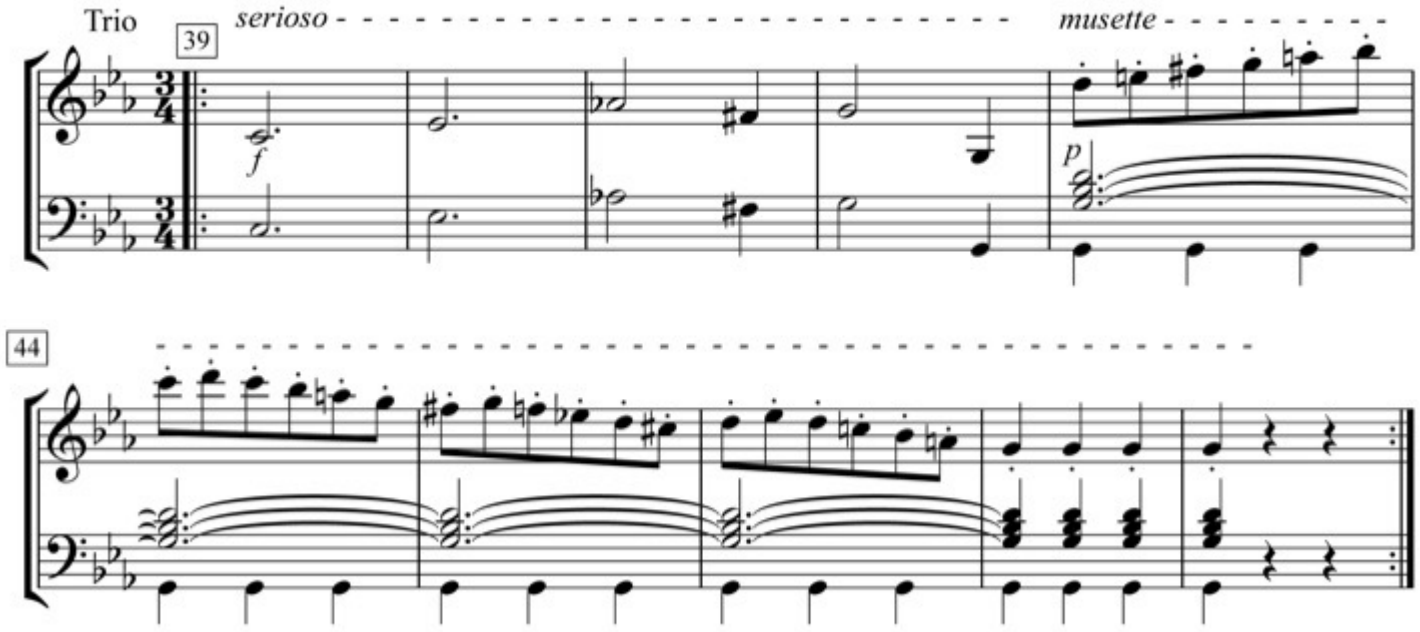
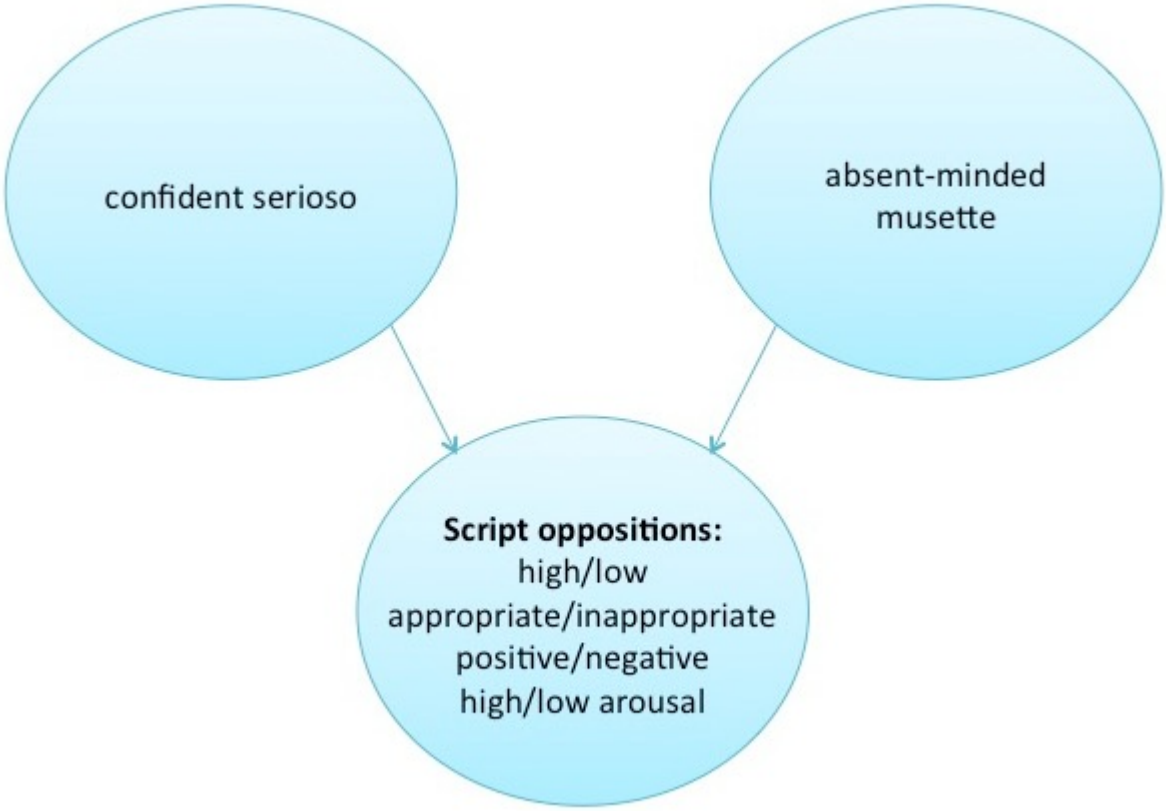
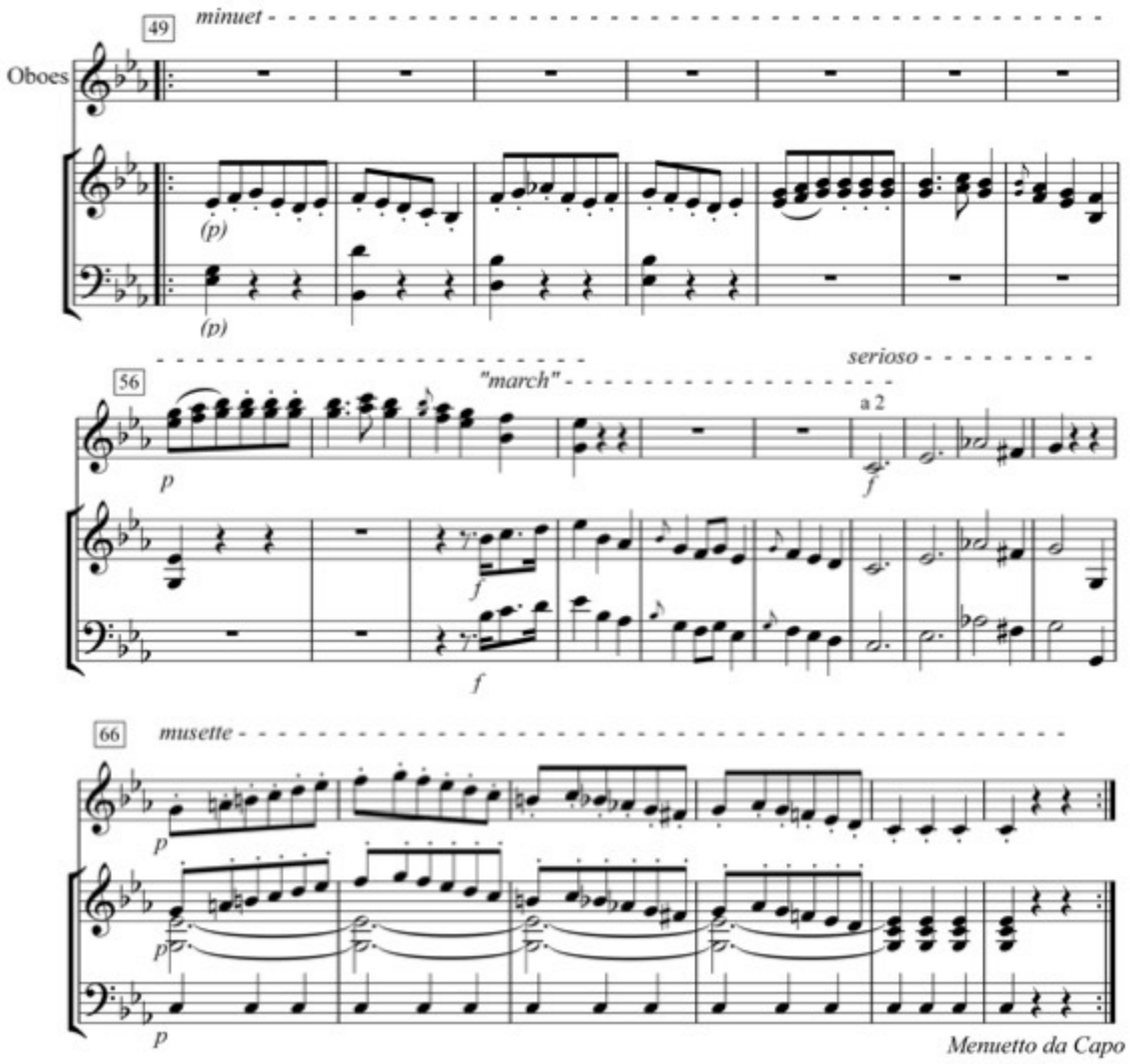


Figure 4. Haydn's Symphony no. 60, iii script oppositions



Example 3b. Haydn's Symphony no. 60, iii, mm. 49–71



Example 4. Haydn's String Quartet op. 33 no. 2, iv, mm. 148–153

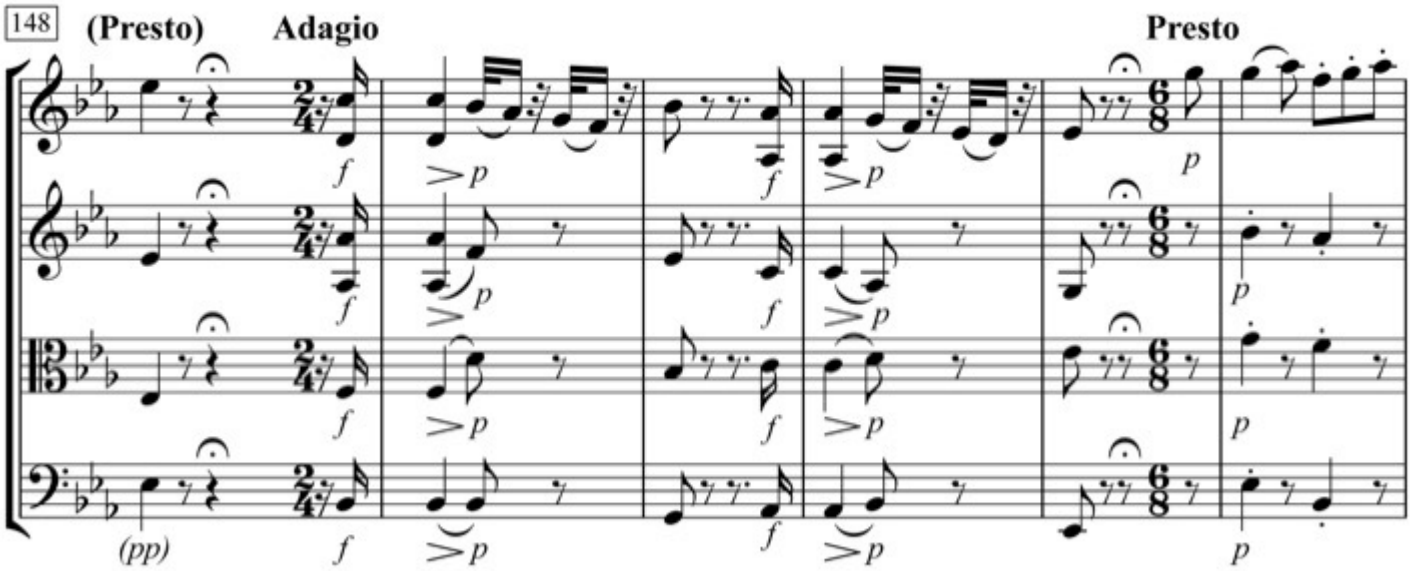
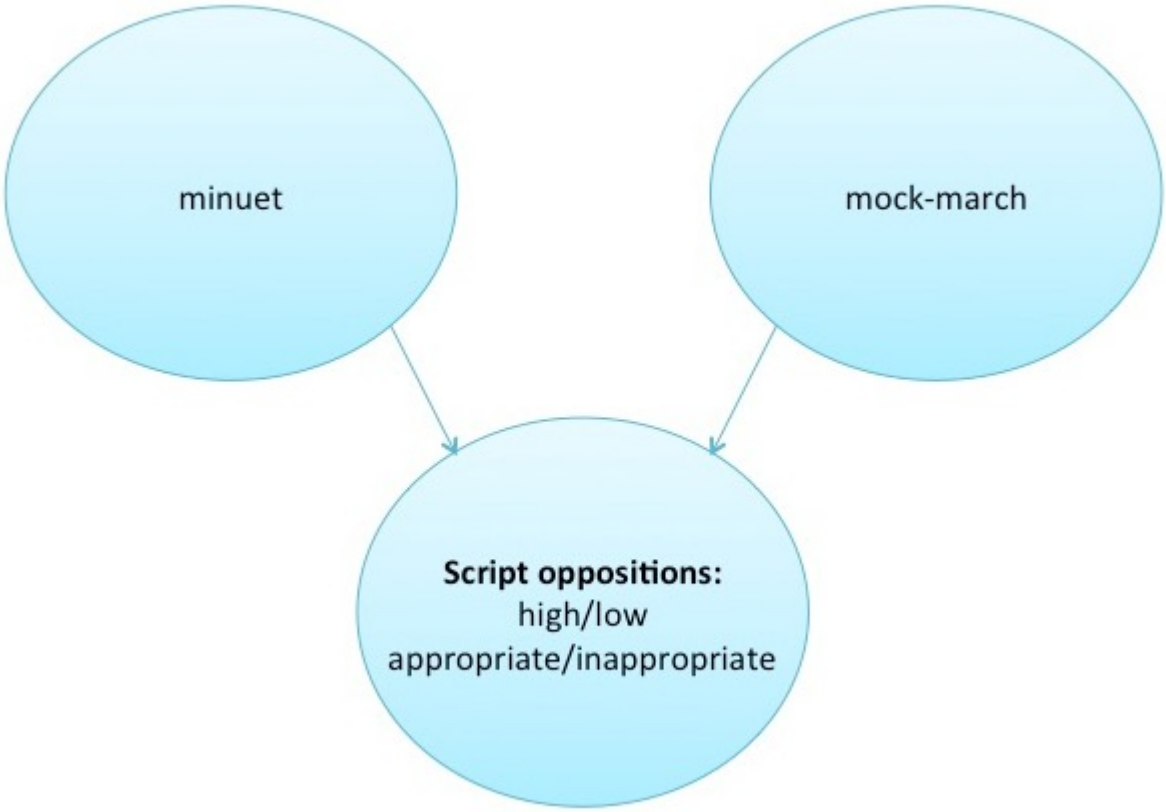


Figure 5. Haydn's Symphony no. 60, iii script oppositions



Example 5. Haydn's Symphony no. 60, vi, mm. 1–36

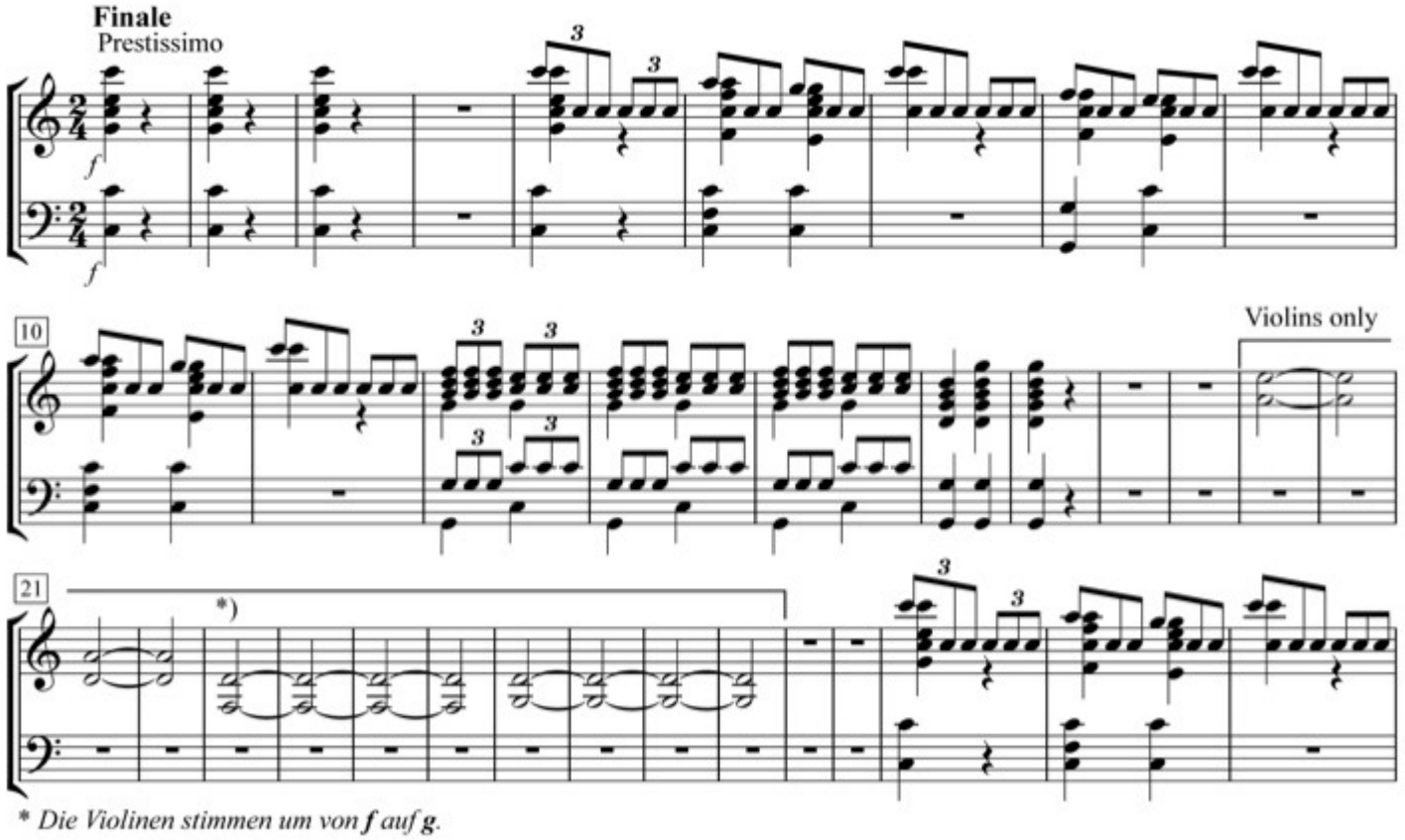
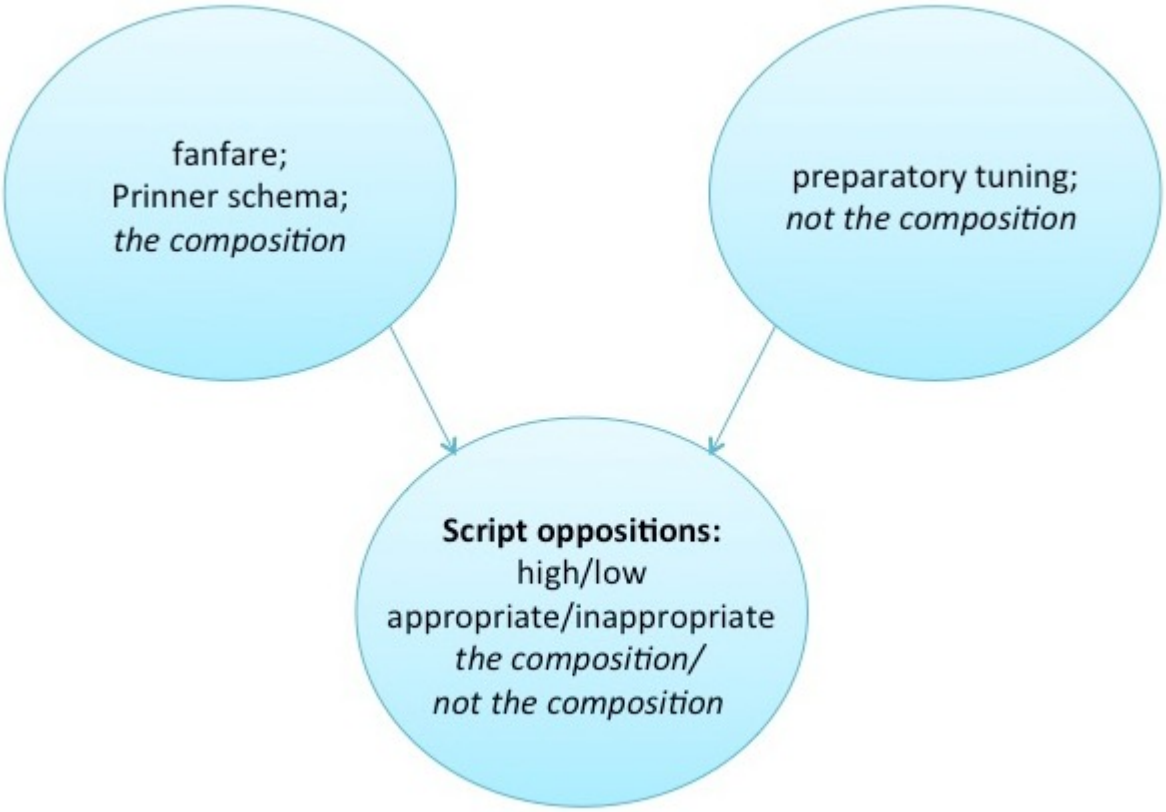


Figure 6. Haydn's Symphony no. 60, vi script oppositions



Example 6. Michael Haydn's Symphony in D major, Perger 13, iii, mm. 78–83
(audio begins 10 seconds before notated example)

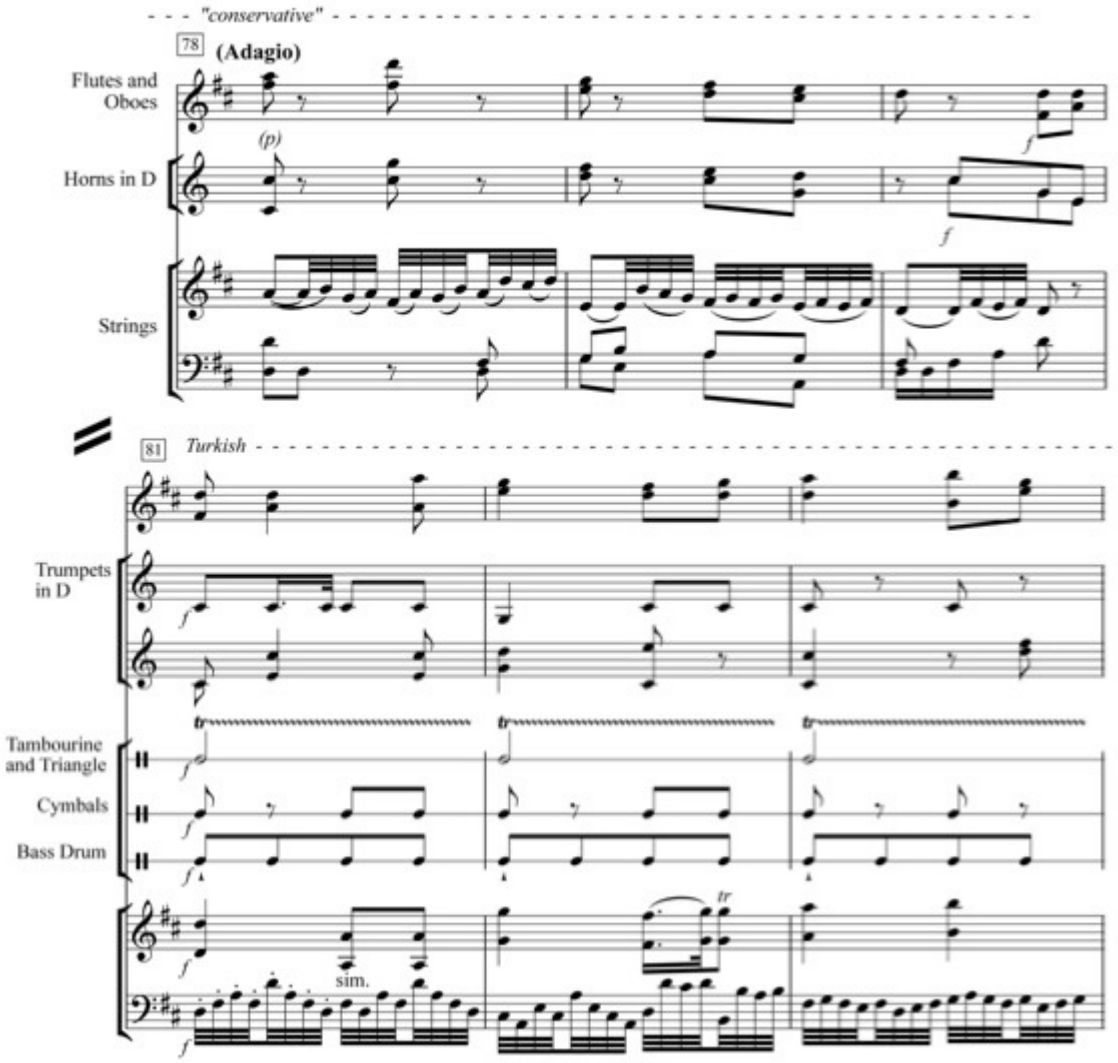
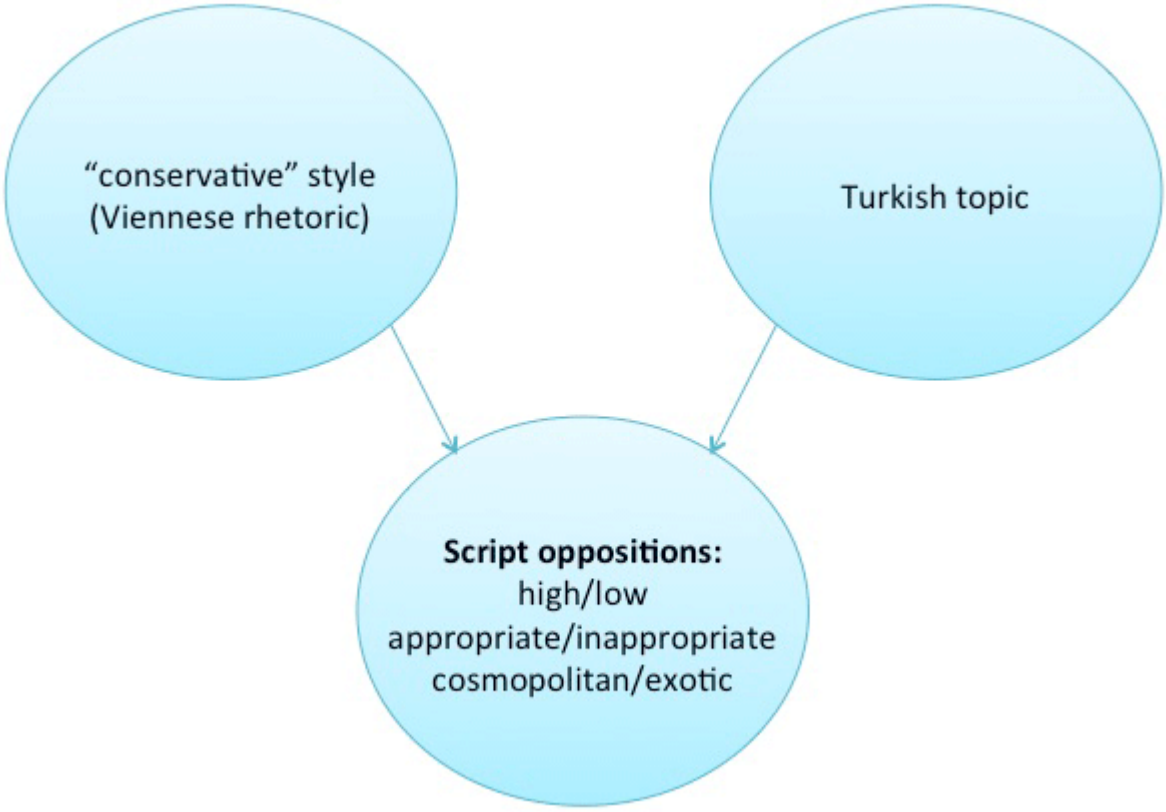


Figure 7. Michael Haydn's Symphony in D, iii script oppositions



Example 7. Mozart’s Serenade in D major K. 250, i, mm. 267–83

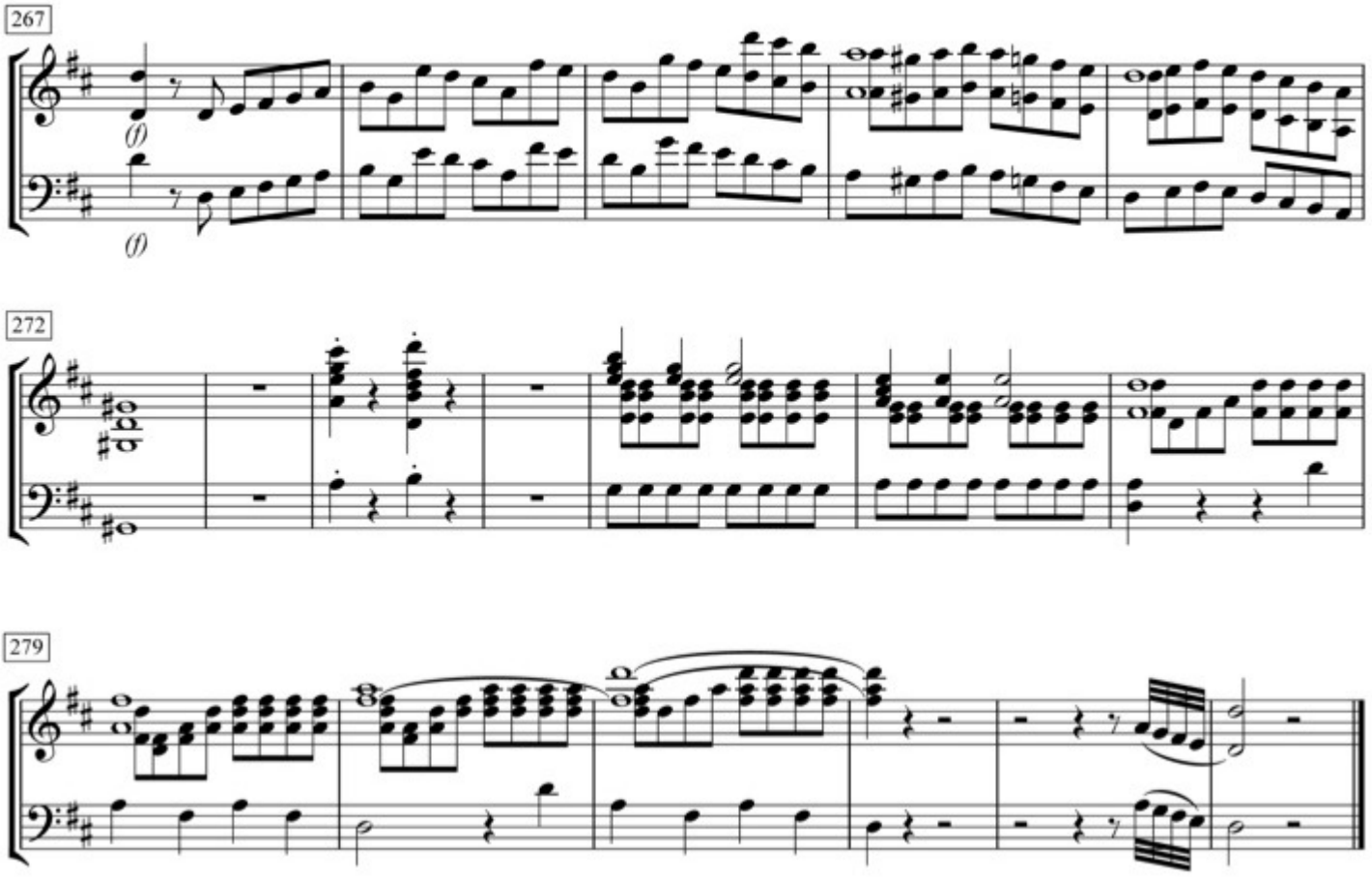
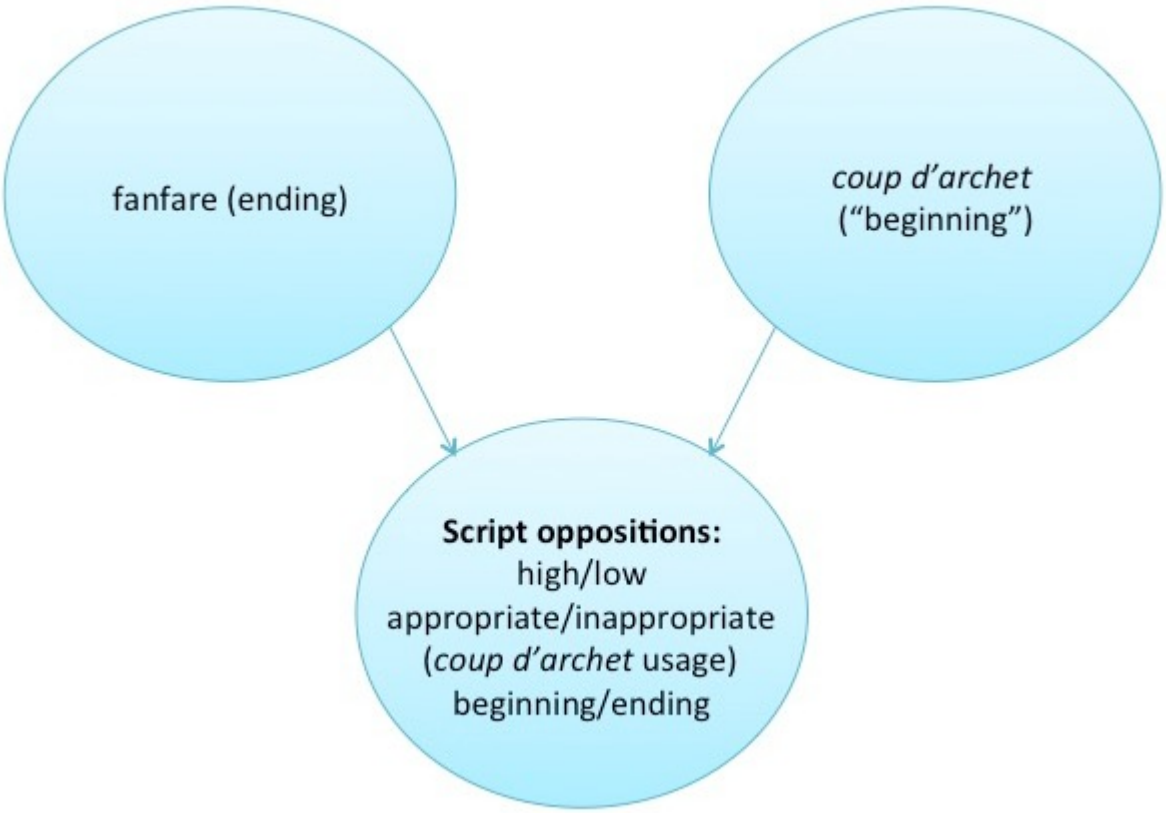



Figure 8. Mozart Serenade in D major, K. 250, i script oppositions