

Dictation

Part II: Tonal & Melodic

Chapter 14: I and V₇ in Major and Minor Modes; Eighth Note = Beat Unit

Since dictation and reading skills work hand in hand, developing dictation skills positively impacts reading skills and vice versa.

Tonal Dictation: I and V₇ in Major and Minor Modes

Developing Aural-Oral Translation Skills

Practice naming patterns using the three-step aural-oral process with your instructor or student partner and independently via the Part II, MP3 files of the tonic-dominant tonal patterns in Chapter 9 (major) and 10 (minor) which are located on the companion website.

Tonal Procedure

- On the first playing/singing, write the first letter of each tonal syllable. Draw a question mark if a particular pitch cannot be determined and then move forward focusing on the ensuing pitches.
- On the second playing/singing, address the missing pitch(es).
- Translate the tonal syllables into notation by using note heads to indicate the pitches on the staff.

Tonal Dictation and Notation

Major Mode: Tonic — Dominant-Seventh Triad

Minor Mode: Tonic — Dominant-Seventh Chord

1

Solfège Syllables s₁ t₁ r d s f r

Tonal Notation

2

La-Based: l m₁ t s₁ r t l

Solfège Syllables

Do-Based: d s₁ r t f r d

Tonal Notation

Melodic Dictation: I and V₇ in Major and Minor Modes; Eighth Note = Beat Unit

Melodic Shorthand Procedure

Write with one hand and quietly use a down-up motion with the other hand. Following the simple meter, down-up (↓↑) motion of each beat can be visual and kinesthetic aids in determining the rhythm.

Write the first letter of each tonal syllable above the beat lines and mark the appropriate rhythm shorthand on the beat lines. See Part I, Chapter 18.5 for the shorthand key in simple meter.

- First playing: focus on only the rhythm or tonal aspect, preferably your strongest element.
- Second playing: focus on the other element.
- Third playing: address missing rhythms or pitches and make any necessary adjustments.
- Transcribe the rhythm shorthand and tonal syllables into notation on the staff.

Suggested melodic shorthand symbols for Part II, Chapter 14 are illustrated below.

Melodic Dictation

1.

Tonal Solfège s₁ s₁ d t₁ r f m r r s s s f r t₁ t₁ d r m f s l s f r t₁ d

Rhythm Shorthand ♯ | | 3 | ♯ | S | † | ♯ | S | S | 3 | |

Melodic Transcription
Quarter Note = Beat Unit

Melodic Transcription
Half Note = Beat Unit

Melodic Transcription
Eighth Note = Beat Unit

2.

La-Based: l d t l s₁ l t d r d t r m r d t r t s₁ t m m r t l s₁ l t d r m m r t s₁ m₁ f₁ s₁ l

Do-Based: d m e r d t₁ d r m e f m e r f s f m e r f r t₁ r s s f r d t₁ d r m e f s s f r t₁ s₁ l₁ t₁ d

Rhythm Shorthand † | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | † | † | † | ♯ | ♯ | † | † | ♯ | |

Melodic Transcription
Quarter Note = Beat Unit

Melodic Transcription
Half Note = Beat Unit

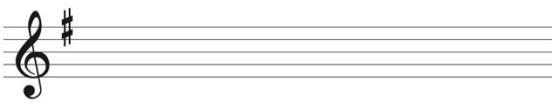
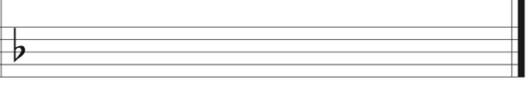
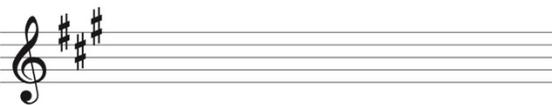
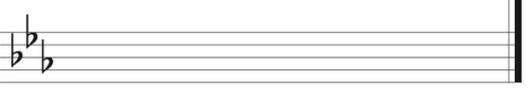
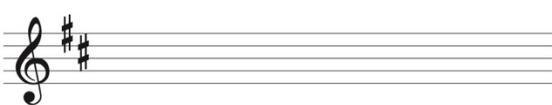
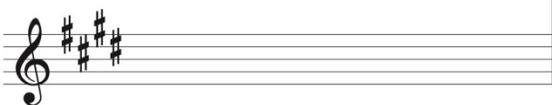
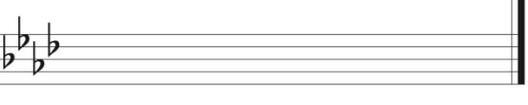
Melodic Transcription
Eighth Note = Beat Unit

As skills improve, gradually increase the length of each dictation exercise. Reading exercises in Section 14.3, 14.4, 14.5, and 14.6 as well as Part II, Chapter 14, Additional Reading Exercises located on the companion website, can be used for dictation.

Tonal Templates — Chapter 14, Part II

Tonal Syllables	1.	2.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	3.	4.
Tonal Notation		

Tonal Templates — Chapter 14, Part II

Tonal Syllables	1.	2.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	3.	4.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	5.	6.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	7.	8.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	9.	10.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	11.	12.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	13.	14.
Tonal Notation		
Tonal Syllables	15.	
Tonal Notation		

Melodic Templates [2 Simple Meters] — Chapter 14, Part II

The instructor will indicate the key signature.

1.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

2.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

3.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

4.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

5.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

Melodic Templates [3 Simple Meters] — Chapter 14, Part II

The instructor will indicate the key signature.

1.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth - Beat Unit

Half = Beat Unit

2.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

Half = Beat Unit

3.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

Half = Beat Unit

4.

Tonal Syllables

Short Hand

Quarter = Beat Unit

Eighth = Beat Unit

Half = Beat Unit