

Dictation

Part II: Tonal & Melodic

Chapter 10: *i* and *V*₇ in Minor Mode; Simple and Compound Meters

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

Tonal Dictation: *i* and *V*₇ in Minor Mode

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, Chapter 10, MP3 files of the minor I and V tonal patterns 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

Tonic — Dominant Triad

Tonal Syllables

La-Based: l m₁ si₁ t d t m si₁ l
Do-Based: d s₁ t₁ r me r s t₁ d

Tonal Notation

Terminal Cadence

Tonic — Dominant-Seven Chord

Tonal Syllables

La-Based: l t si₁ l t r d l si
Do-Based: d r t₁ d r f m d t₁

Tonal Notation

Progressive Cadence

Melodic Dictation: *i* and *V*₇ in Minor Mode; Simple and Compound Meters

Melodic Shorthand Procedure

Using a shorthand method can facilitate the development of dictation skills as it allows one to write as fast as it's heard while allowing time for musical memory skills to develop. Write with one hand and quietly use a down-up motion with the other hand. Following the simple meter, down-up (↓↑) or compound meter, down-up-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 5.5 for the rhythm shorthand key in compound meter and Chapter 3.5 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 10 are illustrated below.

Melodic Dictation

As skills improve, gradually increase the length of each dictation exercise. Reading exercises in Section 10.4, 10.8 and 10.9 as well as Chapter 10, Part II, Additional Reading Exercises located on the companion website, can be used for dictation.

Solfège Syllables	La-Based m ₁ l l si ₁ m ₁ d d t r d l si ₁ m ₁ l 1. Do-Based s ₁ d d t ₁ s ₁ me me r f me d t ₁ s ₁ d
Rhythm Shorthand	
Melodic Transcription	

Solfège Syllables	La-Based m ₁ l l si ₁ m ₁ d d t r d l si ₁ m ₁ l 1. Do-Based s ₁ d d t ₁ s ₁ me me r f me d t ₁ s ₁ d
Rhythm Shorthand	
Melodic Transcription	

Tonal Templates — Chapter 10, 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	

Melodic Templates [Simple Meter] — Chapter 10, Part II

The instructor will indicate the key signature.

Tonal Syllables 1.

Short Hand

Notation

Tonal Syllables 2.

Short Hand

Notation

Tonal Syllables 3.

Short Hand

Notation

Tonal Syllables 4.

Short Hand

Notation

Tonal Syllables 5.

Short Hand

Notation

Tonal Syllables 6.

Short Hand

Notation

Tonal Syllables 7.

Short Hand

Notation

Melodic Templates [Compound Meter] — Chapter 10, Part II

The instructor will indicate the key signature.

Tonal Syllables 1.

Short Hand

♩ = Beat Unit

Tonal Syllables 2.

Short Hand

♩ = Beat Unit

Tonal Syllables 3.

Short Hand

♩ = Beat Unit

Tonal Syllables 4.

Short Hand

♩ = Beat Unit

Tonal Syllables 5.

Short Hand

♩ = Beat Unit

Tonal Syllables 6.

Short Hand

♩ = Beat Unit

Tonal Syllables 7.

Short Hand

♩ = Beat Unit