

Melodic Organization, Parallel Periods

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1. Lesson Objective

- Students will be able to identify Melodic Organization as related to Parallel Periods

2. Pre-Requisite Material / Knowledge

- Basic Rhythm, Pitch Recognition, Meter
- Cadences
- Basic Components of Melodic Organization
 - o Motive
 - o Phrase

3. Lesson Plan/ Procedure

- Review the basic components of Melodic Organization by discussing Motives and Phrases.
 - When review is complete, discuss the concept of periods, specifically parallel o Use “Conversation Analogy” for period discussion. See Example 1, below. o Use “Color Analogy” for period discussion. See Example 2, next page.
- After covering periods, relate the color analogy to simple musical phrase excerpts from “Camptown Races” to show parallel period. See Example 3, next page.
 - Upon review of the “Camptown Races” musical excerpts, move into more in-depth selections from www.gmajormusictheory.org
 - o <http://www.gmajormusictheory.org/Listening/melodies/ParrPer/Dvorak.mp3>
 - o <http://www.gmajormusictheory.org/Listening/melodies/ParrPer/Midsummer.mp3>
 - o <http://www.gmajormusictheory.org/Listening/melodies/ParrPer/Copland.mp3>
 - o <http://www.gmajormusictheory.org/Listening/melodies/ParrPer/FurElise.mp3>
 - o <http://www.gmajormusictheory.org/Listening/melodies/ParrPer/Habanera.mp3>

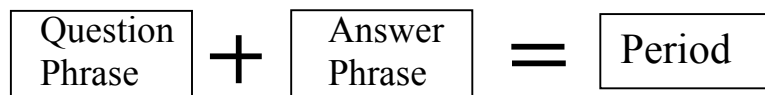
4. Ideas for Next Lesson/ Following this lesson

- Follow up this lesson with concepts building upon the idea of Melodic Organization:
 - o Contrasting Periods
 - o Double Periods
 - o Repeated Phrases

EXAMPLE I

Periods are two adjacent musical phrases, the second of which ends more conclusively than the first.

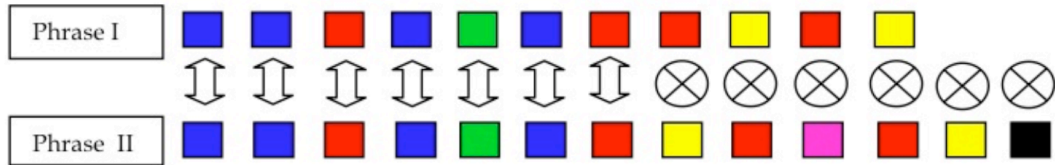
Conversation Analogy



EXAMPLE II

Parallel Periods are periods whose phrases begin in the same manner.

Color Analogy



EXAMPLE III

Stephen Foster: "Camptown Races"

Phrase I

Musical notation for Phrase I in 2/4 time. Notes are color-coded: blue, blue, red, blue, green, blue, red, red, yellow, red, yellow. Fingerings are: 5 5 3 5 6 5 3 3 2 3 2.

Phrase II

Musical notation for Phrase II in 2/4 time. Notes are color-coded: blue, blue, red, blue, green, blue, red. Fingerings are: 5 5 3 5 6 5 3 2 3 4 3 2 1.