

Melodies for Sight-Reading



Two decades ago I began to create one-page “sight-singing bonanzas” for my ear training classes because I couldn’t find materials that would be quick and easy enough to simply sight-read on the spot. Most of the material here was composed by myself, with additional contributions from Aaron Liu-Rosenbaum (a colleague at William Paterson University ‘03-’04.)

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The First Page

These are some very basic phrases that emphasize the main tones in the C major triad. If you haven't done much singing before, even these patterns may be difficult to execute with confidence. If that's the case, don't worry! A lot of students have this problem.

If you are not yet a confident singer, I would recommend that you commit to mastering this page before moving on. Memorize these little passages and sing them often. Feel free to move them to a pitch level that is comfortable for your voice. After a little while you will be more comfortable and ready to tackle the entire anthology.

1.



2.



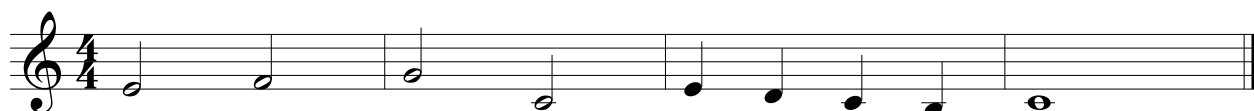
3.



4.

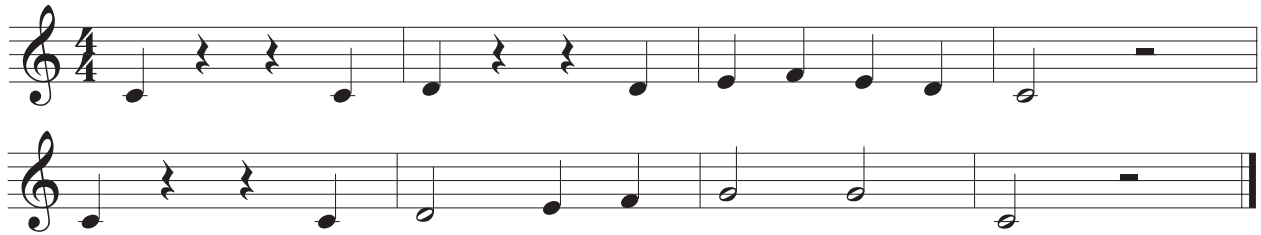


5.



A. More C-Major Material

6.



Exercise 6 consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on middle C (C4), followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3, ending with a quarter rest.

7.



Exercise 7 consists of a single staff of music in 4/4 time. The melody starts on middle C (C4), followed by a quarter note D4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4, ending with a quarter rest.

8.



Exercise 8 consists of a single staff of music in 4/4 time. The melody starts on middle C (C4), followed by a quarter note D4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4, ending with a quarter rest.

9.



Exercise 9 consists of a single staff of music in 4/4 time. The melody starts on middle C (C4), followed by a quarter note D4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4, ending with a quarter rest.

10.

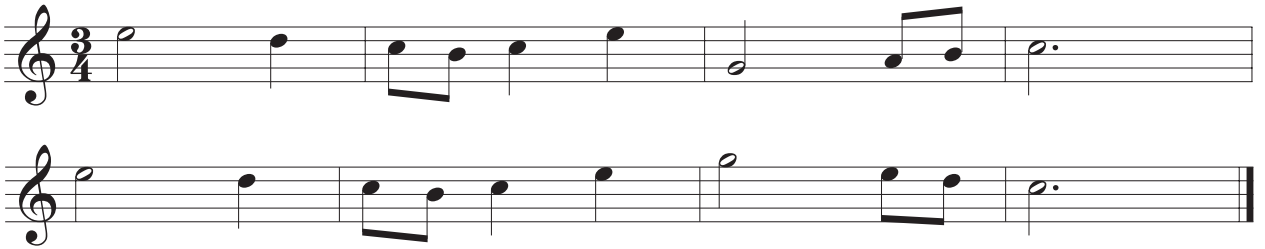


Exercise 10 consists of a single staff of music in 4/4 time. The melody starts on middle C (C4), followed by a quarter note D4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4, ending with a quarter rest.

16.



17.

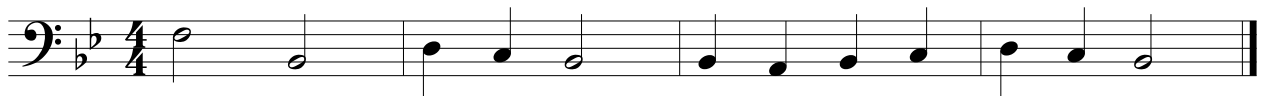


B. New Keys

18.



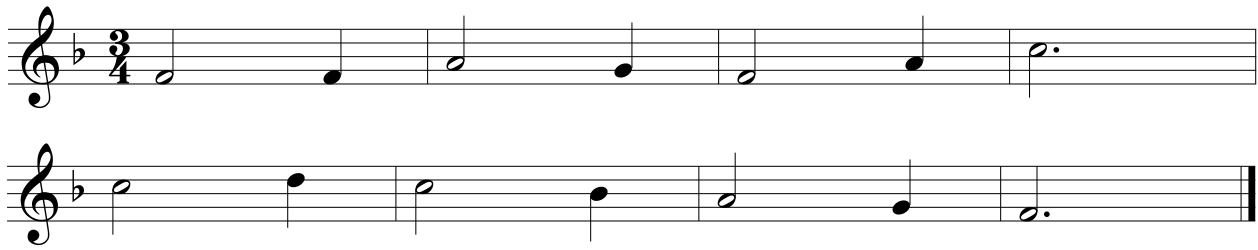
19.



20.



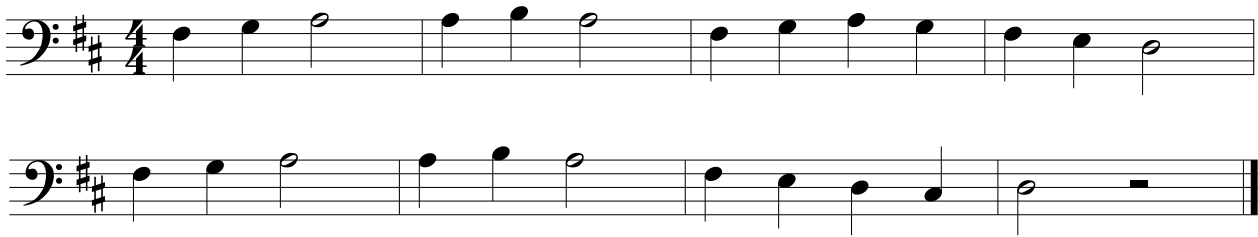
21.



22.



23.



24.



25.



26.



Introducing 6/8

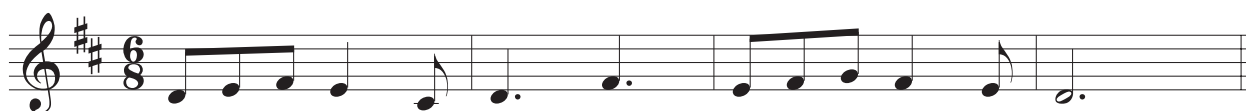
27.



28.



29.



30.



C. Major key melodies that include I and V.

Emphasis on $\hat{2}$ or "re".

30.

I V V I I V V I

31.

32.

Emphasizing $\hat{7}$ or "ti".

33.

I V I

34.

35. Schubert "Unfinished" Symphony, No. 8 in B Minor, 1st movement, 2nd theme



36.



37.



38.



Getting into the whole V triad.

39.



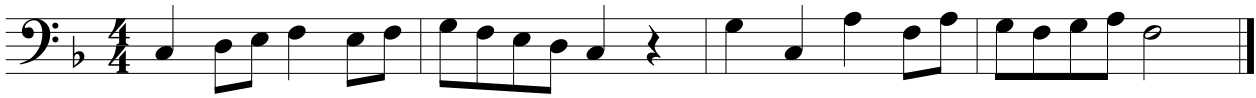
40.



41.



42.



43.



44.



D. Minor keys

45.

Exercise 45 is written in D minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The melody in the upper staff is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The bass line in the lower staff is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

46.

Exercise 46 is written in D minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody in the upper staff is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

47.

Exercise 47 is written in D minor (one flat) and 3/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The upper staff melody is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The lower staff bass line is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

48.

Exercise 48 is written in D minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody in the upper staff is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

49.

Exercise 49 is written in D minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody in the upper staff is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

A little more V chord

50.



51.



52.



53.



54.



55.

56.



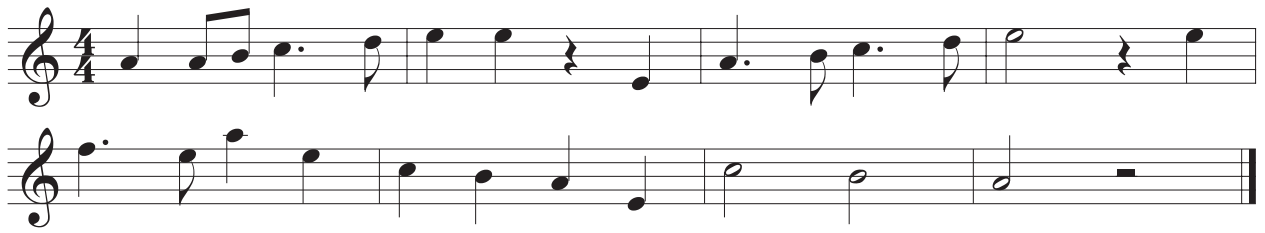
57.



58.



59.



Melodies with *do - te - le - sol* descent

60.



61.



62.



Sixteenth-note rhythms

63.



64.



65.

