

Progressive Sight Singing

Vocal Pitch Exercises

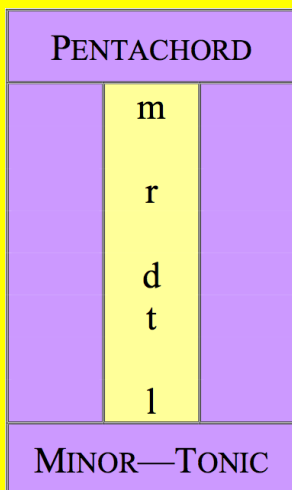
Vocal pitch exercises (intervals, scales, chords, and so on) are designed to aid in the development of tonal vocabulary skills. Consistent practice will be necessary if the ability to hear the tones as scale degrees in relation to the tonic pitch and tonic chord tones (Reference Tones) is to be mastered.

To visually aid in the development of tonal vocabulary skills, graphs depicting the appropriate tonal sequence were created. Please notice that whole and half steps are represented spatially (not evident on a staff) and background or letter colors are frequently used to indicate quality (major, minor, augmented, and diminished). Each graph should be practiced using the indicated exercise variations. The graphs may be used on individual student computers or in the classroom setting.

Please note that pitches below the tonic are shown by a subscript prime on the syllable (so₁) and the octave above the tonic and all subsequent pitches above the octave are shown by a superscript prime on the syllable (do¹). The exercises should also be sung using a variety of rhythm patterns to facilitate aural/oral preparation before visually integrating tonal and rhythm patterns in symbolic notation.

Consistent practice will be necessary if skills are to be mastered.

Vocal Pitch Exercise 01A: Minor Pentachord Scale Directions [*la-based Minor, Graph 01A*]



- a. Basic Minor Pentachord Scale:
 Ascending: la–ti–do–re–mi
 Descending: mi–re–do–ti–la
- b. Variation: Sing the basic minor pentachord scale integrating a variety of rhythm patterns. For example: quarter, quarter, half; half, quarter, etc.
- c. Reverse Minor Pentachord Scale:
 Descending: mi–re–do–ti–la
 Ascending: la–ti–do–re–mi
- d. Variation: Sing the reverse basic minor pentachord scale integrating appropriate rhythm patterns.

Part-Singing

- a. Basic Part-Singing: (Two-Part)
 Group or Individual A: Sings ascending and descending pentachord;
 Group or Individual B: Sings tonic drone (la) only;
 Exchange tasks.
- b. Reverse Basic Part-Singing: (Two-Part)
 Group or Individual A: Sings descending and ascending pentachord;
 Group or Individual B: Sings dominant drone (mi) only;
 Exchange tasks.
- c. Variation 1: (Two-Part)
 Group/individual B sings tonic drone while group/individual A sings ascending pentachord;
 When group/individual A reaches the dominant, they sing a drone on the dominant (mi) while group B sings the ascending pentachord;
 Exchange tasks using the descending form of the pentachord, alternate between the tonic and dominant drone.

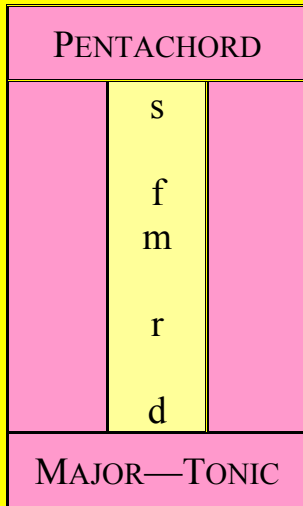
Part-Singing cont.

- d. Variation 2: (Three-Part)
 Group/individual A sings tonic drone;
 Group/individual B sings dominant drone;
 Group/individual C sings the Basic Pentachord or Reverse Basic Pentachord
 Exchange tasks until all have sung each of the three parts.

Comparison: Minor to Relative Major

Vocal Pitch Exercise 01A: Major Pentachord Scale Directions

[Major, Graph 01A]



- a. Basic Major Pentachord Scale:
 Ascending: do–re–mi–fa–so
 Descending: so–fa–mi–re–do
- b. Variation: Sing the basic minor pentachord scale integrating a variety of rhythm patterns. For example: quarter, quarter, half; half, quarter, etc.
- c. Reverse Minor Pentachord Scale:
 Descending: mi–re–do–ti–la
 Ascending: la–ti–do–re–mi
- d. Variation: Sing the reverse minor pentachord scale integrating appropriate rhythm patterns.

Part-Singing

- a. Basic Part-Singing: (Two-Part)
 Group or Individual A: Sings ascending and descending pentachord;
 Group or Individual B: Sings tonic drone (do) only;
 Exchange tasks.
- b. Reverse Basic Part-Singing: (Two-Part)
 Group or Individual A: Sings descending and ascending pentachord;
 Group or Individual B: Sings dominant drone (so) only;
 Exchange tasks.
- c. Variation 1: (Two-Part)
 Group/individual B sings tonic drone while group/individual A sings ascending pentachord;
 When group/individual A reaches the dominant, they sing a drone on the dominant (so) while group B sings the ascending pentachord;
 Exchange tasks using the descending form of the pentachord, alternate between the tonic and dominant drone.
- d. Variation 2: (Three-Part)
 Group/individual A sings tonic drone;
 Group/individual B sings dominant drone;
 Group/individual C sings the Basic Pentachord or Reverse Basic Pentachord;
 Exchange tasks until all have sung each of the three parts.