

TRIADS

A TRIAD is a chord of three tones consisting of a root, third and fifth.

Triads in both treble and bass clef:

(A) 

The ROOT is the tone on which a triad is built. When the root appears as the lowest tone, the triad is said to be in ROOT POSITION.

A MAJOR TRIAD is a chord of three tones consisting of a root, major third and perfect fifth.

Major triads in root position:

(B) 

The triad built on the first degree of the scale is called a TONIC TRIAD. It is marked with a Roman numeral I below and a capital letter for the name of the chord (triad) above.

In any major scale the tonic triad is a MAJOR CHORD.



(C) Key of C Major  Key of F Major  Key of D Major 

The triad built on the fifth degree of the scale is called a DOMINANT TRIAD. It is marked with a Roman numeral V below and a capital letter for the name of the chord (triad) above.

In any major scale the dominant triad is a MAJOR CHORD.

(D) Key of C Major  Key of F Major  Key of D Major 

Tonic and dominant triads in major keys:

(E) Key of E \flat Major  Key of A Major 

* For review of triads, see MASTER THEORY -Book 3, Lessons 83-88.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENT

Date	_____
Grade	_____

In Ex. 1 and 2 write the major chords I and V above the Roman numerals in the keys indicated. Write the letter names of the chords above.

1 

2 

In Ex. 3 and 4 write the major chords below their letter names in the keys indicated. Write the proper Roman numerals below.

3 

4 

In Ex. 5 and 6 fill in the missing note in the major chords and write the letter name of the chord above. All chords are to be in root position.

5 

6 

In Ex. 7 and 8 write the proper Roman numerals under each chord and the letter names above.

7 

8 

MELODY WRITING

The following examples illustrate three different melodies written to the same harmonic progression. A note from the harmony chord is used on the first beat of each measure.

Melody #1

Melody #2

Melody #3

Harmony

I ————— V7 ————— I —————

Detailed description: This musical score is in 3/4 time. The harmony line in the bass clef shows a progression of I (F major), V7 (C7), and I (F major). The melody lines are in the treble clef. Melody #1 starts on the first beat of the first measure with a note from the F chord, marked with a circled 'P'. Melody #2 starts on the first beat of the first measure with a note from the F chord, marked with a circled 'P'. Melody #3 starts on the first beat of the first measure with a note from the F chord, marked with a circled 'P'. A circled 'A' is placed to the left of the first measure. A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Melody #1

Melody #2

Melody #3

Harmony

IV ————— I ————— V7 ————— I —————

Detailed description: This musical score is in 3/4 time. The harmony line in the bass clef shows a progression of IV (Bb major), I (F major), V7 (C7), and I (F major). The melody lines are in the treble clef. Melody #1 starts on the first beat of the first measure with a note from the F chord, marked with a circled 'P'. Melody #2 starts on the first beat of the second measure with a note from the C7 chord, marked with a circled 'P'. Melody #3 starts on the first beat of the first measure with a note from the C7 chord, marked with a circled 'P'. A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is overlaid on the score.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENT

Date	_____
Grade	_____

Write two different, original melodies in the treble clef, in the key of F. Begin each measure with a note from the harmony chord. Mark the passing (P) and neighboring (N) notes.

1

Melody #1

F _____ C7 _____ F _____

Melody #2

Harmony

I _____ V7 _____ I _____

Melody #1

Bb _____ F _____ C7 _____ F _____

Melody #2

Harmony

IV _____ I _____ V7 _____ I _____

Complete the following melody. Mark the passing (P) and neighboring (N) notes.

2

D _____ A7 _____ D _____

(N) (P)

Harmony

I _____ V7 _____ I _____

G _____ D _____ A7 _____ D _____

IV _____ I _____ V7 _____ I _____