

### Music 110: Fluencies (Timed Skills Quizzes)

For theory to make sense, it is not enough to understand the fundamentals in the abstract: you must be able to read and write music **fluently**. Success in the fluency quizzes will make all your music study more rewarding, leading to faster, less laborious assignment work with better results.

For each fluency quiz you will have two attempts (“a” and “b”) as shown in the schedule below. Additionally, you will have a third opportunity to make up **one** fluency of your choice during the final exam. Scoring is as follows:

# correct:	6/6	10 points
# correct:	5/6	9 points
# correct:	4/6	5 points
# correct:	< 4	0 points

Your best score for any quiz will always be counted, even if you score lower on the second attempt. Absence for any fluency quiz, other than an official medical or other instructor-approved absence, yields a zero for that attempt.

Each quiz is described below, with samples attached. Each quiz will contain six items and last for exactly two minutes. **It is your responsibility to keep track of upcoming fluency quizzes and to drill as necessary;** we will devote very little class time to them.

1. **Construct** Write root-position seventh chords of indicated quality (MM, Mm, mm ONLY) over a given root note.
2. **Construct** Write root-position seventh chords of indicated quality (o7, ø7 ONLY) over a given root note.
3. **ID** Identify the quality (MM, Mm, mm, o7, ø7) of given seventh chords in close, root position.
4. **Construct** Write root-position seventh chords of indicated quality (MM, Mm, mm, o7, ø7) over a given root note.
5. **ID** Identify the quality (MM, Mm, mm, o7, ø7) of seventh chords in grand staff. The chords may appear in any inversion.
6. **Construct** Write root-position  $V^7/V$  chords from roman numerals; single staff.
7. **Construct** Write root-position  $vii^{o7}/V$  and  $vii^{\circ7}/V$  chords from roman numerals; single staff.
8. **ID** Given key and a seventh chord in close, root position, ID all secondary functions of V using roman numerals ( $V^7/V$ ,  $vii^{o7}/V$ , or  $vii^{\circ7}/V$ )
9. **ID** Given key and a seventh chord on the grand staff, ID all secondary functions of V using roman numerals, including inversion.
10. **Construct** Write root-position secondary  $V^7$  chords on any degree ( $V^7/\times$ ) from roman numerals; single staff.
11. **Construct** Write root-position secondary fully-diminished LT chords on any degree ( $vii^{o7}/\times$ ) from roman numerals; single staff.

Fluency quizzes will be given each Wednesday during class:

1/25	1 <i>practice</i>
2/1	1a
2/8	2a
2/15	3a, 1b
2/22	4a, 2b
2/29	5a, 3b
3/14	6a, 4b
3/21	7a, 5b
3/28	8a, 6b
4/4	9a, 7b
4/11	10a, 8b
4/18	11a, 9b
4/25	10b
5/2	11b

see reverse for information on drilling fluency skills

### Online drills

**www.teoria.com** Good interactive site that can be set to many of the skills on the fluency quizzes,

**http://www.dolmetsch.com/musictheory43.htm** Good list of online tutorial and drill sites; the site itself is an interesting and thorough music theory text.

### MacGAMUT

MacGAMUT is primarily an ear-training program, but can also be set to create custom notation drills that match the content of many of the **construction** (but not the ID) fluency quizzes. If you do not own your own registered copy of MacGAMUT, you can use it in the Music Technology Lab (Southwick 200D). Your CatCard will get you into the lab once the codes have been entered for this semester (about 2 weeks from the start of classes), and you can also ask at the Music Office next door to be let in if you're there during regular business hours. To use MacGAMUT as a non-registered user, double-click on the file **UVM\_Students startMG6.mgs** which should be in the Documents folder. Your teacher may demonstrate the program at some point in the semester, but it's easy to use and learn, and there is good on-screen help. Of course, music is about sound, so you should take advantage of MacGAMUT's primary function as an aural skills program, learning to identify intervals and chord qualities by ear as well as by sight.

### Keyboard practice

Playing keyboard is very helpful in developing quick visual and kinesthetic recognition of fundamentals. When you play, regardless of whether you're reading, improvising, playing by ear, playing from memory, or whatever, think about the intervals and chords you're playing. This is one of the most meaningful ways of integrating music theory knowledge. If you want outside structure to help you in acquiring basic keyboard skills, consider one of the group piano classes MU 041-043 and MU 024-025.

### Other instruments

Whatever your instrument, think about intervals and chords as you read and play them. Nothing is as good as the keyboard for a visually consistent, logical musical map, but all body-ear mappings are useful. Hear, feel, and own your musical fundamentals!

### Lab courses

Consider taking the Aural/Keyboard skills component of the theory offerings here (the lab courses MU 54, 56, 154, and 156). These are required of all music majors, but great use to minors and general students too.