

Advanced Higher Music

Sacred Music in the Renaissance period

Composers throughout history have written sacred music. In the Renaissance period sacred music was generally sung in Latin and performed **a cappella** (without instrumental accompaniment). It often contained some of the following features:

Melodic	Harmonic	Rhythmic	Texture	Timbre	Style
Melisma Syllabic Stepwise Limited range	Modal/Mode Suspension Dissonance Passing notes Cadences	Time changes Free rhythm	Polyphonic Homophonic Imitation Antiphonal	A cappella	Plainchant Mass Motet Anthem

Reminder of the 2 Renaissance styles from Higher:

- **Plainsong**

Fill in any relevant concepts for 'plainsong'

- **Mass** - A typical mass has 5 main ('Ordinary') sections. Fill these in here:

Latin	English translation
	<i>Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy</i>
	<i>Glory to God in the highest</i>
	<i>I believe in one God</i>
	<i>Holy, Hosanna, Blessed is he</i>
	<i>Lamb of God</i>

- Listen to this Renaissance mass and fill in any features that you notice.

Style	Melody/ Harmony	Rhythm/Tempo	Texture/Structure	Timbre

WHAT IS A SUSPENSION IN MUSIC?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zM1LV2JZgk4>

A suspension in music is where **a note from a chord is held whilst the other notes of the chord change to a new harmony**.

The held note is **discordant** and clashes with the new chord and this tension is only **resolved when the note moves down a degree** to a note belonging to the new chord.

Susensions feature heavily in Renaissance music, creating tension and release between the vocal lines

There are 3 stages involved in a musical suspension:

- 1.Preparation
- 2.Suspension
- 3.Resolution

In the **preparation**, the note played is a harmony note and can be found in any part.

In our example above, the F in the soprano part is the note selected.

In the **suspension**, the prepared note is held as the other parts change chord.

This creates a **dissonance** between the held note and the new chord.

The **resolution** is the point at which the **suspended note falls by a degree to a harmony note in the new chord.**

3 Stages of Suspensions

Preparation Suspension Resolution

No suspension

A musical staff in G clef (treble) and B clef (bass) is shown. The staff contains a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. Below the staff is a measure separator (a vertical line with a bracket) and a repeat sign (a double vertical line with a small circle at the top).

The "F" clashes with the
harmony notes of Chord I (C-E-G)

"F" needs to resolve to the "F"

Prepared dissonance

Dissonance

Resolution

Identifying suspensions

- Listen to *Justitiae Domine* by the modern composer Michael John Trotta.
- Write an 'S' everywhere you hear a suspension. Also add a 'P' for the prepared note and an 'R' for the resolution. The first one is done for you.
- Name the key _____

Music score for the first section of *Justitiae Domine*. The key signature is A major (two sharps). The vocal line consists of three staves of music. A box highlights a suspension in the middle staff: the note 'rec' is a prepared note (marked *mp*), followed by a suspended note (marked *mf*), and then a resolution note (marked *p*). The lyrics are: Jus - ti - ti - ae Do - mi - ni rec - tae, lae - t - fi -

Continuation of the musical score. The key signature changes to A minor (no sharps or flats). The vocal line consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: can - tes cor - da, cor - da lae - t - fi - can - tes

mf

tes cor - da cor - da lae - t - fi - can - tes cor - da

mp

cor - da lae - t - fi - can - tes cor - da lae - t - fi - can - tes cor - da

Continuation of the musical score. The key signature changes to A major (two sharps). The vocal line consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: cor - da, cor da nam ser - vus tu - us cus - to - dit

f

cor - da cor da nam ser - vus tu - us cus - to - dit

mp

lae - t - fi - can - tes cor - da nam ser - vus tu - us tu - us cus - to - dit

Continuation of the musical score. The key signature changes to A minor (no sharps or flats). The vocal line consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: e - a nam ser - vus tu - us cus - to e - a

mf

e - a nam ser - vus tu - us cus - to e - a

mp

e - a nam ser - vus tu - us cus - to e - a

Key signatures

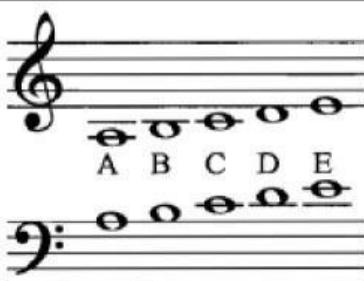
In Advanced Higher, you are required to know key signatures with up to two accidentals, major and minor.



Transposition

You need to be able to transpose up or down an octave in the same clef.
Transpose bass clef into treble clef and treble clef in bass clef.

The relationship between the treble and bass clefs can be seen in the following:



From this, it can be seen the note middle C in the treble clef, is written like this in the bass clef. They are the same pitch.

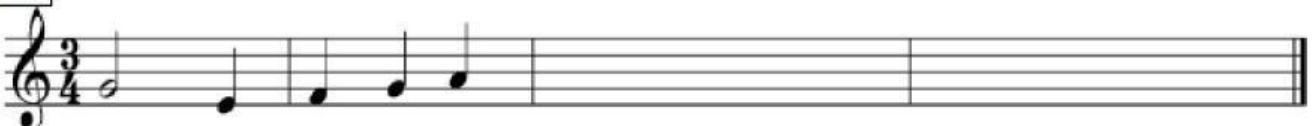


Exercise 4: Transpose the following passage UP one octave in the same clef.

a)



b)



Exercise 5: Transpose the following passage DOWN one octave in the same clef.

a)



b)



Exercise 6: Transpose the following treble clef phrases into the bass clef as the same pitch.

a)

A blank musical staff consisting of five horizontal lines. In the top left corner, there is a bass clef symbol. In the top right corner, there is a time signature symbol that looks like a '2' over a '4'.

b)

A musical score for a string instrument, likely cello or bass. The score is in 9/4 time, with a bass clef. It consists of two staves of music, each with six measures. The first staff ends with a fermata over the eighth note of the sixth measure. The second staff ends with a fermata over the eighth note of the sixth measure. The music is composed of eighth and sixteenth note patterns.

Exercise 7: Transpose the following passage up one octave into the treble clef.

al

A musical score for a bassoon. The score is in bass clef, one sharp key signature, and common time. The bassoon plays a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The score consists of two identical measures, ending with a repeat sign and a double bar line.

A blank musical staff consisting of five horizontal lines. On the far left is a treble clef symbol. The staff is otherwise empty, with no notes, rests, or other markings.

b1

A blank musical staff consisting of five horizontal lines. A treble clef is positioned at the top left. The staff is empty of any musical notes or markings.

Motet

The **Motet** is a short sacred choral work, usually contrapuntal in style, with a Latin text. Here are some examples of texts used for motets:

<i>Veni Sancte Spiritus</i>	Come, Holy Spirit
<i>Haec Dies</i>	This is the day
<i>Ave Maria</i>	Hail Mary
<i>Jubilate Deo</i>	Be Joyful in the Lord
<i>O quam gloriosam est regnum</i>	O How Glorious is the Kingdom
<i>Ave Verum Corpus</i>	Hail, True Body
<i>O Magnum Mysterium</i>	O Great and Mighty Wonder

Listen to *O quam gloriosam est regnum* by Victoria

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The top two staves are in soprano and alto voices, and the bottom staff is in bass. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score is divided into three sections, each starting with a repeat sign and a bass clef change.

Section 1:

- 0 quam glo - ri - o -
- 0 quam glo - ri - o -
- 0 quam glo - ri - o -
- 0 quam glo - ri - o -

Section 2:

- sum est re - gnum,
- sum est re - gnum,
- sum est re - gnum, in quo cum
- sum est re - gnum, in quo cum

Section 3:

- in quo cum Chris - to, in quo, in
- in quo cum Chris - to, in quo cum Chris -
- Chris - to, in quo cum Chris - to, in quo
- Chris - to, in quo cum Chris - to, in quo cum Chris -

- Listen to Gabrieli's *O Magnum Mysterium*, written for antiphonal double choir

The '*O magnum mysterium*' we sang in choir is a motet composed in the 20th century but using the words of the original Renaissance motets.

- Listen to this again and complete the literacy task below. The music is in Ab major.

Write the enharmonic equivalent of these notes

Write the enharmonic equivalent of these notes



O mag-num my-ste-rium, et ad-mi-ra - bi - le sa - cra - men - tum



O mag-num my-ste-rium, et ad-mi-ra - bi - le sa - cra - men - tum

Transpose this line down an octave in the bass clef.



Work out the alto line. The first 3 notes are given



O mag-num my-ste-rium, et ad-mi-ra - bi - le sa - cra - men - tum

Now look at the end of the piece.

- *Name the cadence at the end*
- *Circle notes which form a suspension*
- *Work out the chords – I, IV, V*

Ab C Eb Db F Ab Eb G Bb

8 8

I IV V

men, a men.

men, a men.

men, a men.