

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Your Music Theory Challenge: Cracking the Code of Complex Harmony

Strengthen your analytical skills by identifying modes, complex intervals, and circle of fifths movements in this rigorous high school theory review.

1. If you are composing a piece in the Lydian mode starting on F, which specific scale degree is raised compared to the standard F Major scale?

Answer: B) The perfect fourth

The Lydian mode is characterized by a raised fourth scale degree (an augmented fourth), distinguished it from the Ionian (Major) scale.

2. In the process of harmonic analysis, a 'V7' chord in the key of E Major consists of which four notes?

Answer: B) B - D# - F# - A

The B7 (Dominant 7th) is the V7 in the key of E Major, containing the root (B), major third (D#), perfect fifth (F#), and minor seventh (A).

3. An 'Augmented Sixth' interval contains the same number of half-steps as a 'Minor Seventh' interval but functions differently in a musical score.

Answer: A) True

These are enharmonic equivalents (both 10 semitones), but they resolve differently: the augmented sixth expands to an octave, while the minor seventh typically resolves downward.

4. Which of these key signatures represents the relative minor of B-flat Major?

Answer: C) Two flats (Bb, Eb)

G minor is the relative minor of B-flat Major; they share the same key signature of two flats.

5. When moving counter-clockwise on the Circle of Fifths, each consecutive key adds one _____ to its key signature.

Answer: B) Flat

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Moving counter-clockwise represents a sequence of descending fifths (or ascending fourths), which adds one flat per step.

6. In 6/8 time, there are six beats per measure and the quarter note receives the beat.

Answer: B) False

In 6/8 time, the eighth note receives the beat. Traditionally, it is felt in two beats of dotted quarter notes.

7. A 'Diminished Seventh' chord is unique because it is composed entirely of which stacked interval?

Answer: B) Minor thirds

A fully diminished seventh chord is built by stacking three minor third intervals, creating a symmetrical structure.

8. The secondary dominant chord 'V of V' (V/V) in the key of C Major is which major triad?

Answer: C) D Major

The V chord of C is G. The V chord of G is D. Therefore, D Major is the V/V in the key of C.

9. The Phrygian mode is often associated with Spanish Flamenco music due to its distinctive half-step between the first and second scale degrees.

Answer: A) True

The flat second (b2) is the defining characteristic of the Phrygian mode, providing its dark, tension-filled sound common in Flamenco.

10. Which cadence provides the most 'incomplete' or 'waiting' feeling, usually ending a phrase on the dominant chord?

Answer: C) Half Cadence

A half cadence ends on the V chord, creating a sense of pause that requires further resolution to the tonic.