MSU Music Division

MSU Theory Foundations Exam (150 points)

Sample Exam

Name:		
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- This test can only be passed with a score of 90% or better. (135/150)
- Successful passage is required for entry into the Theory program at Minot State, beginning in each Spring semester. This pre-requisite applies to all music majors, minors, concentrations, participants, and those taking it as an elective.
- The test will be given during week two, again in October, and as the Final Exam.

I. Manuscript: Terms and Symbols (1 point each)

1	quarter rest quarter note		whole note
eighth rest	thirty-second note	dotted eighth note	half note
	, , ,	place a notehead on Middle C	
a		c d	
1. Name the lines used to	extend the staff up or down.		
2. On which side of the ste	em do flags always appear?		
3. What is the name for the For example, four sixteer	O 1	note values together into a bea	ut?
4. Which line does a half-	rest touch?	a whole?	

II. Intervals (1 point each)

Notate or identify the following

(Treble Clef)



III. Key Signatures and Scales (1 pt each)

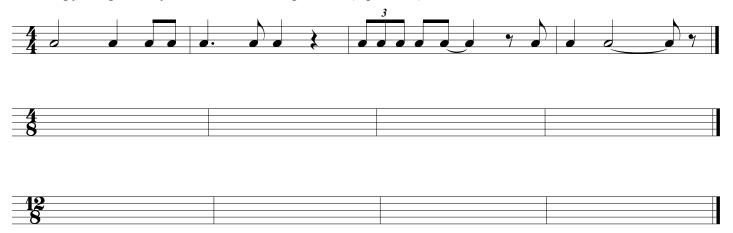
1. Identify the foll	owing pairs of l	keys: Major, minor.			
4 b:,	_ 6 b:,	2 b:	_, 1 #:	,	
7 #:,	_ 4#:,	7 b:	, 3 b:		
2. What is the nam	ne for major/min	or keys with the sam	e signature?		
3. What is the nam	ne for major/min	or keys from the sam	e pitch?		
4. What is the orde	er of sharps?		flats?		
5. Write the key si	gnature & a one	e 8ve scale; add any n	ecessary accidenta	ls (2 points each)	
D major, asce Treble Clef)	_	c mmor, desect		g# har minor, de	esc.
f# melodic r Bass Clef)	ninor, asc.		melodic minor, o	lescending	
6. Give the name f for example)	for each of the fo	ollowing scale degree	s. (4 would be sub	-dominant,	
1	5				
6	2				
7 (as found in m	najor)		_		
IV. Triads an Write the follow		ls oot position (1 pt eac	h)		
d min Treble Clef)	C7	Eb maj	g min 7	f# min	Db maj
				+	

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B7 (Bass Clef)	f min7	F maj7	c# min	g# dim	A+ (aug)
			II		
1. What is the fig	gure used to indicate	e a triad in first inv	ersion?		
2. What is the fig	gure used to indicate	e a 7th chord in thi	rd inversion? _		
3. What is the ro	oot of a chord whose	bass is C and figu	re is 6/4?		_
4. What is the ro	oot of a chord whose	bass is F and figur	re is 4/3?		_
5. What bass pite	ch should be played	for a G7/D chord?	, 		
V. Meter a	nd Metric T	ransposition	1		
1. How many qu	uarter notes = a dotte	ed half note?			
2. How many ei	ghth notes = a whole	e note?			
3. How many 64	4th notes = a 16th no				
4. How many fla	ags are on a 64th not	te?			
5. What kind of	meter divides beats	into two equal par	ts?		
6. What kind of	meter divides beats	into three equal pa	urts?		
7. For the follow	ving meters, name th	ne unit-of-the-beat	and <u>two</u> relative	meters.	
Given	Unit-of-the-beat (1 p	ot) Relative m	eters (1 pt)		
3					
4					
6 8					

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Copy the given rhythm in the following meters (4 pts each)



VI. Analysis

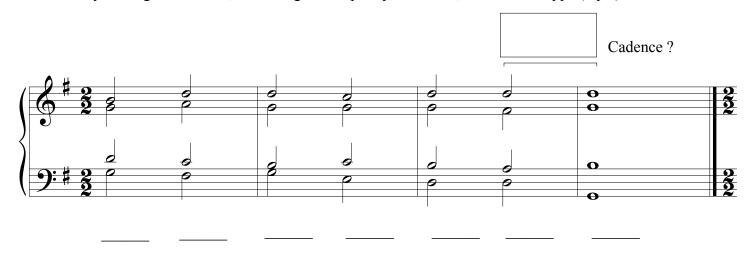
Give the Roman numeral symbol for each root-position triad found in the following scales (1 pt. each)

Major: _____, ____, ____, & _____

Harmonic minor: _____, ____, ____, ____, & _____

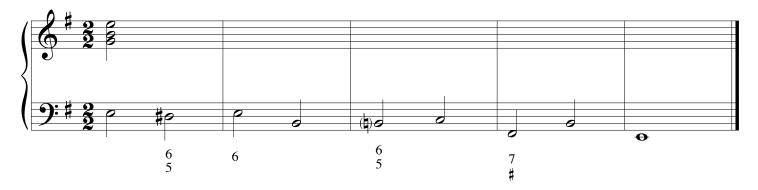
- 1. A standard Authentic cadence uses which two chords?
- 2. A cadence which moves from dominant to anything other than tonic is called a _____ cadence.
- 3. The "amen" cadence, or subdominant to tonic, is called a _____ cadence.

Analyze the given chorale, indicating chord quality, inversion, and cadence type (8 pts)



VII. Figured Bass

Complete the following treble part in keyboard style, from the given bass line and figures. Use the smoothest possible voice-leading in the right hand, in close position, and form a complementary shape to the bass line where possible. (10 pts.)



VIII. SATB part-writing

Complete the following cadences in SATB style, following strict guidelines for voice-leading and range. Identify the type of cadence above the given bracket. (5 pts. each)

