

Basics of Composition Book 1

By Adam J Parnell

Part One: Moving Between Notes

1.1) Moving by step

- * When writing a melody there are various ways to move from one note to the next.
- * The simplest and most common way to move between notes is called 'moving by step'.



*Examples:

- a) moving upward by step.
- b) moving downward by step.
- c) moving to the same note.
- d) moving by step with rests.

As you can see, moving by step involves moving to the very next line/space or repeating the same note.



Two good examples of moving by step are:

'Ode to Joy' Beethoven.



The First Noel.



Technical exercise

Try to write a 4 bar melody (or several 4 bar melodies) moving only by step. Start and finish on the same note.

Violin *Allegro*

Oboe *Andante*

Instrument:

Tempo:

1	2	3	4
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Dynamics:

Comments:

Corrections

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Instrument:

Tempo:

1	2	3	4
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Dynamics:

Comments:

Corrections

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Instrument:

Tempo:

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

Dynamics:

Comments:

Corrections

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Instrument:

Tempo:

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Dynamics:

Comments:

Corrections

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