Exercises

Your teacher will play two melodies, one in a major key and one in a minor key. Transcribe the melodies on the staves provided below. Listen for arpeggiated dominant triads or dominant-seventh chords.

Melodic Dictation 3-1



Melodic Dictation 3-2



G minor



Audio files for these transcription exercises may be found online at www.oupcanada.com/Ethier

Singing Melodies with Dominant and Dominant-Seventh Arpeggios

As **Example 3–18** illustrates using a C-major scale, the top note of the tonic triad (scale degree 5) is also the root of the dominant triad.

Example 3-18 Finding the dominant triad in a major scale



The dominant harmony can be sung using either scale degrees or solfège syllables. Sing the major scale followed by the tonic arpeggio 1-3-5 (do-mi-sol), and then use the common tone to sing the dominant arpeggio. Being able to find the dominant note is important, but once you can find it reliably, singing the dominant triad should be fairly natural.

To find and sing this triad in minor keys, use the same approach as for major.

Example 3-19 Finding the dominant triad in a minor scale



The only caveat here is to remember to sing the raised scale degree 7 (the leading tone). However, this harmony has been so deeply ingrained in our listening experience that most people will naturally sing the leading tone when they arpeggiate this triad in minor keys.