

Exercise

Your instructor will play a melody containing a vii° arpeggio. Correctly transcribe the melody in as few hearings as possible.

Melodic Dictation 7-1



B minor



online



on cd

Audio files for these transcription exercises may be found online at www.oupcanada.com/Ethier and on the CD accompanying this textbook.

Singing Melodies with Leading-Tone Arpeggios

1. In order to warm up for melodies with the leading-tone harmony, practise vocalizing the following chord progressions using arpeggios (up and down) in both major and minor keys using either scale degrees as shown below or solfège.

		8				4	8
5	4	5	7	8	1	2	5
3	2	3	4	5	6	7	3
1	7	1	2	3	4	5	1
I	vii°	I	$vii^{\circ 6}$	I^6	IV	V^7	I

2. The scale-degree exercises in the repertoire section of this chapter emphasize arpeggiated vii° triads. Practise them in major and minor keys as indicated.
3. The final two melodies in the repertoire section for this chapter also use arpeggios of the leading-tone harmony. Sing these melodies using solfège.

TRIADS

The Augmented Triad

Like the diminished triad, the **augmented triad** is dissonant. It is made up of two major thirds above a root; these intervals add up to the augmented fifth, which gives the triad its name.

Example 7-2 Structure of the augmented triad



The augmented triad does not naturally occur in either the major or minor scale, and when it does, it is usually found as an altered dominant harmony.² Consequently, there are few readily available harmonic references for the student to use as aids in hearing or singing this triad. Moreover, both this triad and the diminished triad are dissonant, and students regularly confuse the two when trying to identify them out of context.

A simple process of elimination can help to identify these sonorities. For example, if you can accurately identify the augmented triad, then the diminished triad becomes paradoxically the one you know because it is the one that you do not know. This approach ultimately will not be your goal in identifying triads and chords by ear, but it can be an effective way to begin to discern them out of context. Eventually, you will realize that you simply know the sounds of all four basic triads. In the meantime, there are some tips that may help.