

MUS 231

Reading Sheet: Cantus Firmus

Be prepared to answer these questions in class.

1. What are the two aspects of voice leading?
2. What is a *cantus firmus*?
3. What musical characteristics *do* cantus firmi feature?
4. What note values are used in a cantus firmus and why?
5. What is the typical length of a cantus firmus?
6. Are dissonant intervals, leaps larger than an octave or chromatic half steps allowed in a cantus firmus?
7. True or false: a cantus firmus has a single climax or high point that is not repeated.
8. True or false: a cantus firmus will predominantly contain disjunct motion.
9. How are leaps generally handled (as in prepared and resolved) in a cantus firmus?
10. True or false: it is acceptable to repeat and/or tie notes in a cantus firmus.
11. On what note does a cantus firmus always begin?
12. What is the best way to end a cantus firmus (for the last two notes)?