

MUSIC 231 – Canon Worksheet

The following examples are excerpts from the beginnings of various pieces. All of them begin with canonic imitation. For each example, describe the rule of the canon (the time and pitch intervals upon which the comes follows the dux). The first question below has been answered as an example.

1. Bach, C major invention: **TWO BEATS AT THE LOWER OCTAVE**

Allegro.
Lebhaft und bestimmt.

2. Lassus, *Missa ad imitationem* (mind the time signature):

3. Lassus, *Beatus...*(mind the clefs and time signature):

4. Palestrina, *Ego sum panis vivus* (mind the clef and time signature):

Ego sum panis vivus

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
(c.1525-1594)

5. Palestrina, *Missa Brevis* (Just describe the imitation between the Altus and Bassus, and mind the clefs and time signature, especially of the Bassus):

Missa: „BREVIS“.
4 vocum.

With questions 6 & 7 below, complete the empty measures with canonic imitation according to the indicated rule. Use a variety of free counterpoint style rhythms. This is meant to be a fragment, not a complete exercise; the final (third) measure should continue the canon – do not conclude it with whole notes. Students working in pairs should also answer question 8.

6. Four beats at the upper 5th (analyze the intervals):

Musical notation for question 6: A grand staff with treble and bass clefs in common time. The first measure of the bass line contains a half note G2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note B2. The treble line has a whole rest. The next two measures are empty.

7. Four beats at the upper octave (analyze the intervals):

Musical notation for question 7: A grand staff with treble and bass clefs in common time. The first measure of the bass line contains a half note G2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note B2. The treble line has a whole rest. The next two measures are empty.

8. Four beats at the upper 6th (analyze the intervals – only students working in pairs should complete this question):

Musical notation for question 8: A grand staff with treble and bass clefs in common time. The first measure of the bass line contains a half note G2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note B2. The treble line has a whole rest. The next two measures are empty.