# Melody Analysis Assignment

With the either the song *Here's That Rainy Day* or *All Of Me (charts provided in class),* analyze its melody in the following ways (in the same format as the "Autumn Leaves Analysis" on the "melodic structure" link):

1. Find what you consider to be the main motif* of the song (usually the first few notes); put a bracket under it and label it "motif a" (use a lowercase letter to distinguish it from sectional labels)

2. For any subsequent occurrences of that motif, bracket it in the same way, adding "modified" or "sequenced" if the motif is changed or immediately relocated

3. If you find other, secondary motifs (this usually happens!), bracket them in the same way using "b", "c", etc. (lowercase letters)

4. Identify/mark any material that seems unique and non-motivic (appearing just once)

5. Identify significant melodic outline notes (strong/elongated/important notes) by circling them (like on the *Autumn Leaves* example) – do they form a simple line or pattern?

6. (extra credit) identify all nonchord tones (melody notes that do NOT fit with the notes of the accompanying chord) by putting parentheses around them

Your results should reveal that the melodic materials/units that make of the song(s) are few and used economically (and artfully).

*Be sure to listen to the song before and especially after your analysis to confirm that everything you found on the page makes sense to your ears*

(if you want to pick another song, please clear it with me first)

*A motif* is a small musical unit, usually no longer than two measures, that has a specific pitch and rhythmic profile that is reused throughout a composition or portion of one.

*Below is a sample from the "Autumn Leaves" melodic analysis that demonstrates what to do regarding bracketing the motifs and circling the structural notes*



Foreground and background analysis of the melody

AUTUMN LEAVES

JOHNNY MERCER

The foreground structure is comprised of two motifs ("a" and "b") that seem rhythmically related, plus one portion of unique ("new") material. The motifs are manipulated mainly by sequencing.