

## **Contextual Listening Lesson Plan** **IDENTIFICATION OF MINOR SCALES**

### **Objective:**

Student will be able to identify, construct and sing forms of the minor scale (*natural, harmonic, melodic*).

### **Pre-requisite Knowledge:**

Student should be familiar with the key signatures of relative majors. Students should be able to identify scale degrees (both visually and aurally). Review these concepts on websites: [www.gmajormusictheory.org/Listening/scales/Scales.html](http://www.gmajormusictheory.org/Listening/scales/Scales.html); and [www.teoria.com/tutorials/index.htm](http://www.teoria.com/tutorials/index.htm)

### **Procedure:**

- Teacher will write each form of the scale on the board, and play same on the piano.
- Have each student demonstrate their understanding of a major scale by singing or playing scales in various keys
- Teacher will note that each minor scale can be thought of as a major scale, with certain ‘adjustments’ to particular scale degrees.
- Students will observe and identify the scale degree characteristics, as is dictated by the particular minor scale form: (Natural: lowered 3, 6 and 7; Harmonic: lowered 3, and 6; and, Melodic: [ascending] lowered 3 / [descending] same as natural minor).
- Students will listen to musical excerpts,

### **Listening excerpts:**

Natural Minor -	Berlioz: Damnation of Faust Chopin: Marche Funebre Grieg: Piano Concerto in G minor
Harmonic Minor -	Traditional Jewish: Shryder’s Doina
Melodic Minor -	Dukas: The Sorcerer’s Apprentice Armstrong: Hotter Than That Basie: Doggin’ Around

### **Extension of Lesson:**

Drill concept of scale identification via the following resources:

- Practice scales on an instrument, to memorize pattern.
- Self-Test 1-3 (Tonal Harmony textbook [Kostka/Payne], Chapter 1, p. 15
- [www.emusictheory.com/practice/scales.html](http://www.emusictheory.com/practice/scales.html)