

Aural Perception Challenge
'Unchained Melody' by The Righteous Brothers'

What?

Your challenge is to listen to the above song several times. Concentrate on becoming familiar with the song as a whole.

Why?

When we want to learn a song we have to listen *intently* and the best way to do this is to not think about anything other than listening to the song and becoming familiar with its form, instrumentation, tonality and overall style. These concepts encapsulate everything we need to know when analysing a piece of music.

Analysis

1. Below is the chord progression that is featured in the A section.

II: C I Am I F I G :II

- Based on the chords, what key is the piece written in?

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- Write the progression in Roman numerals below.

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- Which two chords create the perfect cadence?

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2. Observe the attached manuscript which features transcriptions of the piano part and the vocal melody. You should use your MIDI keyboard and sequencing software to play through the notes and check them against the recording.

- What types of rhythms are used throughout?

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- Which of the four examples correctly illustrates the first bar of the piano part?

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- Count the intervals between the pitches and list them below.

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- Write in the missing notes in the vocal melody.

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Style File

Research the careers of The Righteous Brothers. Find out:

- How long they were active.
- At least two other hit songs they released.
- At least one interesting fact about them or their music.



Self-Directed Task

Use the information you have gathered about the song and the artists to create a magazine article. As such, it should be presented as an article and not an essay. You do not have to limit yourself to the ideas we have discussed in class.