Chapter 9 Composing: Walking Basses

Name _____

A HARMONIZE A WALKING BASS

This bass line in D major walks up to 5ˆand back down. Write the Rule of the Octave figures and Roman numerals under it, then realize it in SATB.

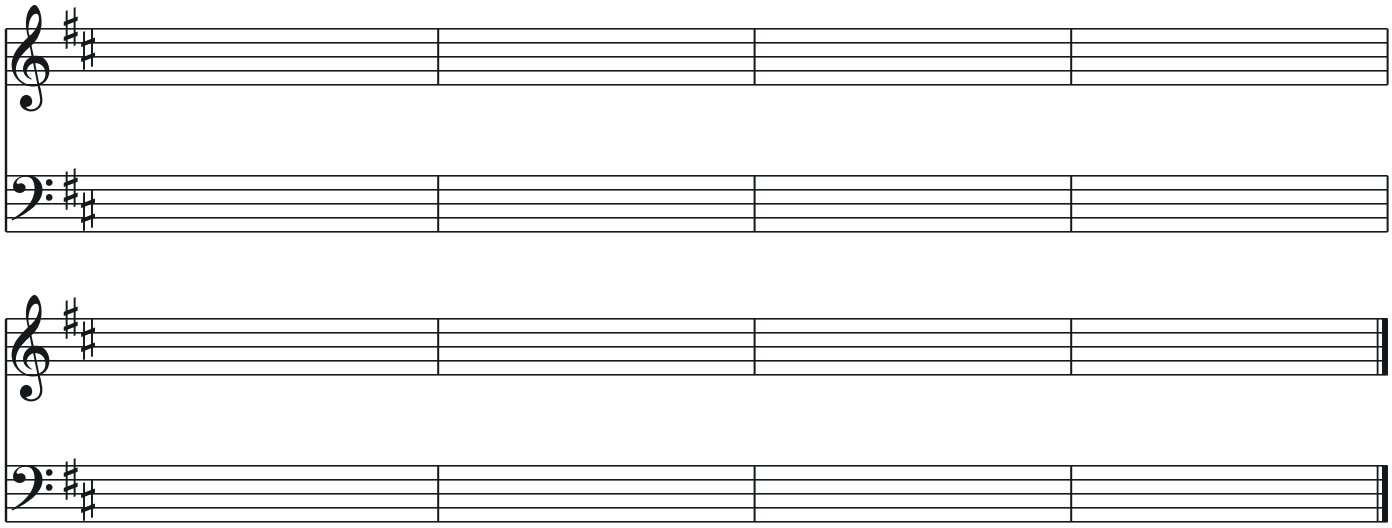
Steps

1. Label each bass note's scale degree, then its Rule of the Octave figure (watch the direction).
2. Translate the figures into Roman numerals on the lines.
3. Choose a starting soprano note (A4, D5, or F♯5) and add the upper voices, keeping common tones and moving by step.
4. Resolve every seventh down by step; check all pairs for parallels.



B YOUR OWN BASS LINE

Write an 8-note bass line of your own in D major that moves mostly by step, begins and ends on D, and passes through 5̂. Harmonize it with the Rule of the Octave in SATB.



Grading (10 points)

Part A: correct figures and Roman numerals	3
Part A: realization free of errors	2
Part B: stepwise bass with correct RO harmonization	3
Part B: smooth upper voices	2