Chapter 23 Composing: Chromatic Modulation

Name _____

A FROM C TO A♭

Write a 6–10 chord progression in four voices that modulates from C major to A♭ major through a mixture pivot, and ends with a PAC in A♭.

Requirements

1. Establish C major first (I–IV–V–I or similar).
2. Use iv (F minor) or ♭VI (A♭ major) as the pivot; label it on two lines.
3. After the pivot, use D♭ and E♭ to establish A♭ (ii^6 or IV, then V^7–I).
4. Check voice leading: chromatic changes in one voice, no parallels.



B A COMMON-TONE SHIFT

Compose a 12–16 bar piano piece in C major whose second half moves to E major (or A♭ major) by a common-tone modulation. Hold the common tone in the melody across the shift.

Plan

1. Phrase 1 in C, ending with a PAC.
2. Hold the common tone (E for E major, C for A♭ major) while the harmony shifts.
3. Phrase 2 in the new key, ending with a PAC there.
4. Optional: return home by another chromatic mediant.



Which modulation sounds more surprising, the mixture pivot or the common-tone shift? Why?

Grading (10 points)

A: correct mixture pivot, labeled twice	3
A: voice leading and cadence in A♭	2
B: common tone held across the shift	3
B: notation, cadences, reflection	2