

SATB Tonal Part-writing Proofreading plugin for MuseScore 2

Installation

Copy the included .qml files to your Documents/MuseScore2/Plugins folder. Then open MuseScore and open the Plugin Manager (in the Plugins menu). Check the box next to **satb** and click OK. Now when you go to the Plugins menu they will appear under the heading "Proof Reading."

Use

This plugin checks the whole file, not a selection. Enter your counterpoint melody on a grand staff and run the plugin from the Plugins menu to check your results.

Proofreading Codes

Code	Meaning
note err	One or more wrong notes in the chord
inv	Incorrect inversion based on figured bass
no root	Missing the root of the chord
no 3rd	Missing the third of the chord
no 7th	Seventh chord is missing the seventh
no 5th	Chord is in inversion and is missing the fifth.
X	Voice crossing error
sp	Spacing error (more than an octave between soprano-alto or alto-tenor)
LTx2	Leading tone is doubled
P5	Parallel 5ths (hidden 5ths will also be identified as P5)
P8	Parallel octaves
LT res	Leading tone needs to resolve up to tonic*
tendency res	A tendency tone needs to resolve down (usually the 7 th of a V ⁷ chord)
d7 res	Seventh of vii ^{o7} needs to resolve down
s range	Soprano note is out of standard range (C4 - G5)
a range	Alto note is out of standard range (G3 - D5)
t range	Tenor note is out of standard range (C3 - G4)
b range	Bass note is out of standard range (E2 - C4)

Doubling Rules

My only restriction about doubling is never double the leading tone. This plugin will not warn about irregular doubling unless you leave out an essential chord tone or have forbidden parallels.

* Many theory texts require that the leading tone resolve up to tonic on V-I or vii^o-I if the leading tone is in the soprano. I chose to go a little more hardcore and say that the leading tone must resolve up no matter what voice it's in. If you want to change it, you can open the plugin code in the Plugin Creator and change line 15 from true to false.

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Modes

By default the plugin will run in Major mode. To check minor examples, set the “Lyricist” text field (Add → Text → Lyricist) to “Minor”.

Entering Roman Numerals and Figured Bass

Roman numerals and figured bass should be entered as lyrics. Feel free to use superscript/subscript for figured bass, and to resize the lyrics as desired.

Voice Placement

There are multiple valid ways to enter the SATB voices:

- Soprano in layer 1, alto in layer 2 of top staff; tenor in layer 1, bass in layer 2 of bass staff
- Soprano and alto as chords in layer 1 of top staff; tenor and bass as layer 1 of bottom staff
- Soprano, alto, and tenor as layer 1 in top staff; bass as layer 1 of bottom staff (keyboard style)

The plugin will do its best to guess where the voices are placed.

Testing and Limitations

This plugin currently works only on four-voice diatonic tonal chorales with no non-chord tones or chromaticism. (Accidentals are simply ignored.)

Currently the plugin does not check for a raised leading tone in minor; since that is a very common error, I plan to add that feature soon!

Clearing annotations

Usually the score annotations added by the plugin can be removed with the undo command. Otherwise, right-click on any of the text and choose Select → All Similar Elements. Then press Delete.

Please report any errors, questions, or suggestions to joel@matthysmusic.com

Donations are gladly accepted! Visit <http://joel.matthysmusic.com/research.html> and click on the donate button.