

Checking for Consecutives



Check for consecutive 5ths and 8ves (and unisons) between the following voices:

Bass and Soprano

Bass and Alto

Bass and Tenor

Tenor and Soprano

Tenor and Alto

Alto and Soprano

This may seem like an awful lot of checking, however: **FOCUS ON VOICES THAT ARE MOVING THE SAME DISTANCE IN SIMILAR MOTION.**

If two voices are moving different distances, (for instance, one moving by step and another by thirds in the same direction) there is no possibility of consecutive 5ths or 8ves between those two voices.

Occasionally you might get consecutive 5ths and 8ves in contrary motion, as shown below. This can be really tricky to spot!

V I

Also, the leading note is not going to the tonic... naughty!

Find the consecutive 5ths and 8ves in the following examples. Consecutive 5ths /8ves may be more than one octave apart; these are still regarded as consecutives and are not allowed. You will become very good at checking the more you practise!