Ear Training: Cadences & Progressions

how a phrase ends, which loop is playing, and which chord comes next

LISTEN
scan to play
every item

No looking! Each item starts with the key's home chord, then plays twice. Circle or write your answers; the key is upside down at the bottom. On your own? Scan the QR code or visit tissimo.co/worksheets/ear-training-cadences to play every item.

ROUND 1 — WHICH CADENCE? (three chords: one leads in, the last two are the cadence)

authentic the period · V–I | **plagal** the amen · IV–I | **half** the comma · stops on V | **deceptive** the plot twist · V–vi

Only the last two chords decide. Where does the phrase land, and what comes just before?

1	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE
2	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE
3	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE
4	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE
5	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE
6	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE
7	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE
8	AUTHENTIC	PLAGAL	HALF	DECEPTIVE

ROUND 2 — WHICH LOOP? (four chords, two to a bar)

The classic, '50s and pop loops of Handouts 78–101, and the pop loop's four chords started on vi.

9	I–IV–V7–I	I–vi–IV–V7	I–V7–vi–IV	vi–IV–I–V7
10	I–IV–V7–I	I–vi–IV–V7	I–V7–vi–IV	vi–IV–I–V7
11	I–IV–V7–I	I–vi–IV–V7	I–V7–vi–IV	vi–IV–I–V7
12	I–IV–V7–I	I–vi–IV–V7	I–V7–vi–IV	vi–IV–I–V7

ROUND 3 — WRITE THE CHORDS (I, IV or V — small i and iv in minor)

Four chords, two to a bar. Sing the lowest note of each: 1 is I, 4 is IV, 5 is V.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
13				
14				
15				

Hint Hum the home note before you answer. Landing on I: authentic (after V) or plagal (after IV). Stopping on V: half. V landing on vi (VI in minor) instead of home: deceptive (Handouts 72 and 104–127; on paper: Exercise 36). In Round 2, find the minor chord: none (classic), second ('50s), third (pop) or first.

Teacher's script and answers (flip the page; C4 = middle C; play each item twice): 1) F major: first the I chord; then B♭2 + F4-B♭4-D5, C3 + E4-B♭4-C5, F2 + F4-A4-C5 (IV–V7–I) ⇒ **AUTHENTIC** · 2) C major: first the I chord; then A2 + C4-E4-A4, F2 + C4-F4-A4, G2 + B3-D4-G4 (VI–IV–V) ⇒ **HALF** · 3) G major: first the I chord; then G2 + G3-B3-D4, C3 + G3-C4-E4, G2 + G3-B3-D4 (I–IV–I) ⇒ **PLAGAL** · 4) A minor: first the i chord; then D3 + D4-F4-A4, E3 + B3-D4-G♯4, F3 + A3-C4-A4 (iv–V7–VI) ⇒ **DECEPTIVE** · 5) D major: first the I chord; then D3 + D4-F♯4-A4, G2 + D4-G4-B4, A2 + C♯4-E4-A4 (I–IV–V) ⇒ **HALF** · 6) E minor: first the i chord; then C3 + E4-G4-C5, A2 + E4-A4-C5, E3 + E4-G4-B4 (VI–iv–i) ⇒ **PLAGAL** · 7) C major: first the I chord; then C3 + C4-E4-G4, G2 + D4-F4-B4, A2 + C4-E4-C5 (I–V7–vi) ⇒ **DECEPTIVE** · 8) A minor: first the i chord; then D3 + A3-D4-F4, E3 + G♯3-B3-E4, A2 + A3-C4-E4 (iv–V7–i) ⇒ **AUTHENTIC** 9) G major: first the I chord; then half notes: G2 + G3-B3-D4 | D3 + A3-C4-F♯4 | E3 + G3-B3-G4 | C3 + G3-C4-E4 ⇒ **I–V7–vi–IV** · 10) D major: first the I chord; then half notes: D3 + D4-F♯4-A4 | B2 + D4-F♯4-B4 | G2 + D4-G4-B4 | A2 + C♯4-G4-A4 ⇒ **I–vi–IV–V7** · 11) F major: first the I chord; then half notes: D3 + F4-A4-F5 | B♭2 + F4-B♭4-D5 | F2 + A4-C5-F5 | C3 + G4-B♭4-E5 ⇒ **vi–IV–I–V7** · 12) C major: first the I chord; then half notes: C3 + C4-E4-G4 | F2 + C4-F4-A4 | G2 + B3-F4-G4 | C3 + C4-E4-G4 ⇒ **I–IV–V7–I** 13) G major: first the I chord; then half notes: G2 + G3-B3-D4 | C3 + G3-C4-E4 | G2 + G3-B3-D4 | D3 + F♯3-A3-D4 ⇒ **I – IV – I – V** · 14) F major: first the I chord; then half notes: F2 + A3-C4-F4 | C3 + G3-C4-E4 | B♭2 + B♭3-D4-F4 | F2 + A3-C4-F4 ⇒ **I – V – IV – I** · 15) A minor: first the i chord; then half notes: A2 + A3-C4-E4 | D3 + A3-D4-F4 | E3 + G♯3-B3-E4 | A2 + A3-C4-E4 ⇒ **i - iv - V - i**

© 2026 Tissimo. All rights reserved.