



Level 1 Week 4 Assignment

Here's something to do, along with practicing:

Take 3 minutes and stand outside near the busiest intersection you can find and listen, without making any noise yourself. Now, when it's possible, find a restaurant or a place where there are a lot of people; MU Commons, a cafeteria, a train or subway station, and take 3 - 5 minutes. Listen to the interaction of the people's sounds with the machine sounds and, the animal sounds - you know - the birds, the dogs, cats, insects, little kids, etc. Can you hear a pulse or a rhythm yet? When you really, really "just listen" to "everything you can hear", you will hear what all musicians strive to stay in time with. THE GROOVE. THE GRAND ORCHESTRA. THE NATURAL METRONOME OF LIFE.

Now:

Take a look at the "G" form scale study and put it into practice this week. You now have 6 weeks left to learn this scale and the last of the scale studies and have all five of them memorized. There are a lot of things happening in your execution of these exercises that will get smoother and better sounding over these next few weeks. Always try singing, humming, or whistling with your scales. This INTERNALIZATION is crucial in the development of your hearing and reproducing pitch and notes that are in tune.

It is part of basic ear training. So COMMIT and START SINGING.

Also:

Add, this week, the Chord Primer #3 to your list of cadences. These song forms that you are working with are simple but they are the building blocks of most of the songs you will learn later in your development. Stay with the tips on the left hand from last week and try to get the metronome setting up to 90 bpm for scales studies and chord studies.

Instructor's Note:

This is an important time to be thinking about creating a video/audio file with your digital cam on your computer that you can email to us for a mid term critique. Or/ Let us know, through email, that you would like to schedule a "video guitar conference" with the instructor. The file should be no longer than 8 minutes and should be as direct as possible. You should play what you have learned so far with the metronome running and audible along with the guitar. You may not have to set the metronome too close to the microphone on your computer because computer mics usually condense the sound nicely. Just keep everything in close proximity and stay in the frame with both hands visible on your computer screen. You may have to make a couple of trial runs but, this process is pretty easy with today's modern computers. As far as the

conference, you need to set that up with Ecampus so be sure by the 5th week you let us know how you plan on proceeding. It is a craft and skill you are learning, so you do need, in all fairness, a watchful, professional eye and critique at this point to really stay on track.

For the accelerated students who really weren't beginners at the start, you may want to take a look at some more music to play right here on our website. So, go to the resource part of our site and I am sure you will be pleased with what you find there in the way of new exercises.

REPS REPS REPS:

You are building a consistent trail on the neck for all of your scale forms and this will eventually turn into an extended scale form running the entire length of the neck. Thus this larger scale form, created by connecting all five forms in a specific pattern, will become the fundamental and precise mechanism that allows you access to the entire realm of the instrument.

GOOD PRACTICING ONE AND ALL.