Unit Four: Vocabulary

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| **Alternation in the Bass** | Usually moving between the root and the fifth of a given chord |
| **Arpeggiation** | Rotating through notes of a chord one after another |
| **Basic Harmonization** | Providing foundational chords to fit a melody |
| **Chord Symbols** | Notation above the staff to indicate which chord should be played |
| **Chromaticism** | From the Greek word *chroma*, to add color and harmonic interest |
| **Coda** | An extension or final small section in a song |
| **Common Progression** | The most frequently used progression which is I-ii-V-I |
| **Deceptive Cadence** | A harmonic conclusion to a phrase which leads to vi rather than I |
| **Diatonic Triads** | Three-note chords built on each scale degree using only notes of the given scale |
| **Enharmonic Equivalent** | Different names for the same pitch such as D sharp and E flat |
| **Feel** | The rhythmic groove of a song |
| **Form** | The structure and order of sections of a song |
| **Grand Staff** | Two staves joined by lines and a brace: treble clef on top and bass clef below |
| **Harmonic Rhythm** | The speed at which the harmonies of a song change |
| **Harmonic Structure** | The main harmonies of a song establishing how sections lead into each other |
| **Inner Voice** | A melody line between the soprano and the bass lines |
| **Inversion** | Voicing a chord with a tone other than the root in the bass |
| **Lead Sheet** | A notated sheet of music containing only the melody, lyrics and chord symbols |
| **Metronome Marking** | A notation to indicate tempo with the use of a metronome |
| **Perfect Authentic Cadence** | A harmonic conclusion moving from V to I with Do in the soprano and the bass |
| **Outer Voice** | In harmonic writing, outer voices are highest and lowest, usually soprano and bass |
| **Predominant** | A chord which leads to the dominant within a phrase |
| **Rubato** | To increase and/or decrease tempo as appropriate to the emotion of the moment |
| **Secondary Dominant** | Dominant of a given chord (other than I) which contains notes outside of the key |
| **Slash** | Used in notation to indicate a note other than the root should be in the bass |
| **Structure** | Form of a song based on A and B sections (with possible additional sections) |
| **Substitution** | Replacing one chord with another to achieve more interesting harmonies |
| **Swing** | A feel using uneven eighth notes, though often notated with even eighth notes |
| **Syncopation** | Rhythmic emphasis on an off beat |
| **Tempo Marking** | A word (or words) to indicate the speed of a given piece of music |
| **Tonal** | Having a tonic, or a center pitch to which the music resolves |
| **Tonic** | The Do of a given key; the center pitch |
| **Vocal Staff** | A staff above a grand staff which contains a melody line for a singer |