Set Class Composition

Name: _________________________________________________________

Compose an unaccompanyed piece for your instrument using set classes.

- **Form:** Your piece should be in ABA’ form, about 24 measures long (eight measures for each section).
- **Pitch content**
  - Refer back to your Composition Prep Worksheet. Your A and B sections will be based on set classes A and B respectively. You will incorporate two $T_n$ forms and two $I_n$ forms of both sets A and B.
  - Nearly all of your melody (and harmony, if applicable) should somehow be composed with these sets.
- **Rhythm and meter:** No restrictions (but remember, you’ll play it later!)
- **Expression markings:** Include slurs, accents, etc. to indicate expressivity.

You will submit two copies of your score, as described below:
- One clean copy, for performance
- One annotated copy of your score, with all your sets and transformations ($T_n$ and $I_n$) clearly circled and labeled.
  - With a circle, show the grouping of all the notes that belong to the same set.
  - Labels should show the primary pc set and its relationship to that set: e.g., “$T_4(A)$” or “$I_6(B)$”.

You will be assessed on the following concepts:
1. Understanding of set classes and transformations
2. Tying the form of the piece to the contrasting A and B motives
3. Expressive markings
4. Analysis

Megan Lavengood. © 2019. CC BY–SA 4.0.
Your upcoming composition assignment is based on pitch class sets. This worksheet will help you find pitches to use.

- Pick four pitch classes to be your Motive A. Write them as a set in normal form in the box labeled Motive A.
- Pick four pitch classes to be your Motive B. They should contrast significantly with Motive A. Write them as a set in normal form in the box labeled Motive B.
- For both motives: Next, find three related sets: one related by transposition, and two related by inversion. The index number of the transformations is up to you.
  - Fill in the appropriate boxes below with your answers.
  - Don’t forget to add the index numbers to the arrows labeling T and I!
Example Composition

Dr. Megan Lavengood

Set A

mysterious

Set B

I₂(B)  I₂(B)

molto rit.

ff

non decresc.

subito mp

Set A

A'

17 a tempo

decresc.

molto rit.

pp
Example Composition

Dr. Megan Lavengood