



IB MUSIC MODES AND MINOR SCALES

The diatonic scale is a series of whole tones (T) and semitones (S):

TTSTTTSTTSTTTSTTSTTTSTTSTTTTS etc.

Every series of eight notes in this diatonic pattern, no matter where you start, creates a scale spanning one octave. There are therefore seven possible modes.

Mode 1. Ionian (AKA Major)

This is a normal major scale: TTSTTTTS

Two musical staves in treble clef. The first staff shows the C Ionian scale (C Major) with notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. The second staff shows the A Ionian scale (A Major) with notes A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A.

C Ionian/C Major A Ionian/A Major

Mode 2. Dorian

This is like a major scale that starts on Scale Degree 2: TSTTTST

Two musical staves in treble clef. The first staff shows the D Dorian scale with notes D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D. The second staff shows the B Dorian scale with notes B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B.

D Dorian B Dorian

Mode 3. Phrygian

This is like a major scale that starts on Scale Degree 3: STTTSTT

Two musical staves in treble clef. The first staff shows the E Phrygian scale with notes E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E. The second staff shows the C# Phrygian scale with notes C#, D, E, F, G, A, B, C#.

E Phrygian C# Phrygian

Mode 4. Lydian

This is like a major scale with a raised Scale Degree 4: TTTSTTS

Two musical staves in treble clef. The first staff shows the F Lydian scale with notes F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F. The second staff shows the D Lydian scale with notes D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D.

F Lydian D Lydian

Mode 5. Mixolydian

This is like a major scale with a flat Scale Degree 7: TTSTTTST

