

5.3 Smaller Formal Units

# of phrases	Unit type(s)	Form template ([4?] = “usually 4 measures long”; <i>always count downbeats</i>)	Comments
1	Phrase	[4?] <i>cadence</i> (= <i>cad.</i>)	Smallest unit terminated by a cadence
2	Period	[4?] <i>weak cad.</i> [4?] <u>PAC</u>	NOTE: Periods must end with <u>PACs</u> !!!
	Two Phrases	[4?] <i>cad.</i> [4?] <i>cad.</i>	No PAC at end, so just 2 phrases.
	Phrase and its repetition	[4?] <i>cad.</i> [4?] <i>same cad.</i>	Same cadence each time is not a period! Immediate repetition does not alter the form!
3	Phrase group (or three-phrase period)	[4?] <i>weak cad.</i> [4?] <i>weak cad.</i> [4?] <u>PAC</u>	3 phrases, 1 PAC
	Period, with repeated antecedent	[antecedent] <i>weak cad.</i> [<u>same ant.</u>] <i>weak cad.</i> [consequent] <u>PAC</u>	
	Period, with repeated consequent	[antecedent] <i>weak cad.</i> [consequent] <u>PAC</u> or <i>weak cad.</i> [<u>same conseq.</u>] <u>PAC</u>	
4	Double Period	[4?] <i>weak cad.</i> [4?] <i>weak cad.</i> [4?] <i>weak cad.</i> [4] <u>PAC</u>	Often 2 nd cadence is HC
	Period and its repetition	[antecedent] <i>weak cad.</i> [consequent] <u>PAC</u> [ant.] <i>weak cad.</i> [conseq.] <u>PAC</u>	

Types of periods (for double periods, each half has 2 phrases):

1. Parallel – Each half begins with the same material, although the endings may be different.
2. Sequential – Each half begins with the same material, but the second half has been transposed to a different pitch level. The endings of the halves may be different.
3. Contrasting – Each half begins with clearly different material.

Parallel and contrasting periods may also change key; in this case they are *modulating periods*.