



# SONG OF THE MONTH

## “WE’RE GOING HOME”

Meets National Core Arts Standards 5-9

### OBJECTIVES

- Develop and refine artistic work for presentation (*Pr5*)
- Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work (*Pr6*)
- Perceive and analyze artistic work (*Re7*)
- Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work (*Re8*)
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work (*Re9*)

### MATERIALS

- *Music Alive!* magazines (March 2018)
- Computer or mobile device with Internet access
- Classroom keyboards or other instruments

### START

1. Have one of the students read the text on page 16.

► **2. Play** Vance Joy’s “We’re Going Home” (Hear the Music **track 1** on [musicalive.com](http://musicalive.com)), while the students read through the notation on pages 16-17.

### DEVELOP

Ask students questions about the notation:

**What’s the time signature?** (4/4.)

**What’s the key signature?** (E minor.)

**What instrument opens the song?** (Guitar.)

**How many sections does the song have?**

(Four—verse, pre-chorus, chorus, and bridge.)

**What instruments do you hear?** (Guitar, bass, horns, strings, drums.)

**What happens to the vocals during the first chorus?**

(First, they’re doubled—then, another vocal track is added at an octave lower than the main melody.)

**Is the vocal melody more often straight or syncopated?**

(Syncopated.)

**What changes about the percussion during the second verse?**

(Handclaps are introduced.)

**What happens at the end of the first chorus?** (There’s a mark to

“D.S. al fine,” or to go to the “sign”—the dotted S symbol with a slash through it—at the start of the verse and follow the music until the end.)

**Where do vocal harmonies appear in the song?**

(During the bridge.)

**What is the highest note in the main vocal part?**

(B above the staff.)

**What is the highest note in the vocal harmonies?**

(G above the staff.)

**What’s the lowest note in the main vocal part?**

(C below the staff.)

**How does Joy sing differently when he hits the higher notes in the vocal melody?** (He sings in falsetto.)

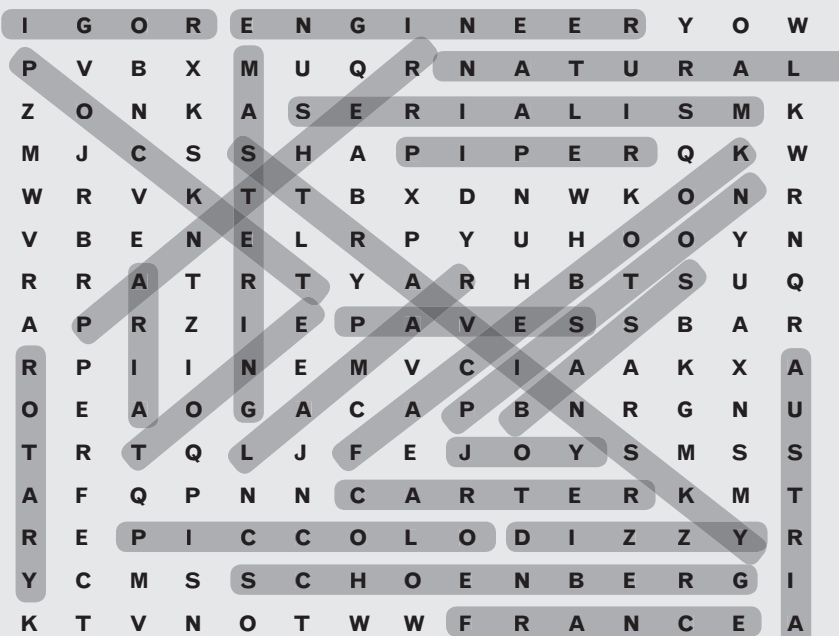
**What’s the main chord progression featured in this song?** (Em-C-G-D.)

**How many chords are there in the song entirely?**

(Five—those four, as well as an Am.)

## WORDSEARCH SOLUTION

Crossword Puzzle can be found on page 7



### CLOSE

**Have students split into groups of two or more** and rehearse the harmonies in the song’s bridge, with the help of classroom pianos if they are available.

After a few minutes, go around the room and have each group perform the bridge. Once everyone has performed, ask the class which parts they found the hardest and which they found the easiest. Why would a songwriter, arranger, or producer introduce vocal harmonies during the song’s bridge?

### ASSESS

**Did the students follow along with “We’re Going Home”?**

**Did they answer the discussion questions?**

**Did they learn the bridge vocal harmonies?**

**Did they perform them?**