

1. Morn - ing has come,

2. night is a - way.

5 3. Rise with the sun _____ and _____

4. wel - come the day.

choir



MORNING HAS COME USING THIS CANON

Compiled for the Presto project
by Dr Róisín Blunnie

Dublin City University, 2023

FOR DEVELOPING YOUR POLYPHONIC SKILLS

When singing Part 1 and playing Part 2, create well-tuned intervals between the voice and the instrument. Take care to maintain energy through repeated notes. Do a harmonic analysis of the 4-part texture. Use harmonic understanding to enhance your two-part performance.

WITH YOUR CHOIR OR SINGING GROUP

Teach the song to your choir phrase by phrase. To nurture good tuning, give energy and shape to all notes, especially longer notes; encourage the singers to bring momentum and precision to the repeated notes, and keep a strong feeling for the overall tonality. Ensure the melody is secure and musical in unison before adding a second part.

There are various ways to introduce a second part. You could initially sing the second part yourself, with the full choir singing the first part together with confidence while hearing and becoming familiar with your part. Then, divide your group into two parts of equal size, and clearly cue Part 1 and Part 2 at the appropriate times. If the group becomes confident and secure with the two-part texture, add further parts step by step. When singing with text, develop good blend by creating a unified 'ah' vowel in the words 'night' and 'rise'.

If performed at a slow or moderate tempo, conducting with a pattern of three beats per bar is suitable. If performed at a faster tempo, conducting one-in-a-bar will be more comfortable and will encourage a flowing, musical performance. Use supportive gestures to encourage momentum and consistently good tuning.

IN THE MUSIC LESSON

After your class has learned and enjoyed singing *Morning Has Come*, use the song to explore a range of musical features such as major tonality; 3/4 time; melodic shape, including stepwise movement, leaps, melodic sequence, repeated notes, and melodic intervals; harmonic concepts such as tonic and dominant harmony, and harmonic intervals (the intervals created between the voices when singing in more than one part). When the canon is sung in three or more parts, each phrase will begin with the notes of the tonic triad (d-m-s) sounding together.

Creative activity: compose alternative words for this melody, beginning for example with 'Night-time is here'. Try changing the tonality from major to minor.

LEARN MORE

To learn more about challenges and solutions for tuning in this canon, see the 'Intonation Awareness' section of the Presto Choral Resources.