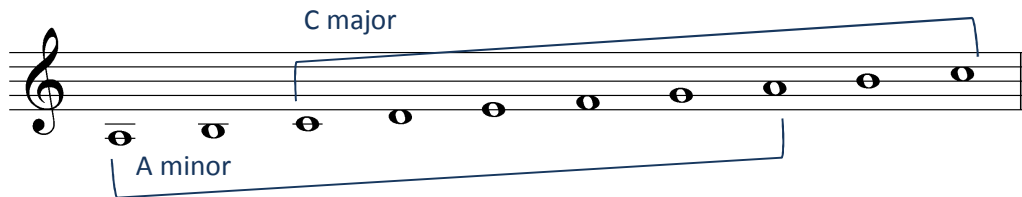


Major and minor keys can be compared or related in a number of ways. The two most common relationships are relative and parallel.

Relative keys have the same key signatures and the same pitches in the scale, but different tonics.

C major and A minor are relative keys. They have the same key signature, use the same pitches in the scale, but have different tonics.



The tonic of the minor scale is the $\hat{6}$ of the relative major scale.

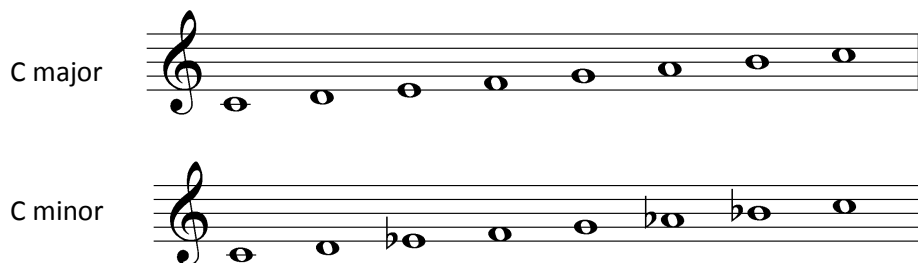
C major: $\hat{1}$ $\hat{2}$ $\hat{3}$ $\hat{4}$ $\hat{5}$ $\hat{6}$ $\hat{7}$ $\hat{8}$

A minor: $\hat{1}$ $\hat{2}$ $\hat{3}$ $\hat{4}$ $\hat{5}$ $\hat{6}$ $\hat{7}$ $\hat{8}$

The tonic of the major scale is $\hat{3}$ of the relative minor scale.

Parallel keys have the same tonic pitch, but use different pitches in the scale.

C major and C minor are parallel keys. they have the same tonics, but use different pitches in the scales.



Summary: Relative = same key signature, different tonic pitch
Parallel = same tonic pitch, different key signature

Practice questions:

1. What is the relative minor key of E major?
 - a. E minor
 - b. F \sharp minor
 - c. C minor
 - d. C \sharp minor

2. What is the relative major key of G \sharp minor?
 - a. E \sharp major
 - b. E major
 - c. B major
 - d. C \sharp major

3. What is the parallel minor key of E major?
 - a. E minor
 - b. F \sharp minor
 - c. C minor
 - d. C \sharp minor

4. What is the parallel major key of D minor?
 - a. E \flat major
 - b. D major
 - c. F major
 - d. B \flat major

Answers: 1. d 2. c 3. a 4. b