

STRUCTURAL FUNCTIONS

Expository function – exposes the musical materials (thematic/motivic material, keys) that are important to the organization of the movement. Usually have a clear phrase structure (period), clearly establishes the key. Ends with A.C. or H.C.

Transitional function – serves as a connecting function between sections. Often are modulatory. Usually end with a H.C.

Developmental function – presents previously heard motivic/thematic material in a changed, varied form. Modulatory in nature, usually changing key more than once. Usually end with a H.C.

Cadential function – brings sections or complete movements to a close. Reinforces established key. They do not modulate. Have a clear phrase structure usually ending with A.C.