

Sequence Document
“Perspective” by Chris Lee

This level 8 solo serves the technical goals of learning to read in 2nd, 5th, and 7th positions; practicing string-crossing, and dampening notes with the right-hand thumb. Every note includes explicit fingering, exploiting a repeated digital pattern in each position. Allow students to “muddle through” the upper position reading. Once internalized, the digital patterns become easy, rewarding the potentially frustrating work of creating a mental map of the fretboard. Ask students to pay close attention to the fingering at the end of mm. 21. In this case the digital pattern is broken to prepare for the final chords.

Teaching Upper Position Reading

It’s extremely helpful to demonstrate how notes encountered in first position can be played in upper positions. One way of teaching this is to explain that most notes on the first string of the guitar can also be played on the second string 5 frets higher.

For example: the notes *E*, *F* and *G* on the open, first, and third frets of string 1 are also found on the fifth, sixth, and seventh frets of string 2.

E, F, and G on string 1

I

①

E F G

0 1 4

open fret 1 fret 3

string

E, F, and G on string 2

V

②

E F G

1 2 4

fret 5 fret 6 fret 8

The same concept holds true for the other pairs of adjacent strings, but we must make an adjustment when dealing with strings 2 and 3. Any note on the second string may be found on the third string 4 frets higher. etc...

