Solo Transcription Worksheet

Page 1: key finder and phrase cards. One card per phrase. Pencil, then tab software if you like.

Solo: _____ **Artist:** _____ **Start time:** _____ **Key:** _____ **Tempo:** _____

Key finder strip: A minor pentatonic box 1 (move the shape for other keys)

Root on 6th string fret	5	7	8	10	12 / 0	3
Minor pentatonic key	A minor	B minor	C minor	D minor	E minor	G minor
Relative major	C major	D major	E flat major	F major	G major	B flat major

Hum the note the solo keeps landing on. Find it on the low E string; that fret usually gives you box 1. Check with the last chord of the song.

Phrase 1 Loop start _____ Loop end _____ Speed ____% First note (string / fret) _____

Sung contour (draw the shape): _____

Intervals (with reference song): _____

e
B
G
D
A
E

[ ] bend [ ] slide [ ] vibrato
[ ] hammer on [ ] pull off [ ] mute

Phrase 2 Loop start _____ Loop end _____ Speed ____% First note (string / fret) _____

Sung contour (draw the shape): _____

Intervals (with reference song): _____

e
B
G
D
A
E

[ ] bend [ ] slide [ ] vibrato
[ ] hammer on [ ] pull off [ ] mute

Phrase 3 Loop start _____ Loop end _____ Speed ____% First note (string / fret) _____

Sung contour (draw the shape): _____

Intervals (with reference song): _____

e
B
G
D
A
E

[ ] bend [ ] slide [ ] vibrato
[ ] hammer on [ ] pull off [ ] mute

Phrase 4 Loop start _____ Loop end _____ Speed ____% First note (string / fret) _____

Sung contour (draw the shape): _____

Intervals (with reference song): _____

e
B
G
D
A
E

[ ] bend [ ] slide [ ] vibrato
[ ] hammer on [ ] pull off [ ] mute

Phrase 5 Loop start _____ Loop end _____ Speed ____% First note (string / fret) _____

Sung contour (draw the shape): _____

Intervals (with reference song): _____

e
B
G
D
A
E

[ ] bend [ ] slide [ ] vibrato
[ ] hammer on [ ] pull off [ ] mute

Solo Transcription Worksheet

Page 2: a graded ladder of 12 first solos, and a lick book page.

Graded ladder: 12 suggested first solos (difficulty 1 to 5 is our teacher estimate)

#	Solo	Diff.	Why it is on the ladder
1	Knockin' on Heaven's Door, Bob Dylan (melody)	1	Slow, few notes, easy to sing
2	Day Tripper riff, The Beatles	1	One repeating phrase to loop
3	Smoke on the Water riff and short solo, Deep Purple	2	Minor pentatonic, steady tempo
4	Brown Eyed Girl intro, Van Morrison	2	Clear melodic intro in thirds
5	Wonderful Tonight, Eric Clapton	2	Slow bends; good for pitch matching
6	Under the Bridge intro, Red Hot Chili Peppers	3	Melodic, mixes chords and lines
7	Sunshine of Your Love, Cream	3	Blues box with clear phrasing
8	Wish You Were Here first solo, Pink Floyd	3	Slow bends, vibrato, space
9	Black Magic Woman, Santana	3	Minor key, singing tone
10	Comfortably Numb first solo, Pink Floyd	4	Bends to exact pitch
11	Sultans of Swing first solo, Dire Straits	4	Fingerstyle runs, fast bits
12	Hotel California outro, Eagles	5	Two guitars, long and fast

Tabs vary in accuracy; always check a tab against the recording. Choose versions in standard tuning where you can.

Lick book page

Lick (from which solo, which bar)	Key	Tab or notes	Can I play it in another position? / key?