Checklist for Realizing Figured Bass Progressions

(1) Translate the figured bass into note spellings. Use accidentals only if the figured bass indicates to do so.

(2) Spell the chord using letter names [for example : C Eb G]. ___ ___ ___ ___ Write the note names of each chord underneath each chord in the harmonic progression.

(3) What is the chord’s quality? ________________

(4) What is the chord’s function in the tonality? ________

(5) Write the roman numeral analysis below the figured bass and using good spacing notate the pitches on the staff. If you double a note, which chord member and which note in the scale is it?

(6) Pay particular attention to tendency tones (leading tone, chord seventh). Consider their resolution when writing the next chord.

(7) When you have written 2 chords check for bad parallels using the following script:

   The soprano voice goes _______ (up or down)
   The alto voice goes _______
   The tenor voice goes _______
   The bass voice goes _______

   If 2 or more voices move in similar direction the potential for parallels exists. Check for P5ths and P8vas in these voices.

Also read: Benjamin, Part III, #’s 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 for further information.