Roman numerals:
- These are used for chords: triads and seventh chords.
- The number refers to the scale-degree of the root of the chord.

Scale degrees:
- These are used for notes within a scale.
- The number refers to the order of the note within a given scale.
- Scale degrees correspond to solfege syllables:
  - do re mi = 1 2 3.
- The carat on top of the number is the special symbol used with scale degree numbers.
- The leading tone is a special name for 7.

Chord members:
- These are used for different chord members.
- The number refers to the interval above the chord root.
- Every chord has a root, third, and fifth; seventh chords add a seventh to this.
- A chord is inverted when something other than the root is in the bass.
- In all chords, the chord seventh is dissonant and must resolve down by step.

Figures:
- These are used for intervals above the bass.
- Figures often show inversions and suspensions.
- Figures are completely independent from Roman numerals.
- 3rds and 6ths are often not shown in figures, but they are implied from the numbers you do have.