

Max's Musical Tempo Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and understand tempo markings and their relationship to the speed of music.

Max the monkey is trying to organise his musical jungle band! He has a list of tempo terms, but he needs to match them to the correct speed description. Read each term and draw a line to match it to the correct definition. Then, use the word bank to fill in the blanks for Max's rhythm puzzle.

Word bank: Largo · Presto · Moderato · Andante · Allegro

1. Match the term to the speed: 1. Largo (Very slow), 2. Andante (Walking pace), 3. Moderato (Moderate speed), 4. Allegro (Fast and lively), 5. Presto (Very fast). (5 marks)

2. Max is playing a steady beat for his friends to march to. He wants a speed that feels like a comfortable walking pace. Which term should he choose from the word bank? (2 marks)

3. If the jungle band wants to play a high-energy song that makes everyone want to run around, which term (Allegro or Presto) would be the best choice? Explain why. (3 marks)

4. Fill in the blank: The Italian word '_____' describes music that is played at a very fast speed, much faster than a standard walking pace. (1 mark)

5. If a piece of music starts at 'Largo' and gradually gets faster, does the tempo increase or decrease? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey playing a drum. Above the drum, draw symbols to show how he would change the tempo from slow (use large, spaced-out dots) to fast (use tiny, crowded dots).



Extension challenge: Find a song you enjoy at home. Listen to the first 30 seconds and decide if it is Largo, Andante, or Allegro. Write down the name of the song and your chosen tempo, then explain your reasoning in one sentence.