

Composition Composition: Creating Your Own Music

Learning objective: To understand the key elements of musical composition and how to structure a simple piece of music.

Read each flashcard to learn about the building blocks of music. Use these terms to help Max the monkey solve his latest musical puzzle!

What does it mean to Compose?

To compose is to create or write a new piece of music.

What is a Melody?

A melody is a sequence of musical notes that are played or sung one after another to create a tune.

What is Rhythm?

Rhythm is the pattern of regular or irregular pulses caused in music by the occurrence of strong and weak beats.

What are Dynamics in music?

Dynamics describe how loud or quiet the music is (e.g., piano for quiet, forte for loud).

What is Tempo?

Tempo refers to the speed at which a piece of music is played (e.g., fast or slow).

What is an Ostinato?

An ostinato is a short, repeated musical pattern or phrase.

What is meant by Pitch?

Pitch refers to how high or low a musical note sounds.

What is a Rest in music?

A rest is a symbol that tells the musician to be silent for a specific amount of time.

What is Timbre?

Timbre is the 'color' or quality of a sound that makes different instruments sound different from each other.

What is Musical Structure?

The structure is the way a piece of music is organized, such as having a verse and a chorus.