

Max's Musical Tempo Challenge

Learning objective: To understand and identify different musical tempos and their Italian terms.

Max the monkey is putting together a musical puzzle! Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of tempo to help him match the speeds to the correct musical terms. Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

Answer Key: 1. A (Tempo), 2. False, 3. Presto, 4. B (Largo), 5. True, 6. Moderato, 7. C (Fast), 8. True, 9. Beats per minute, 10. D (Slow).

Word bank: Tempo · Largo · Moderato · Presto · BPM · Beats per minute

1. 1. What is the musical word for the speed of a piece of music? A) Tempo* B) Pitch C) Volume D) Melody (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: 'Largo' describes a very fast tempo. (1 mark)

3. 3. Which Italian term would you use to describe a piece of music played at a very quick, lively speed? (1 mark)

4. 4. If a piece of music is played at a 'Largo' speed, how does it sound? A) Very fast B) Very slow* C) Medium speed D) Getting louder (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: 'Moderato' means the music is played at a moderate, or medium, speed. (1 mark)

6. 6. If a song is played at a steady walking pace, which tempo term is most appropriate? (1 mark)

7. 7. What does the term 'Presto' mean? A) Slow B) Medium C) Fast* D) Silence (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Tempo can change during a single piece of music. (1 mark)

9. 9. What does the abbreviation 'BPM' stand for in music? (1 mark)

10. 10. Which of these terms describes the slowest tempo? A) Presto B) Allegro C) Moderato D) Largo* (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of a musical tortoise walking at a 'Largo' tempo and a musical hare running at a 'Presto' tempo.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a conductor. Create a short rhythm pattern and perform it twice: once at a 'Largo' tempo and once at a 'Presto' tempo. Explain to a friend how the feeling of the music changes even though the rhythm stays the same.