

Max's Musical Masterpiece Composition Planner

Learning objective: To compose and record a short musical motif by considering rhythm, tempo, and dynamics.

Max the monkey believes that every melody is a puzzle waiting to be solved! Use this template to plan your own musical composition. You will need to decide on your tempo (speed), your dynamics (loudness or softness), and the structure of your musical piece. Be creative and think about the mood you want to create for your audience.

Word bank: tempo · dynamics · crescendo · staccato · legato · rhythm · allegro · adagio · composition · motif

1. The Concept: Give your piece a title and describe the mood or story you want it to tell. Explain why you chose this specific atmosphere. (3 marks)

2. Musical Elements: Choose a tempo and a starting dynamic for your composition. Justify your choice—how does this tempo help convey the mood you described above? (3 marks)

3. Rhythmic Pattern: Create a simple four-beat rhythm using a mix of notes. How would you perform this using percussion or clapping to make it sound interesting? (2 marks)

4. Dynamics and Texture: Compare and contrast how your piece would sound if you played it 'piano' (softly) versus 'forte' (loudly). What might happen to the audience's reaction if you included a crescendo halfway through? (4 marks)

5. Reflective Analysis: If you were to add a second instrument to accompany your motif, what would it be? Explain how this instrument would complement your original composition. (3 marks)

6. Critical Review: If you performed this piece for an audience, what feedback would you hope to receive? Justify why you believe your composition would be successful. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Compose a 'B' section for your piece that contrasts with your original motif. Explain how you have used a different tempo or dynamic to create this contrast, and describe how the two sections fit together to form a complete musical structure.