

Max the Musician's Composition Fact-File

Learning objective: To understand and apply the principles of musical notation, including rhythm, pitch, and time signatures.

Max the monkey has been busy turning maths into music! Use this fact-file to plan your own musical composition. Fill in the sections below to describe the structure, rhythm, and melody of your piece, ensuring you use correct musical terminology to explain how your notes and rests work together.

Word bank: crotchet · minim · semibreve · quaver · treble clef · time signature · tempo · pitch · bar line · stave

1. Musical Structure: What is the time signature of your piece and how many beats will you have in each bar? (2 marks)

2. Rhythmic Patterns: Choose two different note types (e.g., crotchets and quavers) and explain how you will arrange them to create a steady pulse. (3 marks)

3. Pitch and Melody: If you were writing your melody on a stave, which notes would you place on the lines and spaces to create a high or low sound? (3 marks)

4. Tempo and Dynamics: Describe the speed (tempo) of your piece and whether it will be played loudly (forte) or quietly (piano). (2 marks)

5. Reflective Analysis: Why is it important to use standard musical notation when sharing your composition with other musicians? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Try to write out one bar of your composition using a staff, including a treble clef, your chosen time signature, and your rhythmic notes.