Max’s Tempo Treasure Hunt

Learning objective: To understand and identify musical tempo markings and their relative speeds.

Max the monkey is organising a jungle concert, but he has mixed up his musical speed cards! Sort the tempo terms below into the correct order, starting from the slowest (Largo) to the fastest (Presto). Use the word bank to help you label the pace of each musical movement.

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

1. 1. If a piece of music is played at 'Largo', how would you describe the speed compared to 'Presto'? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

2. 2. Max wants to walk at a steady, 'walking pace'. Which term from the word bank should he choose? (1 mark)

3. 3. If a song starts at 'Moderato' and then the musician increases the tempo to 'Allegro', what has happened to the music? (2 marks)

4. 4. Write a sentence describing a situation where 'Presto' would be the perfect tempo for a piece of music. (2 marks)

5. 5. Sort these terms in order of speed from slowest (1) to fastest (6): Adagio, Presto, Moderato, Largo, Allegro, Andante. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey conducting an orchestra. Show through your drawing style (e.g., blurry lines for fast music, calm waves for slow music) what tempo he is conducting.

Extension challenge: Find a song you like at home. Use a stopwatch to count how many beats occur in 15 seconds. Multiply this by 4 to find the BPM (Beats Per Minute). Based on your result, which tempo term from our list best describes your chosen song?