

Music Detectives: Learning About Composers

Learning objective: To identify how composers use instruments and tempo to tell stories through music.

Read each question carefully. Use the word bank if you need help. Max the monkey is here to help you solve these musical puzzles!

A composer is a person who writes music. They use different sounds and instruments to share a mood or tell a story. The speed of the music is called the tempo. Fast music can sound happy or busy. Slow music can sound sad or calm.

Word bank: Composer · Tempo · Orchestra · Instrument · Speed · Mood

1. What is the name for a person who writes a piece of music? (1 mark)

2. Max the monkey wants to play a fast song. What word describes the speed of the music? (2 marks)

3. Look at these two moods: 'Happy' and 'Sad'. How might a composer change the music to show a 'Happy' mood? (4 marks)

4. Name one instrument you might hear in an orchestra. (2 marks)

5. Imagine you are a composer. Write 3-4 sentences about a piece of music you would write. What would it be about? Would it be fast or slow? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of an instrument that you think sounds happy.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: If you could write a song for a busy day at school, would you use a fast or slow tempo? Explain why.