

Composer Fact-File: My Musical Discovery

Learning objective: To research and record the life and musical contributions of a significant composer.

Choose a composer you would like to learn about. Use library books or safe, monitored internet research to fill in this fact-file. Make sure to note down the era they lived in and what made their music special. Remember to write in your own words, just like Max the monkey would when he breaks down a complex puzzle!

Word bank: Orchestra · Symphony · Melody · Notation · Composition · Classical · Instrument · Rhythm · Tempo · Baroque · Romantic

1. Name of the composer and their dates of birth and death (or the period in which they were most active): (2 marks)

2. Key facts about their life: Where were they born? Did they start learning music at a young age? (3 marks)

3. Famous works: List two or three pieces of music they composed. Can you describe how they sound (e.g., fast, slow, loud, quiet)? (3 marks)

4. Musical style: What instruments did they feature most often? How did they change the way people listened to music? (3 marks)

5. My musical opinion: If you could ask this composer one question about their creative process, what would it be and why? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a music critic in the composer's time. Write a short paragraph (4-5 sentences) describing what it felt like to hear their music performed live for the first time.