

Global Rhythms: A Musical Journey with Max and Finn

Learning objective: To identify and describe instruments and musical traditions from around the world, understanding how music connects cultures.

Join Max the monkey and Finn the dolphin on a musical expedition! Read each question carefully. Some require a simple choice, while others ask you to think deeply about how music brings us together.

Answer Key: 1. A (Djembe), 2. True, 3. Steel Pan, 4. B (India), 5. True, 6. Gamelan, 7. False, 8. Melody, 9. Instruments reflect the materials and traditions of a region, 10. Answers will vary; should mention personal connection or mood.

Word bank: Djembe · Sitar · Steel Pan · Gamelan · Rhythm · Culture · Tempo · Melody

1. Which of these is a traditional West African drum played with bare hands? A) Djembe* B) Violin C) Trumpet D) Piano (1 mark)

2. True or False: A 'Steel Pan' is a melodic instrument originally created in the Caribbean from oil drums. (1 mark)

3. What is the name of the percussion instrument made from a metal barrel that is very popular in Trinidad and Tobago? (1 mark)

4. The Sitar is a famous stringed instrument that originates from: A) Brazil B) India* C) Norway D) Egypt (1 mark)

5. True or False: 'Gamelan' is an orchestra of percussion instruments that originates from Indonesia. (1 mark)

6. Which Indonesian musical ensemble typically features bronze gongs and metallophones? (1 mark)

7. True or False: All music from around the world uses the exact same scale and beat pattern. (1 mark)

8. What musical element refers to the main tune of a song that you might hum along to? (1 mark)

9. 9. Explain why different cultures use different materials to make their instruments (e.g., bamboo, animal skins, or recycled metal). (1 mark)

10. 10. Justify your answer: If you were creating a piece of music to represent the ocean, which instruments would you choose and why? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw your own 'World Fusion' instrument that combines features from two different cultures (for example, a stringed drum or a bamboo guitar). Label the parts of your instrument.



Extension challenge: Max has £50 to spend on instruments for a school music workshop. A small Djembe costs £18.50 and a set of shakers costs £7.25. If Max buys two Djembes and two sets of shakers, how much change will he have? Then, compare and contrast the role of music in a celebration versus a quiet, reflective ceremony. Why might the tempo and melody change?