

Max's Musical Composition Planner

Learning objective: To compose a short musical piece by selecting instruments, tempo, and dynamics to convey a specific mood.

Max the monkey believes that music is a complex mathematical puzzle. Use this planner to construct your own original musical composition. Think carefully about how different musical elements work together to create an atmosphere for your listeners.

Word bank: tempo · crescendo · diminuendo · rhythm · pitch · timbre · staccato · legato · composition · harmony

1. Musical Concept: Describe the mood or story your piece aims to tell. Justify why you chose this particular theme. (3 marks)

2. Instrumentation: List the instruments or sound sources you will use. Explain why these choices are effective for your chosen mood. (3 marks)

3. Structure and Dynamics: Outline the structure of your piece (e.g., A-B-A form). Where will you use a crescendo or diminuendo to change the intensity? (4 marks)

4. Tempo and Rhythm: Define the tempo (speed) of your piece. Explain how the speed of your rhythm influences the listener's engagement. (3 marks)

5. Compare and Contrast: If you were to change the tempo of your composition from **Allegro (fast)** to **Adagio (slow)**, how would the overall character of the piece be altered? (4 marks)

6. Evaluation: What might happen if you introduced a dissonant (clashing) chord at the climax of your piece? How would this affect the audience's perception? (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Compose a short motif (a recurring musical phrase) for your piece using standard notation or a self-created graphic score. Write a reflection explaining how your composition demonstrates the mathematical relationship between rhythm and time signatures.