



Content - Big ideas

Composition : Composing a short piece (2 mins) using key compositional techniques

BIG question : How do you compose a GCSE level composition?

Learning outcomes - Students will:

- Review Sibelius and how to navigate key functions
- Look and note patterns and groupings.
- Learn key compositional techniques, including: sequencing, retrograde, canon, fugue, inversion, modulation and transposition.
- Begin to learn and use irregular time signatures like 5/4 and 7/8
- Review appropriate instrumentation.
- Look at key songs and their construction e.g. Radiohead, Earth wind and fire, Billy Joel and Queen.
- Create a 2 min composition.
- Add appropriate ornamentations and embellishments.

Assessment:

- Students will upload their compositions to google classroom via pdf and mp3.
- Students will receive constructive feedback on what they could or could of improved.

Theory : Looking at how music is constructed and how we can analyse a variety of genres.

BIG question: how do composers construct songs and how can we understand and analyse those techniques to write our own?

Learning outcomes - Students will:

- Review basic theory e.g notes on the staff, clefs, time signatures, tempo etc.
- Learn the circle of 5ths to better understand how to modulate in music.
- Learn Note intervals
- Discover Advanced scales including, double harmonic minor, whole tone etc.
- Review and use Modes of the scale.
- Analyse Key signatures
- Learn how to guess the time signature and key of a piece.
- Learn how to construct, locate and apply more complex chords e.g. dominant 7ths, inversions, extension and suspensions

Assessment:

- Students will be given a mock GCSE paper to complete.

Performance: practicing to become more efficient at your instrument of choice.

BIG question: how can I practice to better improve my physical understanding of how music is constructed and performed.

Learning outcomes - Students will:

- Practice a piece of their choice on an instrument they can play to a high level
- Discuss areas of improvement with tutor and teacher to improve the performance quality
- Take on self directed study and work to improve the piece.
- Research the history behind their performance piece.

Assessment:

- Students will be asked to record and upload a video of them performing to google classrooms to be reviewed.

Prior learning

Students will be building on their key foundation of musical theory; they will then use that to help them progress in their knowledge of the subject and also apply it to a composition, the students will be revisiting Sibelius and using their knowledge of the software from year 9

Global/IOM/Subject Links

Links to other subjects

Media studies – analysing how films and music work together to create an atmosphere or symbolism.

IT – navigating computers and new software.

Links to Global picture

Looking at a wide variety of composers from different regions and time periods

Links to IOM

Opportunities to hear local musicians and look at local film makes and composers.

Subject specific skills development

Scales- students will figure out how to read and decipher advanced scales including the double harmonic minor, pentatonic, blues and whole tone scales

Circle of 5ths – students will be learning about the circle of 5ths and how it can be used to assist with both musical analysis and also compositional modulation.

Ornamentation - students will learn different musical ornaments and embellishments including turns, mordents, trills and slurs to improve the quality of their compositions.

Modes – students will learn and develop a knowledge of musical modes within a major scale