

Knowledge Organiser

Suites

Music
Year 8

Project Outline

Students are to create a musical suite for a documentary about a city. The music should reflect at least three different aspects/moods of the chosen city, exploiting the capabilities of the keyboard to create intended moods. Students will choose a city, plan sections, compose each section (at least 20-40 seconds long), rehearse, and perform. They will also evaluate their own work.

Key vocabulary and definitions

- **Suite:** A series of linked musical compositions.
- **Dance Suite:** A type of suite that links a set of dances together.
- **Themed Suite:** A type of suite based on a central idea or purpose (e.g., *The Four Seasons*, *The Planets*).
- **Melody:** A sequence of single notes that is musically satisfying.
- **Harmony:** The combination of simultaneously sounded musical notes to produce chords and chord progressions.
- **Structure:** The overall plan or design of a piece of music.

Musical Techniques

- **Drones:** A sustained or repeated note, typically in the bass.
- **Pedals:** A sustained tone, typically in the bass, during which at least one dissonant harmony is sounded in the other parts.
- **Ostinati:** A continually repeated musical phrase or rhythm.
- **Chords and Dischords:** Chords are notes played together that sound "nice"; Dischords are notes played together that sound "nasty" or dissonant.
- **Sequences:** The immediate repetition of a melodic or harmonic passage at a different pitch.
- **Imitation:** The repetition of a melody or phrase by a different instrument or voice.

Assessment Criteria

Music Matches Scene
Choice of Timbres
Interesting Structure (30s)
Confidence

Marks Available

4- Yes,
3- Almost,
2- Sort of ,
1- Not really