



Year 10 Composing Resources

The BBC have put together some great resources to help you consider how you might go about composing your own song.

Each stage is covered – thinking about chords, melody, bassline, lyrics etc

Use the online resources and the helpsheets that follow to consider writing your own music from scratch.

These resources will last you 3 weeks worth of work – you will have all the bits you need for a song by the end of this project.

Happy Composing



BBC Bitesize – KS3 website

Composing songs – part 1 chords

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc>

Click on the How to write a song section.

Watch the video

Watch and listen to the three examples of lyrics and read what the key sections of the song.

Complete the quiz at the bottom of the page.

Using the virtual piano on <https://www.musicca.com/piano>

Try and come with a chord sequence

Choose 4 chords from the following list – start on C – you can end on any chord

Create a second chord sequence that has 4 chords and ends on G.

Repeat your first line.

Last line Chord I ?? Chord II ?? Chord 3 = G and Chord 4 = C (which will make sequence sound finished).

C= CEG Dm = DFA Em = EGB F=FAC G=GBD Am= ACE

Using WORD note down some possible ideas and save them in your documents as Song Writing 1 Chords



BBC Bitesize – KS3 website

Composing songs – Part 2 – Lyric Writing

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc>

Click on the Writing Lyrics section

Watch the video on writing lyrics

Watch and listen to the three examples of lyrics and read what the key sections of the song.

Complete the quiz at the bottom of the page.

Listen to the band performing the full song.

Composing your song

1. Consider what your song is going to be about and mind map some ideas of words, phrases that you think would work with you subject.
2. Think about a possible structure – will your piece start with a chorus or verse?
3. Start drafting your text.

So you don't lose them– write your lyrics in a WORD document as Song Writing 2 Lyrics



BBC Bitesize – KS3 website

Composing songs – part 3 melody

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc>

Click on the Melody writing video

Watch the video

Watch and listen to the Ed Sheeran example and workout the structure of the melody.

Listen to the examples.

Watch the Composing in C major video and also listen to three example at the bottom of screen

Complete the quiz at the bottom of the page.

Using the virtual piano on <https://www.musicca.com/piano>

add the letter notes.

Using the notes of C Major – C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C

Create your own Phrase A, starting and ending on a C. Make it four beats long. Next create your own Phrase B, which should be similar, but slightly different. This time, start on a G and end on a C. Again, it should be four beats long.

Play Phrase A twice, then Phrase B, then Phrase A to finish. Your melody now has the phrase structure AABA. You could try playing or singing the phrases in a different order as you develop your melody.

You could then have a look at your chord sequence and see if you could further extend your ideas using your chord sequence.

Using WORD note down some possible ideas and save them in your documents as Song Writing 3 Melody



BBC Bitesize – KS3 website

Composing songs – part 4 Bass Line

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc>

Click on the Bass Line link

Watch the video

Watch and listen to the other examples

Complete the quiz at the bottom of the page.

Using the virtual piano on <https://www.musicca.com/piano>

Use either your own chord sequence from part 1 or use the chords on the screen to create a bass line.

Using WORD note down some possible ideas and save them in your documents as Song Writing 4 Bass line



BBC Bitesize – KS3 website

Other Ideas

You could also explore the videos on Rap, Fusion Music, Composing Music for Video Games and Composing Music for Films.

Once you have watched the videos choose one style and explore some ideas further.

Find out who else has composed music in the style you have chosen.

Have a go at some of the activities on the page.

Take the quiz at the end of the page.

Using WORD note down any ideas and research you have done and save them in your documents as the title of the style of music you have chosen.