



Writing in music

7 strategies for Stage 4, 5 or 6

Creative writing

Play a section of a soundtrack for the class. Discuss how the concepts of expressive techniques and dynamics could influence an accompanying narrative. Write a story to be read aloud with the music. Record, play and discuss as a class the language techniques and features that influence music in film.



Text forms & structure

Play a piece of music in a specific structure such as binary, ternary or rondo. Get students to identify and write down a definition of the musical structure in their books. Discuss how music structure influences the meaning in music, similar to how text forms and structure are important in writing.



Vocabulary

Individually, students create and build an interactive vocabulary/glossary blog online. The list will contain definitions and samples of the music terms studied in class.



Language features

Read popular culture reviews of tours, albums or video clips and ask for written responses about the contextual, language and features that build meaning.



Grammar

Associate grammar & punctuation to musical symbols such as a rest and a comma. Create signposting for the classroom.



Perspectives

Associate characters to various tone colours in a music piece that you deconstruct as a class. Students will then write and explain the point of view and perspective of each character, as reflected in the music.



Spelling

Individually, students are to research and write an article about the impact of illegally downloading music from a professional musicians perspective. Get students to swap their writing with a partner to mark. Discuss the importance of spelling.

