

Step 6 – Writing a Song

Now that you have all of your material at your disposal it is time to transfer this into a piece of music. In Step 5 you decide on the instrumental combination that you want to compose your piece for and learnt about the roles of each instrument in the combinations your allowed to use. Now it is time for you to use the skills you've learnt to write a song.

A good piece of music always has structure. Below are sample structures you can use for each of the instrumental combinations you have chosen.

String Quartet

If you have chosen to write a piece for string quartet I would like you to write a piece that has 3 different sections. You can think of this like a story, with a beginning, a middle, and an end. Also think about how you are going to link each section you can introduce your main idea in the beginning and perhaps change the tonality of it in the middle and maybe even bring back the original idea at the end, the choices are limitless.

Rock Band

If you have chosen to write a piece for a Rock Band then I would like you to write a piece that has the following structure;

1. Introduction
2. Verse
3. Chorus
4. Verse
5. Chorus
6. Bridge
7. Chorus
8. Outro

At first this may seem like a long structure but remember that the chorus is the same each time it returns. If you choose to write for this instrumental group I would recommend that you try to write some lyrics that can flow over the top of your melody.

Solo Piano

If you have chosen to write a piece for solo piano I would like you to write a piece with 3 different sections. You can think of this like a story, with a beginning, a middle, and an end. To change the mood of each section you might want to experiment with different pitch ranges on the piano.

Instrument and Piano Accompaniment

If you have chosen to write a piece for instrument with piano accompaniment I would like you to write a piece with 3 different sections. You can think of this like a story, with a

beginning, a middle, and an end. You may choose to change the tempo of each section or the tonality by introducing some modulations.

Jazz Quartet

If you have chosen to write a piece for a Jazz Quartet then I would like you to write a piece that has the following structure;

1. Introduction (Accompanying Instruments)
2. Head (Melody on lead instrument)
3. Second Idea (Contrasting idea to Head)
4. Head (Melody on lead or another instrument)
5. Third Idea (Contrasting idea to Head)
6. Head (Melody on lead instrument)
7. Outro

The head of a jazz piece is the main melody. For you this will contain your main motif and your favourite way of developing it.

FINAL IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. **Don't be afraid to experiment, the opportunities are limitless**
2. **Have fun**
3. **If you're not sure where to start or how to continue, ask one of your peers or your teacher**
4. **GOOD LUCK**

<https://ljsmusiceducation.school.blog/2019/10/22/step-6-writing-your-song/>