

YEAR 8 MUSIC - CONNECTIONS

By the end of these tasks you should be able to:

Sing along with a karaoke backing track with your family/friends

Review a performance

Understand what film music is

Analyse a film score

Create your own mixtape



Task 1: Singing is a great way to connect with other people. Your task is to connect with your family or friends through singing. Using YouTube karaoke backing tracks perform a song of your choice either to your family/friends or with them. There are some great songs on the YouTube channel 'Sing King'.

Some suggestions:

- Lewis Capaldi – Someone You Loved - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0H3KpRuwBZ8>
- Tones and I – Dance Monkey - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=an0JKXnnrAY>
- Billie Eilish – No Time To Die - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ioqGmaBHUrK>
- Sarah McLachlan – Angel - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9z9CJVjfYA&list=PL8D4lby0Bmm8rohzdA2kgI9z_nOlzlwfd&index=17&t=0s

Task 2: Review your karaoke:

- What was good about it?
- What would you improve if you were to do it again?
- What did your family/friends think about it?
- Why did you choose that song? Would you choose a similar song again?

Task 3: Film Music and Mixtapes

Film Music is often known as a score. This is the music we hear as the movie takes place. It can happen when the actors speak, it can happen during a fight scene or a romantic scene. This type of music can creep in so gently, you might not even notice it, but it can also be the most intense part of the film. Think about any scary films you've watched... The music tells you when you need to be scared or when you might want to hide your eyes!

When we talk about Film Music, it does not mean the 'songs' (pieces of music that are sung) that are in the movie. Most songs we hear in films would have been released before, or around the same time as the movie. They are rarely written specifically for the film, unlike the 'score' which would have been written to suit the atmosphere of every scene, exactly. Songs in movies would be part of the soundtrack.

Films like *Guardians of the Galaxy* have a 'Mix tape' soundtrack where pre-existing songs from the 70's are used to add to the action and emotion as well as having the soundtrack that is original; all of the music combined adds to the intensity of the scenes as well.

When you complete your work do try to be specific by naming instruments and describing the tempo, dynamics and tonality (Major/Minor) and other *Elements of Music*.

Have a listen to some of the 'soundtrack' from 'Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.1 and Vol.2.

1. : First look at the motion picture with the sound off as 'Star Lord' loads his cassette at 2:10

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNlnQwHWSYw>

2. Which kind of music would you expect to hear in this scene? – relate it to the action
3. Watch the scene again with the sound on and describe how the scene is enhanced with this 'song'
4. Now look at the motion picture with the sound off from the second film when Baby Groot starts dancing at 0:26

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B67TuUwghqE>

5. Which kind of music would you expect to hear in this scene? – relate it to the action
6. Watch the scene again with the sound on and describe how the scene is enhanced with this 'song'



Task 4: Use the sheet below or create your own mind map which details a film of your choice

The best evaluations of the film music should include the reasons WHY you think the composer made the choices they did. So do consider every action and reaction, mood, emotion and expression the characters display.

Name of Movie: _____ **Year it was released:** _____

Introduction/Opening credits – a) Describe the music you hear b) Identify some instruments How does it make you feel?	
Characters – When do you see the main character/hero? What does the music sound like when they first appear?	
Set – Where/when is the movie set? How does the music represent this?	
Characters – Does the movie have a villain? What happens to the music when they first appear?	
Genre – What type of film is it? (rom com/action/horror etc) Pick a scene, explain what happens and describe the music. Why do you think the composer has made it sound this way?	
Twist – Is there a plot twist? When something unexpected happens, this is usually reflected in the music. Describe what you hear.	
Ending – When the story is building up to the end, describe how the music changes and develops up until the credits.	
Soundtrack – List any <i>songs</i> that are in the movie and play during the credits. How do they link with the story?	

Task 5: Create a Mix tape of Film Music to fit your own story or an existing film

- Start by thinking about the story, the action and suitable songs that would help move the action forward. Think about certain characters and how the music style could suit them.
- Use any style of music that you consider would be suitable and once you have a 'Mix Tape' share it with a friend or family member via email/social media/YouTube links to see what they think.



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