

Beethoven Card Sort

Repertoire:

1. Symphony No 3, The Eroica, 2nd Mvt (funeral March): https://youtu.be/DQoPXQ-z-Pw 9' 56" – 13' 27"

Resources:

1. Card sort sheet - (Photocopied on card and cut up into sets)
2. Writing Frame: Symphony No 3, 2nd Movement extended writing

Activity 1:

1. Working in three's, provide each group with a set of cards (see above). Next ask them to spread them out on their tables.
2. Explain that students will listen to an excerpt of music taken from one of Beethoven's works (do not disclose the title of the piece). As they listen, they must sort the cards into three groups:
    a. Agree
    b. Not sure
    c. Disagree
3. Ask students to listen in silence, communicating only by thumbs up, thumbs down or thumbs in the middle.
4. Allow a small amount of time for group discussion and then play the excerpt for a second time.
5. Ask groups to feedback to the class and discuss aspects that caused disagreement or uncertainty.
6. Explain that the piece is the slow movement from Beethoven's 3rd, Eroica symphony, originally dedicated to Napoleon Bonaparte, but later named 'Eroica' when Beethoven became disillusioned by Napoleon's megalomania and Empire building. Point out that the piece is a slow funeral march, perhaps inspired by those killed in battle?
7. Note: Activity 2 follows on from Activity 1. In preparation, students should leave out all of the cards that they agreed with (some of their 'Not Sure' cards may have been moved into this category in light of the discussion) and pack away the others.

Activity 2:

1. Distribute the writing frame provided.
2. Next, working individually, explain that students should produce a piece of structured writing using the structure provided on the writing frame and also information provided by the card sort.
3. Pupils write their own appraisal of the piece

Card Sort

Symphony	**Orchestra**
March	**Classical**
Funeral	**Fanfare**
Frequent changes of dynamics	**Oboe melody**
Dramatic	**Heavy**
Adagio	**Minor key**
Triplets	**Dotted rhythms**
Interrupted cadence	**Improvisation**
Riff	**Presto**
Humorous	**War**
Medieval	**Major key**
Small changes of dynamics	**Concerto**

Symphony No 3, Second Movement Extended Writing

Focus	
1. Background information.	
2. What can you hear?	
3. What is the music trying to express?	
3. What do you think about it?	