



GCSE Pentatonic Composition – Composing from a given stimulus.

Take the given rhythmic stimulus.

Remember that you must show how you have developed this idea. Not too much of all the same. You can use the 2nd part of the rhythm first or take a motif from it or if there is a splitting up of the crotchet in to smaller notes use this in reverse

e.g.

becomes:

Plan for pentatonic ostinato piece.

- 1 Use only black keys (This is pentatonic homing on Gb)
- 2 Find important notes Gb tonic sounds final Db dominant sounds going on.
- 3 5 tracks if poss.
- 4 What about percussion tracks on 6 and/or 7

Track 1 melody – 8 bars using longer legato notes in 4 X 2bar phrases.

This can be A section if you have time to go on. Come up with a contrasting 8 bar section for B. Then you can copy A at the end to make a ternary form piece.

Track 5 bass – Rhythmic ostinato simple using Gb & Db mainly.

Tracks 2,3 & 4 – 3 contrasting interesting ostinati using rhythms which subdivide the crotchet beats. E.g. mixing quavers and semiquavers or triplets. You can use 1 bar played 8 times or 2 bars played 4 times to make up the 8 bars.

Don't repeat the pitch on any notes that follow each other. Try to make an interesting melodic shape. If 1 ostinato goes up use the other going down. If you use a short rhythm on an early beat of the bar in 1 ostinato then use it on another beat of the bar in another ostinato so that there is contrast between the different ostinati.

Percussion ostinati should be interesting rhythmically.

If you have time try to extend the piece in some way.

ABA – ternary form is one way. Do the same as the first 8 bars but use a contrasting set of melodies and ostinati in the middle 8 bars. The bass part can remain constant.

Arch form – Use the idea of starting gradually. Introduce an idea firstly – possibly the percussion tracks - and build up adding a track at a time possibly every two bars. Start with the bass, add the ostinati one by one and then add the melody. When the melody has finished use the same idea in reverse, taking a part out every two bars. You can then end with just the percussion fading away.

What about Rondo form A-B-A-C-A?