

**How can I use music to represent London?****George Gershwin (1898-1937)**

Gershwin was one of the most significant and popular American composers of all time. He was famous for writing classical music with a pop music and a jazz twist.

Key Vocabulary

solo - a piece or section of a piece played by a single performer.

accompaniment - music that supports or complements the solo.

timbre - the sound quality of the instrument.

structure - the way a piece of music is put together.

adagio - music to be played slowly.

allegro - music to be played briskly or lively (quickly)

fortissimo - music to be played very loudly.

pianissimo - music to be played very softly/quietly.

How does Gershwin use different structures to add detail?

The **structure** of Rhapsody in Blue:

- The **Clarinet** starts as a **solo**.
- The **Trombone** and the orchestra **accompanies** the clarinet.
- The **Piano** plays as **solo** and is **accompanied** by the orchestra.



Clarinet



Trumpet

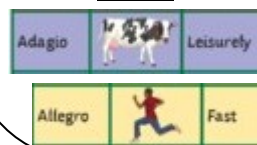
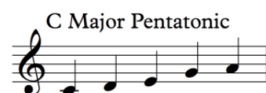


Trombone



Piano

This piece of music changes tempo and dynamics throughout the piece.

Tempo**Dynamics****How can I create a layered melody for a London Composition?**

Use the C major pentatonic scale to create a melody.

- Put the notes from the scale in different orders using different rhythms.
- Choose a new rhythm and different note order for the different parts of your London scene.

How can I structure my London Composition?

- Which instruments will play a solo and which will accompany? Will this change within the piece or stay the same?
- How will the tempo change throughout your piece to show different paces within London?
- How will the dynamics change within the piece to show changes in volume within London?

Applying Past Knowledge

This learning links with the lessons you had in year 4 about the C-C scale, year 5 composition and Year 6 Autumn 2 the pentatonic scale.

How can I use rhythm and timbre to represent London sounds?

In American In Paris, Gershwin uses rhythm and timbre to create music to sound like a city.

- At the beginning of the piece the strings are playing quick rhythms with quavers to show people rushing about.
- The chords Gershwin has used sound like a car horn.
- In the middle of the piece Gershwin uses slow minims and semibreves to show people walking more slowly.

name	relative length	note	in 4 time
semibreve	whole note		4 beats
minim	half note		2 beats
crotchet	quarter note		1 beat
quaver	eighth note		1/2 beat

