



How can I compose sporting music?



1. Why does 'The Chariots of Fire' represent running so well?

- **Chariots of Fire:** composed by Greek electronic composer **Vangelis** for the film Chariots of Fire in 1981.
- The music won four Academy Awards including Best Picture and Original Music Score.

- The film is based on a true story about 2 British athletes in the 1924 Olympics.

The music represents the athletes running by using the interrelated dimensions of music.

⇒ It uses a steady rhythm (ostinato) to show running at a steady pace.

⇒ It uses a change in dynamics to show different parts of the race.

⇒ The main melody repeats and gradually increases in dynamics to show coming to the end of the race.

- The music uses a melody which is triumphant and positive to show the characters winning.

Key Vocabulary

Texture: Layers of sound and overall effect of the music.

Structure: The way a piece of music is built up. The order of the instruments and sections.

Notation: A way of writing down music so anyone can read and play it.

Chord: A group of 3 notes played together.

Chord progression: Chords played in sequence.

Applying Past Knowledge

This learning links with the lessons you had in year 5 and year 6, composing using the interrelated dimensions of music and the C-C and pentatonic scales to create melodies.

Symbol	Name	Number per bar (4/4)	Rest
	Semibreve	1 per bar	
	Minim	2 per bar	
	Crotchet	4 per bar	
	Quaver	8 per bar	
	Semiquavers	16 per bar	

2. How can I create rhythms that represent a sport?

- What are the different sections in your sport? (start slow, gain pace, fly through the air, land)
- What rhythms could represent each of these sections?
- What will the tempo and dynamics of each section be?



3. How can I create chord progression accompaniment for my rhythms?



- Play the chords shown above.
- Decide which order you would like to play them in to represent your sport.
- Decide the tempo and dynamics of your chord progressions.

Tempo: Speed	Dynamics: Volume
Largo: Slowly	Pianissimo: Very quiet
Andante: Walking pace	Piano: Quiet
Adagio: Leisurely/graceful	Forte: Loud
Allegro: Lively/cheerful	Fortissimo: Very Loud

