

## Lesson 7

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| Year: 9 | Duration: 60 minutes |
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Scheme of Work: Song Writing.

Lesson: Listening and Appraising AT2. 6b, 6e  
Writing a chorus.

### Learning Outcomes:

Pupils will develop knowledge about writing a chorus through listening to *Fly Away* by Lenny Kravitz. Furthermore, pupils will enhance their listening skills by analysing a modern pop song.

### Structure of lesson

(5mins)

Register. Hand out files

State aims – Today we will be looking at what makes a good chorus. By the end of the lesson everyone will have a few ideas about this.

(5mins)

Brainstorm – The teacher should ask the children what their initial thoughts about this are and map a spider map on the board.

(5mins)

Explaining task – Often we listen to pop songs without thinking about what is actually happening musically within them. We hear a song, like the tune and then soon find out that we have learnt all the lyrics. Today we are going to listen to *Fly Away* and look at what is happening in the music.

Distribute listening worksheets – Composing the chorus

(5mins)

Read through worksheets as a class.

Explain task – when listening to *Fly Away* we are going to compare the chorus with the verse. We will listen to this song once.

(15mins)

Listening exercise.

Pupils should circle the words on the worksheet that apply and then write a few sentences explaining why they think the chorus is or is not effective.

(10mins)

Class discussion.

The teacher should ask pupils questions about which words they circled.

Did everyone agree? The teacher should then ask which pupils thought the chorus was effective and why. Key points should be written on the board.

(5mins)

Pair work. Do you still have the same opinion about what makes a good melody? In pairs write down a few key points that you think are important.

(5mins)

Recapitulation – A good chorus should have a catchy tune, repetitive but contrasting to the verse. Does everyone agree with this? If not, why?

(5mins)

Pack up and wait for the bell.

### Differentiation

As this is a recent song it will be assessable to every pupil in the class. The brainstorm session at the beginning of the lesson will allow for a variety of answers, and I believe that all abilities of pupils will be able to offer suggestions as to what makes a good chorus. The listening exercise in itself is easy and all the pupils will be able to choose a word to circle. However, the more able pupils will be able to write fuller answers to the second part of the worksheet, using musical terms. This lesson will have the participation and motivation of all pupils, however answers can be delivered at different levels.

### Assessment

Pupil's comments and contribution will be monitored and notes should be made after the lesson. The listening worksheets provide another way of assessing progress as the opinion question will demonstrate the amount of musical language developed by each pupil.