

Band Grade 8

Composition

Teacher Scoring Key

Name _____

Class _____

These guidelines will help you to be successful in completing your first composition. Follow these guidelines carefully, check each task off, and return this sheet with your final composition. **YOU MUST COMPLETE A ROUGH DRAFT FIRST.**

Student check

Teacher score

here

My final composition:

is written in pencil and is neat

4 _____

has a time signature that appears **ONLY** in the first measure

2 _____

has a variety of pitches rhythms and rests

4 _____

has a clear theme, repetition and unity

4 _____

has the correct number of beats in each measure,
with counting written in

4 _____

has a key signature, Major or Minor and is labeled

5 _____

has a clear and labeled form

5 _____

has the correct placement of stems and noteheads

2 _____

has a double bar line drawn at the end of the piece

2 _____

has clearly defined phrases of 4 measures each

4 _____

has a min. 24 measures in total (introduction optional)

4 _____

has a title/your name as composer placed correctly

2 _____

has a tempo marking

2 _____

has at least two different dynamic markings

2 _____

Performance:

Is performed with rhythm accuracy

2 _____

Is performed with accurate tempo & dynamics

2 _____

Total =

Scoring Key

A+ = 46 B = 39, 40 C- = 32, 33

A = 45 B- = 37, 38 D = 29-31

A- = 42-44 C+ = 35, 36

B+ = 40-41 C = 34

Comments:

Helpful hints about titles, dynamics and tempo markings

Titles: A title of a composition is centered on the top of the page. The name of the composer, YOUR NAME, goes in the upper right-hand side of the page (see the example in class).

Dynamic markings:

When we played percussion in the drum room, you achieved different dynamic levels by playing in the center of the drum skin (***forte***, or loud, with an open hand) or on the rim (***mezzo forte***, or medium loud, with our fingertips). Using dynamics serves to make a composition more expressive.

Two ways that dynamics can be used are: (1) for variety and contrast when one measure, two measures, or a 4-measure phrase is repeated, (2) to set the mood of an entire section of music. For example, the entire A section could be medium soft (***mezzo piano***, or ***mp***) while the entire B section could be medium loud (***forte***, or ***f***). Dynamics can also be gradual, as in crescendo (getting louder, or ***cresc.***) or decrescendo (getting softer, or ***decresc.***).

Your decisions about dynamics affect the mood of the piece.

Tempo markings:

These are the markings on the composition that advise us of the speed of the musical piece. Tempo markings are found at the beginning of the score, on the top left-hand side. As with dynamic markings, the words are usually in Italian. Below are some common tempo markings.

Italian Term	Description
Adagio	Slow
Andante	Walking speed
Moderato	Moderate or Medium tempo
Allegretto	A little slower than fast
Allegro.	Fast
Presto	Very fast