

Music Tech	Week 1		Theme: Electropop	
Piece 1	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Kraftwerk Das Model	<p>Kraftwerk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - German, electropop band - thought of as the pioneers of electronic music. - use drum machines, synthesisers and vocoders. - describe their music as 'robot pop' because of the unique electronic melodies they produce. <p>Das Model (translated The Model)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the first German record to top the UK charts. - inspired by the models who worked in a night club and tells the story of a model's day. - a very simple melody which makes it memorable - played in octaves on synthesisers throughout without any other 'traditional' instruments. 	Electro pop	<p>20th Century</p> <p>Released in 1982</p>	<p>Why do you think Kraftwerk describe themselves as creating 'robot pop'?</p> <p>Personal choice but might reference: synthetic sounds, hypnotic sounds, staccato representing robotic movement, repetitive melodies, very similar in appearance (hair, clothes, instruments), very little movement in musicians- almost like robots performing.</p> <p>Have you heard any songs like this before?</p> <p>Personal choice</p> <p>Do you like this electropop music? Why/why not?</p> <p>Personal choice</p>
Piece 2	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Daft Punk One More Time	<p>Daft Punk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - French duo formed in 1993. - considered a 'house' music band (a form of electronic music) - considered to be one of the most influential acts in the history of dance music. - like Kraftwerk, they use synthesisers, drum machines and vococoders. <p>One More Time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - released in 2000. - reached number one in France and number 2 in the UK and was voted the best dance record of all time. - sung by American singer Romanthony who also co-wrote it with Daft Punk. - uses auto-tuning on his vocals to create the unique sound. 	House	<p>21st Century</p> <p>Released in 2000</p>	<p>One More Time is house music, a form of electronic dance. Do you think it is a good song to dance to? Why/why not?</p> <p>Personal choice.</p> <p>Does the texture of the music stay the same all the way through?</p> <p>The sound is layered in different way throughout the song. Starts with a few instrumental sounds, then voice is added, then a heavier drum sound. At 2:06, it is a thinner texture with just voice and one synthesiser. Another percussion instrumental sound is then added in at 2:45, increasing the thickness of texture before disappearing again. At 3:38, the original instrumental sounds begin to be added again returning to a thicker texture for the rest of the song. The song ends with just the sound of a bell chiming- it's thinnest texture.</p>

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Comparison Information:	Comparison Questions:
<p>Both bands use electronic instruments as the foundations of their music. They were hugely influential in their fields, Kraftwerk pioneering robotic music and Daft Punk, electronic dance music.</p>	<p>Which musical artist do you prefer and why? Personal choice.</p> <p>Do you think people will still be listening to their music in 50 years time? Why/why not? Personal choice.</p>

Music Tech	Week 2		Theme: Distortion/Reverb	
Piece 1	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Jimi Hendrix Voodoo Child	<p>Jimi Hendrix:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - born in Washington, America in 1942. - only had a very short career of 4 years (he died when he was 27) but regarded as one of the best instrumentalists in the history of rock music and had a huge influence on popular music. - inspired by American rock and roll and electric blues and was one of the first musicians to incorporate distortion into his music. - pioneered the use of the guitar as an electric sound source. <p>Voodoo Child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - uses distortion on the electric guitar throughout. Distortion changes the sound of an electric, amplified instrument. Hendrix had two pedals connected to his electric guitar which he pressed to make different sounds. The wah pedal was used during the opening which created one of the best-known wah-wah riffs (a short repeated phrase) of the classic rock era. He also used a fuzzface pedal to add a distorted, gritty sound. 	Rock	<p>20th Century</p> <p>Released in 1970</p>	<p>Why do you think Voodoo Child is such a popular song? Personal choice but might mention the fact that rock music was very popular in the late 1960s/1970s and Jimi Hendrix was a master of rock- his guitar instrumental in Voodoo Child was very impressive!</p> <p>Why do you think Jimi Hendrix liked to use distortion in his music? Personal choice Would you listen to Voodoo Child to relax? Why/why not? Personal choice</p>
Piece 2	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Enya May It Be	<p>Enya:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Irish singer, song writer and musician and is the best-selling solo Irish artist of all time. - Known as 'The Queen of New Age', a genre of music which is relaxing and peaceful, but her music can also fall under the 'modern Celtic' genre, using folk traditions of the Celtic people. - does all the vocals and plays the majority of instruments in her recordings. - sold 75 million records worldwide making her one of the best-selling artists of all time. <p>May it Be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Part of Lord of the Rings Soundtrack (2001) - Lyrics are in English and Quenya, a fictional Elvish language. - Uses reverberation on the vocals track to create a haunting, echoing timbre. Reverb is an audio effect applied to a sound 	New age	<p>21st Century</p> <p>Released in 2001</p>	<p>What does May It Be make you think of when you listen to it? Personal choice</p> <p>How does it make you feel? Personal choice</p> <p>Do you think the music would be as effective without using reverb? Why/why not? Personal choice but might reference that the reverb makes it more haunting which has an effect on the listener.</p>

	<p>signal to create an echoing effect. Musical artists do this to create an ambience.</p>			
<p>Comparison Information:</p>		<p>Comparison Questions:</p>		
<p>Although both songs use music technology, they are two very different styles of music. Voodoo Child is rock music so makes you want to dance etc but May It Be is a very haunting song which is also quite moving.</p>		<p>This week we have listened to the effect of distortion and reverb on music. Which of these effects do you prefer? Why? Personal choice. Would these songs be performed by the same ensemble? No. Voodoo Child would use 'rock instruments' such as electric guitars and drums but May It Be is accompanied by the London Philharmonic Orchestra. How do these two pieces of music compare to the music you usually listen to? Personal choice.</p>		

Music Tech	Week 3		Theme: Video game/GarageBand	
Piece 1	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Space Invaders	<p>When video games were first played at home and in arcades in the 1970s, the music was composed on synthesisers. This genre of music is known as 'chiptune', the production of music using synthesised electronic music. It is very distinctive in sound because of its timbre- any song can fit the genre of chiptune if it is played in this way. Advances in technology have allowed computer games to include more sounds than years ago.</p> <p>1978 saw the release of one of gaming's first continuous video gaming soundtracks in the chiptune genre which was revolutionary at the time and made an enormous impact on the video game music which followed. Composed by Japanese video game creator Tomohiro Nishikado in 1978, the soundtrack uses just four thumping notes played over and over again. As the descending aliens got closer to the player's base, the tempo of the music would speed up.</p>	Video game	20th Century- 1978	<p>Why do you think the tempo of the music speeds up when the enemy alien ships are close to the player's base? An accelerando (speeding up) is used here to create tension in the music- it is warning that danger is coming in the same way your heart speeds up when something dangerous is approaching.</p> <p>Chiptune has become increasingly popular again for video gaming music recently. Why do you think that is? Personal choice but might make references to nostalgia. Retro games are increasingly popular.</p>
Piece 2	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Umbrella by Rihanna	<p>GarageBand allows users to compose music using a range of melodic and percussive instrumental effects including voice. Composers can use a MIDI keyboard and premade loops (a repeating section of sound material using electronic music) from a range of genres to help structure and layer their piece as well as special effects like reverb and distortion.</p> <p>One of the most famous songs to use GarageBand is Umbrella by the Barbadian singer Rihanna featuring the American rapper Jay Z. It fits across the genres of pop, hip hop and R & B and was a massive hit across the world. It was the biggest selling song of the Noughties. Rihanna and Jay-Z are both among the best-selling artists of all time, selling over 375 million records combined. Umbrella started with a single GarageBand loop using drums and the rest of the song developed from there. When producers first</p>	Pop/Hip-Hop/R&B	21st Century Released in 2007	<p>Umbrella was the song which really launched Rihanna's singing career. Why do you think it was such a success? Personal choice but might refer to it being catchy particularly the chorus, a good song to sing and dance to, mixes rapping and singing which appealed to a wide audience.</p> <p>Do you like it? Why/why not? Personal choice.</p> <p>If you didn't know that the drums were played using GarageBand, would you know they weren't real drums?</p>

heard the GarageBand loop, they knew they could produce an amazing song.

Probably not- they sound very realistic which is why GarageBand is so popular!
 If you could add another layer of sound using GarageBand, what would you add?
 Personal choice.

Comparison Information:

These are 2 very different styles of music which shows how diverse music can be using a range of different music technology. Video game music is a very easily identifiable genre of music and is becoming popular again because of the nostalgia of 'retro' original computer games. Garageband is very popular among musicians now because of how easy it is to compose music using a range of instruments and timbres to layer songs.

Comparison Questions:

Which technology would you prefer to use if you were creating a song of your choice? Why?
 Personal choice.

Which software would you use if you had to compose a soundtrack for a futuristic film about robots? Explain your answer.
 Personal choice.

Music tech	Week 4		Theme: Rave/Turntables	
Piece 1	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
The Prodigy No Good	<p>Rave music is a form of electronic dance music typically associated with the late 1980s and early 1990s. The music is amplified and often accompanied with laser light shows, visual effects and fog machines. It is normally played by DJs who transition from one track to the next. Rave music features regular beats and simple melodies.</p> <p>The Prodigy are an English electronic dance music band. They became famous in the early 1990s and were given the title 'The Godfathers of Rave' and are one of most successful electronic music acts of all time. They describe their music as 'electronic punk' and used strong, ground-breaking rhythms. They combined their rock-inspired drum rhythms with electronic rave-music beats.</p>	Rave	<p>20th Century</p> <p>Released 1994</p>	<p>What kind of venue do you think this would be performed at? Nightclub, party, festival</p> <p>Does the texture of the music change? Yes. Some part are thin with just one instrumental sound and other parts are thicker with voice, drums and other instrumental sounds.</p>
Piece 2	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
DJ Jazzy Jeff	<p>Turntablists manipulate a vinyl record by using their hand. The record can be stopped, sped up, slowed down or moved backwards. Moving the record forwards and backwards is known as rhythmic scratching which is a key feature of hip-hop music (a form of rap developed in the US). Scratching has the effect of creating new sounds and music. Turntablists use visual markers on the record to help them scratch the desired sound.</p> <p>DJ Jazzy Jeff is an American song writer, record producer and DJ. He developed his love of spinning records at just 10 years old. He is one of the DJs responsible for incorporating the transformer scratch into music, which he first used on one of his songs with Will Smith, "The Magnificent Jazzy Jeff". The transformer scratch involves playing a long sound and then cutting the sound on and off with a cross fader.</p>	Hip-hop	<p>21st Century-2011</p>	<p>It takes a lot of practise to be a good turntablist. Why do you think that is? You have to be spot on with your rhythms, you need to 'catch' the record in the right place to get the right sound, you have to do lots of things at the same time- there are 2 discs to spin plus lots of buttons to slow down/speed up the music, change the dynamics etc What word best describes this music? Personal choice How does this music compare to The Prodigy? Personal choice but answers might include reference to the difference in textures, they are both upbeat, one has singing vocals, one uses rapping How would you move to this music?</p>

Comparison Information:	Comparison Questions:
<p>These songs were released a couple of decades apart. The Prodigy is electronic dance music, designed to be played for the purpose of a rave with people dancing with strobe lighting. DJ Jazzy Jeff is not necessarily written with dancing in the same way in mind although people may dance to it.</p>	<p>Would the same audience like both pieces of music? Both are upbeat songs which make the listener feel good and want to move. However, hip-hop and dance are different styles- some people might not like the lack of singing, some people might prefer it.</p> <p>Which style of music do you prefer? Personal choice</p> <p>What have you learnt this week?</p>

Music tech	Week 5		Theme: Acoustic v electric	
Piece 1	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Vivaldi Summer (original)	Antonio Vivaldi: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Italian Baroque composer, regarded as one of the best, born in 1678 - most famous compositions were his violin concertos, the Four Seasons. A concerto is a piece of music written for a soloist accompanied by an orchestral ensemble. - His music is still very popular now and is played all over the world. The Four Seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Composed around 1718. - The violin concertos describe the four seasons. - revolutionary at the time as Vivaldi represented many elements of nature in them such as singing birds, flowing creeks, storms and warm winter fires. He also published the concertos with sonnets (a type of poem) to describe what the music was representing, which is one of the earliest examples of program music. - This part of Summer, 'Presto' describes a thunderstorm and hail damaging the crops. 	Baroque	1600-1750 Composed in 1718	This music is acoustic. What does that mean? Music which is made without electric or electronic means. What other songs do you know which are entirely acoustic? Personal choice. Refer back to previous musicians studied. What does Summer make you think of when you listen to it? Personal choice. What other instruments can you hear/recognise? Violin, viola, cello, double bass
Piece 2	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
Vivaldi Summer (modern electric)	The electric guitar was invented in the 1930s and became the most important instrument in popular music in the 1950s and 1960s. It is connected to amplifiers to make it louder. It is used in many genres of music including electric blues, rock and roll and heavy metal.	Rock	21st Century twist on Baroque	What did you think about when you listened to this electric version of Summer? Was it the same or different to the acoustic version? Personal choice. Would you call it Summer or rename it to something different? If so, what? Personal choice. Vivaldi's original violin concerto is in the Baroque genre. What genre would you put this electric version in? Rock

Comparison Information:	Comparison Questions:
<p>Vivaldi wrote The Four Seasons for strings, 400 years ago in the baroque era. The second version is a modern twist on a baroque classic, turning it into a rock song with electric guitar and drums.</p>	<p>Which version do you think Vivaldi would prefer? Personal choice. The modern version would be completely alien to Vivaldi as these instruments didn't exist when he was alive. Maybe he would love it!</p> <p>Which version do you prefer? Why? Personal choice.</p> <p>If both versions were playing in concert, do you think they would have the same kind of audience? Rock concerts and baroque music concerts would probably have different audiences but some people would certainly love watching both equally. Loving one genre of music doesn't mean you don't love others too.</p> <p>What would you ask Vivaldi if you could meet him? Personal choice.</p>

Music Tech	Week 6		Theme: Sampling/Tik Tok	
Piece 1	Artist & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers
<p>Madonna Hung Up</p>	<p>Music sampling is when part of an existing song is reused on a new track using creative production techniques. This sample could be a rhythm, melody or whole section of a song. The sample might have its pitch or tempo changed and be looped with new music to layer the sound. It is used in many genres of music, particularly electronic music and pop and is a key element of hip-hop music. It has been used since the 1970s. Musicians always have to have permission to use elements of someone else's track.</p> <p>Madonna- The Queen of Pop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - American singer/song writer born in 1958 - Sold over 300 million records, making her the best-selling female artist of all time. - Hung Up released in 2005- samples the instrumental introduction of Gimme! Gimme! Gimme! by Swedish pop group ABBA. - Madonna had to write to ABBA and beg to be allowed to use the sample. They didn't normally allow other musicians to sample their tracks but they made an exception for Madonna as they admired her work. 	Pop/dance	<p>21st Century</p> <p>Released in 2005</p>	<p>Why do you think Madonna was so desperate to use the ABBA sample from Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!?</p> <p>Why do you think Madonna was so desperate to use the ABBA sample from Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!?</p> <p>Personal choice but might reference the fact that it was a very popular, well known song with a very catchy and memorable melody.</p> <p>Can you identify when the sample is played throughout the track?</p> <p>13 seconds, 1:45, 3:02, 4:06</p> <p>Why does this track fit the 'dance' genre?</p> <p>It makes you want to move- it is fast and upbeat and makes you feel happy.</p>
Piece 2	Composer & Information	Genre	Time Period & Dates	Questions/Answers

<p>Wellerman</p>	<p>TikTok is a social networking service which allows users to share videos of anything and everything! By the end of October 2020, the app had been downloaded over 2 billion times from users all around the world. Incredible!</p> <p>TikTok changed Nathan Evan's life in 2020. After he posted his acapella video of the New Zealand folk song 'The Wellerman', it went viral. People from all over the world used TikTok's duet feature to create duets and collaborations with him by recording their own voices and instrumental accompaniments, layering them together with Nathan's voice.</p> <p>TikTok changed Nathan Evan's life in 2020. After he posted his acapella video of the New Zealand folk song 'The Wellerman', it went viral. People from all over the world used TikTok's duet feature to create duets and collaborations with him by recording their own voices and instrumental accompaniments, layering them together with Nathan's voice. Watch a collaboration here.</p>	<p>Folk</p>	<p>Traditional: New Zealand, 19th Century</p>	<p>Why do you think so many people from around the world wanted to create a duet/collaboration with Nathan Evan's on TikTok?</p> <p>It was released during the Covid lockdown of 2020 when a lot of people were at home looking for things to do. Nathan Evans had a very soulful voice which people loved listening to and it was fun to use TikTok technology to sing with him!</p> <p>Do you like The Wellerman? Would you like to record a duet with Nathan Evans?</p> <p>Personal answers.</p> <p>You can hear several voices on the video. What is it called when other singers sing something different to the melody at the same time?</p> <p>Harmony.</p>
<p>Comparison Information:</p>		<p>Comparison Questions:</p>		
<p>Piece 1 uses sampling which is an increasingly popular way to use music technology- lots of songs we here in the charts today use samples from other tracks. The Wellerman shows how technology and social media has evolved- you don't need to be famous/have a record contract to have your music heard by a large audience anymore!</p>		<p>Which piece of music did you prefer? Why?</p> <p>Personal choice.</p> <p>Which song is more like the music you usually listen to?</p> <p>Personal choice.</p> <p>In 100 years time, which piece of music do you think people will still be listening to?</p> <p>Personal choice but children might mention that The Wellermen has already stood the test of time!</p>		