

Exploring your own Favourite Song

- This task is going to show how well you **understand** and can **respond** to music.
- You may present your findings of these tasks in several different formats - you can either hand write your work or present it on a Presentation or as a Word-Processed Document.
- The use of pictures, drawings or tables is highly encouraged to make your work really stand out!

TASK 1 - Choosing your favourite song.

- Think about what your favourite song is - you must decide on just one and it must be a song (i.e. with words/lyrics, include a singer).
- Record the song title and the artist/performer/band.
- Listen to this song now and at any point you need to when completing this assessment.

TASK 2 - Responding to your favourite song.

Now that you have chosen one song, think about the different **Elements of Music** and **Popular Song Elements** that you hear within this piece of music. *Use your Knowledge Organisers!*

Elements of Music:

- Pitch
- Dynamics
- Tempo
- Texture
- Rhythm
- Melody

Popular Song Elements:

Structure (Can you describe the structure of your chosen song from start to end? Can you present this using a diagram/table/using colour?)

Lyrics (Can you describe what the lyrics of the song are about? Do they tell a story? Are they about a particular topic or theme?)

Riffs (Are there any particular “catchy” parts of your chosen song that help it to be remembered easily? How can you describe them?)

Instruments (What instruments play in your chosen song? Don’t forget the use of music technology and, of course, singers!)

TASK 3 - Responding to another song by the same artist/band/group.

Now, find another one song **BY THE SAME ARTIST, PERFORMER, BAND or GROUP** who performed your song chosen in Task 1. One you have decided on another song, again think about the **Elements of Music** and **Popular Song Elements** that can be found in this song (the same as Task 2 but with your new song!)



Marked example of a "Full Marks" piece of work

"Shape of You" - Ed Sheeran

Clearly laid out with nice use of font and colour.

Google has been used to obtain the lyrics and then good use of colour to show the STRUCTURE of the song clearly.

Nice to see the "actual song" artwork

INTRODUCTION

Verse 1: The club isn't the best place to find a lover
So the bar is where I go
Me and my friends at the table doing shots
Drinking fast, and then we talk slow

Verse 2: And you come over and start up a conversation with just me
And trust me, I'll give it a chance now
Take my hand, stop
Put "Van the Man" on the jukebox
And then we start to dance
And now I'm singing like

Pre-Chorus: Girl, you know I want your love
Your love was handmade for somebody like me
Come on now, follow my lead
I may be crazy, don't mind me
Say: "Boy, let's not talk too much
Grab on my waist and put that body on me"
Come on now, follow my lead
Come, come on now, follow my lead

Chorus: I'm in love with the shape of you
We push and pull like a magnet do
Although my heart is falling too
I'm in love with your body
Last night you were in my room
And now my bed sheets smell like you
Every day discovering something brand new
Oh, I'm in love with your body
Oh-i-oh-i-oh-i-oh-i
Oh, I'm in love with your body
Oh-i-oh-i-oh-i-oh-i
Oh, I'm in love with your body
Every day discovering something brand new
I'm in love with the shape of you

Verse 3: One week in we let the story begin
We're going out on our first date
But you and me are thrifty
So go all-you-can-eat
Fill up your bag, and I fill up a plate

Verse 4: We talk for hours and hours about the sweet and the sour
And how your family is doing okay
And leave and get in a taxi, then kiss in the back seat
Tell the driver make the radio play
And now I'm singing like

Pre-Chorus: Girl, you know I want your love.....

Chorus: I'm in love with the shape of you...

Bridge/Middle 8: Come on, be my baby, come on
Come on, be my baby, come on
Come on, be my baby, come on
Come on, be my baby, come on
Come on, be my baby, come on
Come on, be my baby, come on
Come on, be my baby, come on
Come on, be my baby, come on

Chorus: I'm in love with the shape of you...

Coda: Come on, be my babe, come on.....
Every day discovering something brand new
I'm in love with the shape of you



Photo of the artist

Songwriters: Ed Sheeran, Johnny McDaid, Kandi Burruss, Kevin Briggs, Michael Junior, Steven Mccutcheon, Tameka Cottle

Good to see the songwriters being mentioned - shows active research!

Pitch	The pitch of the song is quite low - Ed Sheeran has quite a low pitched male singing voice.
Dynamics	The dynamics of the song are moderately loud (<i>mezzo forte = mf</i>). The dynamics don't change and stay the same throughout the song.
Tempo	The tempo of the song is moderately fast. The tempo doesn't change during the song and stays the same throughout.
Texture	The texture is thin - there aren't many layers of sound - marimba, guitar, drums (beat) and vocals.
Rhythm	The rhythm is catchy and offbeat and irregular. There are 4 beats in a bar = 4/4.
Melody	The melody is smooth and uses notes which are close to each other - we can call this a conjunct melody - and only uses a small range of notes.
Lyrics	"Shape of You" is a love song. Ed Sheeran is in love with a woman and the lyrics tell of him being happy about being in love with her.
Riffs	The song opens with the main riff played on the marimba - it's short and catchy and repeated throughout the entire song.
Instruments	"Marimba" - a wooden instrument like a xylophone but computer-generated using music technology. Also guitar, drums and lead singer with backing vocals ("hmmmm!")

Tables are a great way of presenting information clearly and making sure you've covered everything! Here the Elements of Music have all been covered = full marks!

Musical vocabulary

Most pop songs have 4 beats in a bar = 4/4

A good short description of what the song is

Song Structure

The structure of the song is shown to the left. It starts with a short **Introduction** which is instrumental and features the **RIFF** of the song (the "catchy" bit!). Ed Sheeran then sings **Verse 1 and Verse 2**. There's then a **Pre-Chorus** which prepares us for the **Chorus** (the most well-known part of the song which is repeated again later). Ed then sings **Verses 3 and 4** before the Pre-Chorus and **Chorus** again. Then there's the **Bridge/Middle 8** section which only uses the lyrics "Come on, be my baby, come on" which are repeated over and over again. He then sings the **Chorus** again. The song ends with a **Coda** which uses lyrics from the **Bridge/Middle 8** before ending with the title of the song "I'm in love with the shape of you".

Careful listening as well as Google will help here!

This summary basically describes the structure of the song which is shown on the left with the lyrics, but it's nice that the student has shown good knowledge and understanding by describing the introduction as instrumental and how the song ends in more detail.

Marked example of a “Low Marks” piece of work

Task 1

“Shape of You” - Ed Sheeran

Task 2

The song I have chosen is called “Shape of You” by Ed Sheeran. It is quite low pitch and medium dynamics. The tempo is sort of fast. The rhythm is jumpy and it has a melody. The song has verses and a chorus. “Shape of You” also has a riff. The words are about him falling in love with a woman. There is a marimba sound and guitar and drums.

Task 3

And here are my marking/comments/feedback:

