



Has Britten got talent?

Key Vocabulary

Melody, compose, improvise, cover, pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure, dimensions of music, ostinato, phrases, unison, urban gospel

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Edward Benjamin Britten, was an English composer, conductor, and pianist. He was a central figure of 20th-century British music, with a range of works including opera, other vocal music, orchestral and chamber pieces. His best-known works include the opera *Peter Grimes* (1945), the *War Requiem* (1962) and the orchestral showpiece *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* (1945).



Key Skills

Listening

Listen with attention to a range of music.
Know that time and place can influence the way music is created performed and heard.

Creating

Explore, choose, combine and organise musical ideas within a musical structure.

Performing

Play tuned and untuned instruments with control and rhythmic accuracy.
Practise, rehearse and present performances with an awareness of the audience.

Musical Elements

Pitch - Identify short and long phrases. Improvise a melody.
Duration – Create rhythmic patterns including silences and notate.
Dynamics – Recognise crescendo and diminuendo.
Tempo – Identify the tempo of music as fast, moderate, slow, getting faster or getting slower.
Texture – Understand how texture might vary in a song.
Structure – Identify binary and ternary form when listening.

Teaching Sequence

1

- Who was Benjamin Britten?

2

- The Four Seas Interlude from *Peter Grimes*
- Listen and appraise

3

- Compose own music in response to the sea. Use own notation for their music.

4

- Refine own compositions and perform to an audience.

5

- Britten's Contemporaries.
- Compare covers to originals.

6

- *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*.