

Musical style: Ballads

Ballads are songs which tell a story. They can be in many styles, such as pop and musical theatre and were used in ancient times to carry news and legends across countries.



Vocabulary

Ballad A song which tells a story - similar to a poem.

Compose To create an original piece of music.

Stanza A short section of text, sometimes known as a verse in a song or poem.

Solo Performing alone.

Ensemble A small group of musicians who perform together.

Expression Making your thoughts or feelings known when reading, singing or performing.

Lyrics The words in a song.

Chorus Repeated section of music with the same tune and lyrics.

Nonsense words Words which have no meaning and are often used for filling time in songs - e.g. 'la', 'do', 'ooh'.

Story mountain

Ballads tell a story and usually have a similar structure to stories.



OPENING - Describes the setting, introduces the characters.

BUILD UP - Excitement and tension grows, gives emotion.

CLIMAX - Major dilemma.

RESOLUTION - Characters find a route through their difficulties.

ENDING - Happily ever after.