

Theme from Haydn's Surprise Symphony

Performing

Play this shortened version of Haydn's Surprise Symphony. Look out for triadic patterns (for example, the notes of bars 1 and 2 are C, E and G. These make up a triad.) Can you spot any more triadic patterns?

- All pupils must play the first line.
- Most should aim to perform the whole piece
- Some pupils should add chords in their left hand.

Composing - Using Theme and Variations

Haydn finds many different ways to change his melody, known as his main theme. Each time he changes the original version it is called a variation.

This is one of Haydn's variations on the theme. How does Haydn change the melody? Look through the part **below** very carefully and then complete the following sentence:

To change his theme Haydn has added _____ between the original notes. The shape of the music goes _____.

Choose 3 words from here		
notes	quaver	minim
up	down	quickly



Variation 2

Now try this variation which is similar to the first one.

Variation 3:

This variation relies on repeating notes quickly:

The musical notation for Variation 3 consists of four staves. The first staff contains a sequence of notes: C, C, C, C, E, E, E, E, G, G, G, G, E, F, F, F, F, D, B. Below the notes are the following letter-based symbols: C C C C E E E E G G G G E F F F F D B. The second staff contains notes: C, G, C, G. Below the notes are the following letter-based symbols: C G C G. The third staff contains notes: F, F, G, G, D, A, D. Below the notes are the following letter-based symbols: F F G G D A D. The fourth staff contains notes: E, C, D, C. Below the notes are the following letter-based symbols: E C D C.

Variation 4:

Can you think of a way to change the note pattern yourself to compose another variation. Write your own variation here:

Two blank musical staves are provided for writing a variation. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature (C).

Extension Tasks

- Practice playing your composition keeping a steady beat.
- Is there anything you could change to make your piece more effective?
- Add chords to your composition using C, F and G major or add a bass line for LH piano.
- Write your composition up as a whole composition in neat with theme and variations.
- Make a recording of your composition.