

## Lesson 1

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| Year: 9 | Duration: 60 minutes |
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Scheme of work: **Song Writing.**

Lesson: **Listening and appraising AT2. 6a**  
Analysis of Eleanor Rigby focusing upon chords.

Learning outcomes:

Pupils will develop analytical skills by listening to Eleanor Rigby and identifying chord changes and answering questions about the song.

### Structure of lesson

(5mins)

Register and give out files

(5mins)

Introduce new unit of study – Song Writing

State aims – By the end of this unit everyone will have composed their own original song in pairs or in small groups. We will be looking at different ways to use chords, how to write a melody for our lyrics and we will compose our own chorus through listening, performing and compositional tasks.

(5mins)

Brainstorm – recapitulating on knowledge already gained about chords.

Teacher led discussion involving the whole class. The teacher should ask the following questions:

- What is a chord?
- What is a triad?
- If we were going to play an E minor chord which notes would we play?
- What is a chord progression?

(5mins)

Written exercise

On paper pupils should write a full sentence answering the questions on the board.

(5mins)

Listening task – give out Eleanor Rigby song words worksheet.

Explain task – Will listen to Eleanor Rigby twice. Using your worksheet mark above each word where there is a chord change. The introduction and chorus have been done for you.

(10mins)

Class discussion – where were the chord changes?

Teacher led class discussion marking the correct chord changes and then listening to the song again to follow them. Pupils should amend their work at this stage.

(15mins)

Listening and written task

Questions should be written on the board and pupils should answer them on the other side of their worksheet. The teacher should read through the questions to ensure that everyone understands them. Listen to the song once again and answer the following questions:

- How many verses are there?
- How many times is the chorus sung?
- How many beats are in the bar?
- How many different chords are used?
- Who is this song by?
- How many different rhythmic accompaniments are used?
- Try to notate the rhythmic accompaniments.

Class discussion about the answers.

(10mins)

Recapitulation – Listened to Eleanor Rigby by the Beatles. This is a popular song that only uses 2 chords (E minor and C major). By using different rhythmic accompaniments the melody is very catchy. In a similar way we can use similar methods and compose our own effective song.

H/W – Lyrics written prior to start of topic should be handed in.

Set H/W – Theory worksheet

Pack up work and put files away.

Wait for the bell before being dismissed by the teacher.

### Differentiation

The differing levels of ability can be dealt with within this lesson. Everyone is given the opportunity to answer questions to their own ability. In the chord change worksheet pupils with lower abilities will be able to follow the lyrics and then see the chord changes in the introduction and chorus. Although they might not be able to identify that only two chords are being used they will hear where some of the chord changes are. For the more able pupils they are able to develop further by recognising all the changes and perhaps that inversion chords are being used. In a similar way, the written exercises allow scope for differing abilities. Pupils will always be able to answer some of the questions, while others may answer the more difficult ones; in this case the rhythmic accompaniment questions.

### Assessment

Assessment within this lesson will take place in an informal manner. The teacher will observe performance that occurs in the normal classroom environment. Monitoring pupils files after each lesson is very important as the teacher can identify pupils who are struggling.