

Key Concepts

- Some songs are written to be performed in a 'round'.
- An entire musical composition can represent nature, eg; a river:

Source, upper course, middle course, lower course, mouth
Dynamics, instruments, tempo, texture, melody

- An 'ostinato' is sometimes used to create a particular effect, to make the music more memorable.
 - An ostinato in pop music is called a 'riff'.
 - In techno/dance music, an ostinato is called a 'loop'.
 - Music is created and produced using the inter-related dimensions** and is communicated through appropriate musical notation.
 - The most common method of musical notation is 'staff'.
- ** pitch, tempo, dynamics, texture, structure and timbre

Key Vocabulary

pitch	How high or low a note is
tempo	The speed of a piece of music.
dynamics	How loud or soft the music is (volume)
round	A song or piece of music with performers starting at different times.
ostinato	A repeated pattern or phrase
riff	As above, in pop music
loop	As above, in techno/dance music
texture	Refers to the layers of sound in a piece of music.
structure	The arrangement of different sections within the whole piece.
timbre	The character or quality of a musical sound or voice.

Composer Information

There many modern musical pieces that include short, repeated sections, such as:

'Red Horse and a Cherry Tree' by KT Tunstall



Kate Victoria Tunstall, known professionally as KT Tunstall, is a Scottish singer-songwriter and musician. She broke into the public eye with a 2004 live solo performance of her song "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree" on Later... with Jools Holland

'Stand By Me' by Ben E king



Ben E king was an American singer-songwriter. 'Stand By Me' was written by Ben E king, Jerry Lieber and Mike Stoller. It has been performed by many different artists, but famously by King himself in 1961.

Staff Notation

In Western musical notation, the staff or stave is a set of five horizontal lines and four spaces that each represent a different musical pitch or in the case of a percussion staff, different percussion instruments. The sign for staff is a 'clef'.

