

Area of Study 4: Popular Music

She's Leaving Home – Teacher Sheet

Words and Music by John Lennon and Paul McCartney

TEACHING POINTS:

Sonority (Orchestral Instruments, Vocal Ranges & Techniques)

Metre

Texture

Melody (Shape & Pitch range)

Rhythm (On-beat & Off-beat)

Harmony (Cadences)

Musical Styles (Pop, Chamber music, Ballad & Fusion)

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

Investigate Eleanor Rigby by The Beatles which utilises a similar orchestration.

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1) Which of the following string instruments plays during the introduction? (Underline one).

Violin

Viola

Cello

Harp

2) What type of voice sings the melody?

Soprano (high female)

Alto (low female)

Tenor (high male)

Bass (low male)

3) During Verse 1, how do the other string instruments play?

Arco (using the bow)

Pizzicato (plucking the strings)

4) What is the time signature of this piece?

4/4 (four crotchet beats per bar)

12/8 (twelve quaver beats per bar)

3/4 (three crotchet beats per bar)

9/8 (nine quaver beats per bar)

5) A second voice enters during Chorus 1 ('we gave her most of our lives'). How does it sing in relation to the first voice?

In unison

(the same pitch at the same time)

In dialogue

(conversation)(different pitches at the same time)

In harmony

6) How does the pitch of this second voice compare to that of the first voice?

It is lower

It is the same

It is higher

7) During Verse 2, how does the cello accompany the beginning of the third line?

With a walking bass (notes on the beat moving in small steps)

With an arpeggio (notes of a chord played separately)

8) And which musical feature do the violins exploit at the end of the third line?

Syncopation Sequences Ornaments
(off-beat rhythms) (restatement of an idea at a higher or lower pitch) (melodic decoration)

9) During the second line of Verse 3, how do the string instruments accompany the beginning of the line ('waiting to keep the appointment she made')?

With tremolo With trills
(rapid repetition of a single note) (rapid alternation between two adjacent notes)

10) And how do they accompany the ending of the line ('meeting a man from the motor trade')?

With syncopated (off-beat) rhythms With straight (on-beat) rhythms

11) Which of the following statements best describes the accompaniments of the choruses?

The accompaniments remain at the same level of complexity and interest
The accompaniments become progressively less complex and less interesting
The accompaniments become progressively more complex and more interesting

12) Identify the type of cadence (chord progression) used to end Chorus 3.

Perfect Plagal Imperfect Interrupted
(V – I) (IV – I) (I/ii/IV/vi – V) (V – vi)