

Moving with Tania León

STEADY BEAT WARMUP

IDENTIFYING SYNCOPATION

MOVING WITH THE MUSIC

FOLLOW THE LISTENING MAP

LEARN MORE ABOUT TANIA LEON

COMPOSE

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STEADY BEAT WARM-UP

Click the video icon and listen to Alegre by Tania León. Alegre is a Spanish word that means "joyful". Tania León said that she composed this piece to celebrate the "spirit of young hearts and the youth in our community."



Keep a steady beat with the music using body percussion.



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LISTENING QUESTIONS



What did you notice about the music?



Did you hear a steady beat?



Did you hear repeating sections?

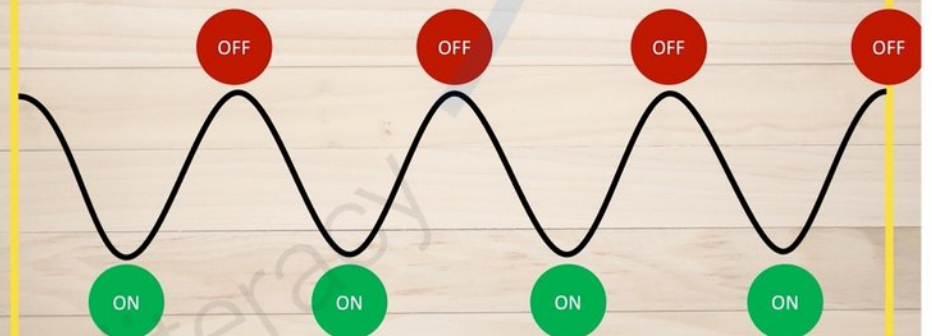


Did you hear syncopation?

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SYNCOPATION

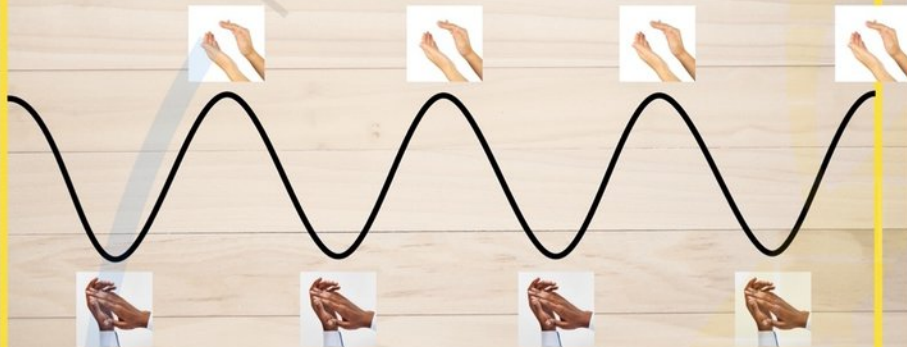
The wavy line represents a steady beat.
There are on-beats and off-beats.



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SYNCOPATION

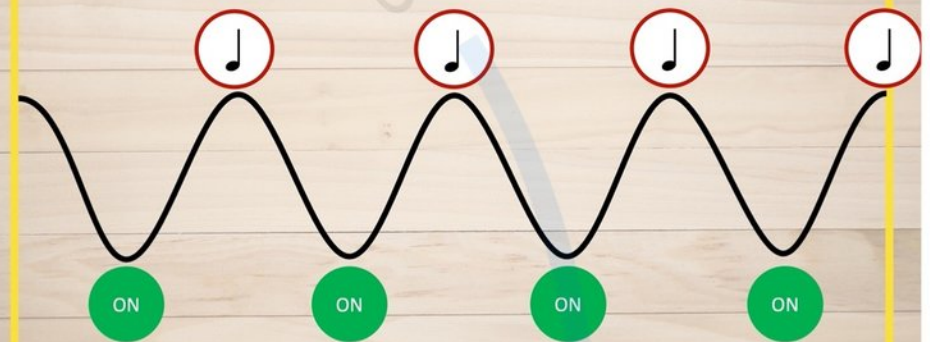
When we clap along to a steady beat, our clap is the on-beat.
The off-beat is when our hands are apart.



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SYNCOPATION

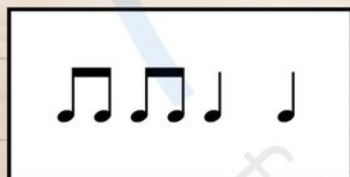
Syncopation happens when notes are stressed during the off-beats or weak beats.
Syncopation is not what we usually expect, and makes the rhythm feel disrupted.



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WHERE'S THE SYNCOPATION?

Point to the example that shows syncopation.



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GREAT WORK!

This example shows a stressed note on an off-beat.



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WHERE'S THE SYNCOPATION?

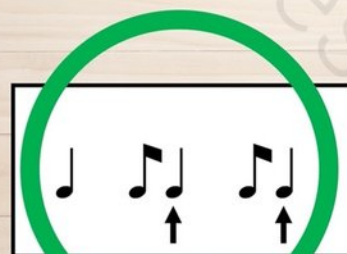
Point to the example that shows syncopation.



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GREAT WORK!

This example shows notes being stressed during off-beats.



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WHERE'S THE SYNCOPATION?

Point to the example that shows syncopation.



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GREAT WORK!

This example shows notes being stressed on the off-beats.



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MOVING TO THE RHYTHMS

The following rhythm pattern repeats several times during Alegre.

Point to the note that is stressed on an off-beat.

If you want a hint, click the audio icon to listen to the rhythm pattern.



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MOVING TO THE RHYTHMS

Great work! This is the note that is stressed on an off-beat.



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MOVING TO THE RHYTHMS

Try one of these movements each time you hear the familiar rhythm pattern:

- Pat the rhythm
- Clap the syncopated note



- Clap the rhythm
- Snap the syncopated note



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MOVING TO THE RHYTHMS

- Break into two groups of instruments: each group will follow a different color
 - Example: Blue group plays shakers, orange group plays woodblocks
- You can also use rhythm instruments or found sounds
- Play the ostinato during the rhythm pattern only
- Play the steady beat during the rest of the piece



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FOLLOW THE LISTENING MAP

Follow the map as you listen to the music

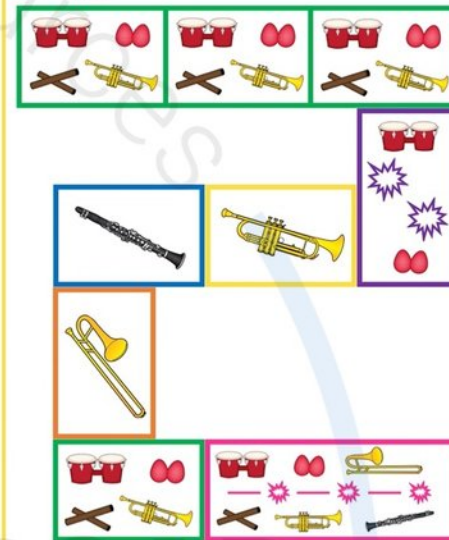
You can follow a paper map or
follow the map on the next slide

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LISTENING MAP

Tania León's *Alegre*

START



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TANIA LEÓN

Born in 1943

Click to view portrait



Questions with
Tania León
4:59

- ❖ She is a pianist, conductor, professor, and composer
- ❖ She is a founding member of the Dance Theatre of Harlem
- ❖ She's also the founder of Composers Now, an arts organization that works to highlight and celebrate living composers
- ❖ She's composed chamber music, orchestral works, ballets, vocal works, solo piano works, and an opera

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TANIA LEÓN

Born in 1943

Click the buttons to hear more of Tania León's compositions.

Prelude No. 1: "Sorpresa" ("Surprise")
Performed by Lillie Gardner
Length: 0:52

Del Caribe, Soy!
Performed by Ceylon Mitchell
Length: 8:41

Indígena
Featuring Continuum, The Western Wind
Length: 8:26

Momentum
Performed by Jixue Yang
Length: 5:55

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COMPOSING WITH SYNCOPATION

- Drag and drop the rhythm patterns into the empty boxes
- Speak, clap, or play the rhythm using an instrument or found sound
- Use the worksheet to create your own rhythm composition using syncopation

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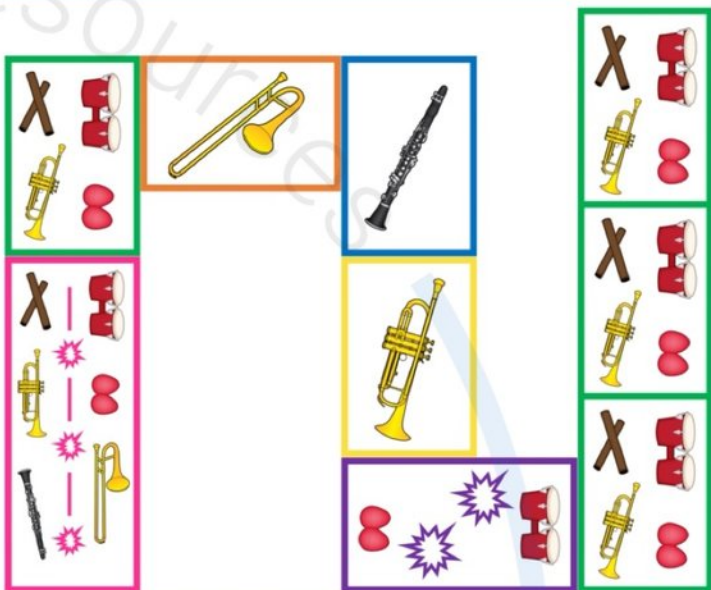
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LISTENING MAP

Tania León's Alegre

START

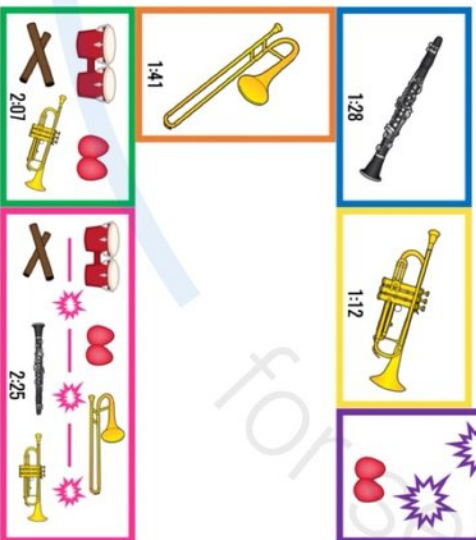


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TIMESTAMPS

Tania León's Alegre

START



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Composing with Syncopation

- Name _____ Class _____
- Compose an eight-beat rhythm pattern using syncopation
 - Remember that syncopated rhythms sound during an off-beat

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Composing with Syncopation

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