

Sample General Music Listening Lesson

Objectives

1. Students will be able to explain the difference between monophony, homophony, and polyphony
2. Students will be able to aurally discriminate between monophony, homophony, and polyphony

Materials

1. Speakers
2. Whiteboard/Marker
3. iPod with "Texture" playlist

Procedure

1. Teacher will play track 1 ("Single Ladies") and ask students:
 - a. Who do you hear singing?
 - b. Is anyone else singing with this person?
 - c. Is there anything else going on besides this person singing (percussion)?
 - d. Can you sing the drum beat?
2. Students will listen and answer; teacher will guide discussion towards the concept of only one voice (Use visual on board of one line)
3. Teacher will play track 2 ("Bohemian Rhapsody") and ask students:
 - a. Who do you hear singing?
 - b. How many people do you think there are?
 - c. Are they all singing the same notes?
 - d. Are they all singing the same words? At the same time?
4. Students will listen and answer; teacher will guide discussion towards the concept of melody/accompaniment (use visual on board of parallel lines)
5. Teacher will play track 3 ("On Reflection") and ask students:
 - a. Who do you hear singing?
 - b. How many people do you think there are?
 - c. Are they all singing the same notes?
 - d. Are they all singing the same words? At the same time?
6. Students will listen and answer; teacher will guide discussion towards the concept of many equally-important voices (use visual on board of intersecting lines)
7. Teacher will write words "monophonic," "homophonic," and "polyphonic" on the board, and lead discussion in isolating the stems of each word (mono, homo, poly) to figure out which word describes which meaning

Assessment

1. Teacher will play 3 examples (tracks 4, 5, 6) and ask students to hold up one finger for monophonic, two fingers for homophonic, and three fingers for polyphonic
 - a. Track 4 will be used as "practice"
2. Students will hold up fingers based on their thoughts on the texture of the music
3. Teacher will visually check to see if students are able to discriminate the difference between the three textures