

## Building Listening Skills:

By Jennifer Gillan Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School

### Character

'Happy with energy'	'Happy'	'Sad'	'Sad with energy'

### Mind Mapping Character with elements of music.

Split into groups – discuss the following elements:

- Rhythm
- Articulation
- Dynamics
- Blend/balance of instrumental voices
- Tone Colour

Put these into Mind Node.

### Guided Listening Worksheet – Beth Orton.

**Creating a Guided Listening Worksheet:** Australian Crawl – *Reckless*.

**Quick off the Block analysis.** 3 X 3 activity

Character:	Proof from the music:

Character:	Proof from the music:

Character:	Proof from the music:

### Sample Responses:

*“...The complex tone colour reinforces the chaotic mood through the use of contrast...”*

**Improvement:**

---

*“...An aggressive tone colour is created by the brass and lower strings...”*

**Improvement:**

---

*“...The dynamics of the piece are loud throughout...”*

**Improvement:**

---

*“...The flute has a husky, warm tone colour...”*

**Improvement:**

---

*“...The tempo is fast and the pace of the rhythms gives energy to the piece...”*

**Improvement:**

---

- *“...A tense and eerie sensation is expressed in Brett Dean’s ‘Between the spaces of the sky’ through the manipulation of timbre, melody, dynamics and instrumentation...”*

**Improvement:**

---

- *“...The piece begins with the deep and haunting tones of the cello and double bass playing at pianissimo with a bow to create a sustained phrase, creating an unsettling atmosphere to the piece and acts as a drone...”*

**Improvement:**

---

## Guided listening Worksheet: Beth Orton Magpie

---

What is the initial character of the piece?

- Melody: Describe/draw the contour of the first repeated phrase. How does this support the character?

---

---

---

---

- How does the phrase "What a lie looks like" help support the character through tonality and contour?

---

---

- Describe the rhythm of the main vocal line. How does this support the character?

---

---

---

---

- How does the rhythm of the guitar accompaniment help support this character?

---

---

---

---

- How does the rhythm and melody of the violin accompaniment support the character?

---

---

---

---

- At the lyrics "Blue Jay Blue Jay" There is a change in character. Describe the new mood?

---

---

---

---

- What instrument enters to help herald this new character?

---

- What happens rhythmically to support the new character?

---

- What happens to melody and rhythm of the accompaniment in the violin to support the new character?

---

---

- How does the melody on "I won't turn back" reinforce the new character?

---

- How is the "What a lie" phrase different after the character changes? How does this reinforce the character?

---

---

---

Use these notes to write a paragraph outlining how melody and rhythm create character in this work.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Contains Part One and Two – Melody and Rhythm.

To be released 2016 (I hope!!):

- Tone colour
- Blend and Balance of Instrumental Voices
  - Texture
  - Dynamics
  - Harmony
  - Articulation