# BLB Music Year 9 The Geography of the Keyboard <br>  

Summer 1 2020-2021
Name: $\qquad$ Class: $\qquad$
Music Teacher: $\qquad$

## Contents:

Knowledge Organiser: p. 2
SAL: p. 3
Lesson 1: p. 4
Lesson 2: p. 8
Lesson 3: p. 16
Lesson 4: p. 22

1. ' $C$ ' is to the left of the two black keys
2. A semitone is the smallest gap between two notes on the piano
3. A tone is two semitones
4. Many songs are composed using 4 chords only
5. This could be chords: $\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}, \mathrm{G}$ Majors and A minor.
6. They are chords I, IV, V and VI
7. To create a chord on the keyboard: Play a note, Miss a note, Play a note Miss a note Play a note
8. This type of chord is a triad
9. Chords we are using:
10. Song Structure

Intro, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Verse, Outro
11. The Primary chords: I IV and V (1, 4 and 5) That would be C, F and G in C Major
12. The secondary chords: II III and VI (2, 3 and 6 ) That would be $d, e$ and a minors in C Major
13. Stretch:

Transposing to G Major:
In G Major:
Chords I, IV V and VI are:
G C D Major and E minor

## SAL: Year 9 Blended Learning Unit Summer 1: The Geography of the Keyboard

| When the Saints Go Marching In/ Other 4 Chord Songs <br> FOR ASSESSMENT, THE QUIZZES WILL ALSO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT  <br> Colour Knowledge <br> Gold Understands what chord inversions are <br> Understands how to use different styles of playing for <br> different songs |  | Able to play different styles according to the genre, with ease. <br> Able to use inverted chords for voice leading and convenience <br> when playing 4 chord songs |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Yellow | Understands what the root note is | Able to play the root note in the left hand simultaneously. |
| Blue | Knows how to find the chords efficiently | Can play the chords fluently for 4 chord songs, with the thumb on <br> the root note |
| Green | Understands which chords make up I IV V \& VI in C <br> major | Able to play all four chords |
| White | Understands that a chord is two or more notes <br> Understands how to build a triadic chord | Able to play form a chord on the keyboard |

Comment: $\qquad$

Assessed by: $\qquad$

Week 1 or 2 Lesson 1: Title: The Role of Chords
LI: to learn about chords on the keyboard and what their roles are
The Oak National Academy: Band Musicianship: The Four Chord Trick (Video 1: What is the role of chords?)
https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/what-is-the-role-of-chords-c9hk6c?activity=video\&step=1
CONNECT:

- Have a real keyboard or musicca.com ready to play
- Warm up with Miss Charatan: Time signatures and rhythms


ACTIVATE:


- How many different song did you hear?
- What do they all have in common?
- Do you think playing so many songs is difficult?
Why or why not?


## What is a chord?

- Can you sing a chord by yourself? If not, why not?
- What instruments can play chords?
-What do you think a chord is?


## What is a chord?

- A chord is two or more pitches played at the same time. Chords are the basis of harmony.



## Working out a triad

To work out many triads on the keyboard, you can follow this pattern:

Press one, miss one, press one, miss one, press one


## DEMONSTRATE:

Task: work out these triads and play them on a real (or virtual) keyboard:
Press one, miss one, press one, miss one, press one

1. F major
2. G major
3. Eminor
4. A minor

and play them on your real or virtual keyboard
Work out an A minor triad

Press one, miss one, press one, miss one, press one


1. Play on a keyboard or devi
2. Play with backing track.

Stretch: Experiment with rhy

Major and Minor<br>What's the difference?<br>C major, F major, G major

## Major



D minor, E minor, A minor

## Minor

Work out an E minor triad

Press one, miss one, press one, miss one, press one


II
Pause the video to complete your task

1. Play on a keyboard or device.
2. Play with backing track.

Stretch: Experiment with
rhythms, play both chords.

- Resume once you're finished
in exactly the same way as before.
- Try using different rhythms with the same chord

Play the chords one after another in a chord progression
Could you experiment with different rhythms?
A pattern/sequence of chords


- Each chord lasts 4 beats.
- You can play them sustained, but try and play at least one with an exciting rhythm.
- Could you vary your rhythms over the course of the backing track?

So were now going to perform it with the backing tracks


## CONSOLIDATE:

## Our key question: What is the role of chords?

- Chords are like the $\square$ in music - they hold it together.
- and basslines all come from the chords.
- Instruments such as the piano, and guitar can play chords.
- A triad is a chord made from hotes. On the keyboard, you can work out a triad by using 'press one, miss one, press one'
- Major chords sound and chords sound dark.


## bright

glue
melodies
minor

## Quiz:

Take this quiz at the end of the lesson and be ready to answer the questions at the start of the next lesson

$\bigcirc$
A melodyTwo or more notes played at the same timeA single note

Q2. Which of these instruments can play a chord on its own?
$\bigcirc$ saxophone
OVoice
OGuitar

Q3.How many notes are in a triad?
$\bigcirc^{3}$
$\bigcirc 4$

Q4.How can you work out a triad on a keyboard?Press one, miss one, press oneMiss one, press one, miss one$\bigcirc$ Press one, miss one, miss one

Q5.What are the pitches of an Am triad?
○ADF
○ ${ }^{A B C}$

Q6. What should you do when you play sustained chords?
$\bigcirc$ Play short chords
O Play held on chords
$\bigcirc$ Play triads

Week 3 or 4 Lesson 2: Title: The Most Useful LI: to learn about primary chords and how these can be used to harmonise melodies The National Oak Academy: The 4 Chord Trick (Video 3 of Oak National Academy).
https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/which-are-the-most-useful-chords-6cupcr?activity=video\&step=2\&view=1

## CONNECT:

- Test how much you have retained from the last lesson:

Q1.What is a chord?A melodyTwo or more notes played at the same timeA single note

Q4.How can you work out a triad on a keyboard?Press one, miss one, press oneMiss one, press one, miss onePress one, miss one, miss one

Q2.Which of these instruments can play a chord on its own?

Osaxophone
Ovoice
OGuitar

Q3. How many notes are in a triad?
$\square$
○ 4

Q5.What are the pitches of an Am triad?
○ $A C E$
○ADF
○ $A B C$

Q6.What should you do when you play sustained chords?
$\bigcirc$ Play short chords
OPlay held on chords
$\bigcirc$ Play triads

Mark: /6
ACTIVATE:

- Warm up with Miss Charatan using syncopated rhythms

DEMONSTRATE:

## Task: work out these triads and play

 them on a real (or virtual) keyboard:Press one, miss one, press one, miss one, press one

1. F major
2. G major
3. C major
4. A minor

The C major scale

- A scale is a set of pitches
- These are the degrees of the C major scale. The 1st degree is C , the 2nd is D , the 3 rd is E , and so on.

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Play the C Major scale, using the correct fingers: 123 (thumb under) 12345

## Building chords

- We can build a triad on each of the notes of the scale, using the 'press one, miss one, press one' method.


## Primary chords

There are some chords more important than others.
These are the primary chords. They are used to harmonise many melodies.

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I | ii | iii | IV | V | vi | vii |

Chord VII is a diminished chord. We won't be using that for the moment.
What are the primary chords in G major?
GABCDEF\#G

```
Why can primary chords be used to harmonise anything? And
            why are they called primary chords?
They contain all the degrees of the scale. So whatever pitch
    from the scale is in the melody, they can harmonise it!
```

So for any note of the melody, there is going to be a chord which fits with it.
If we have an ' $F$ ' in the melody, we can harmonise it with an ' $F$ ' triad.
If we've got a ' $B$ ' in the melody, we can harmonise with a ' $G$ ' triad.
The Saints Go Marching In can be harmonised with only primary chords
THIS WILL BE USED FOR THE ASSESSMENT THIS HALF-TERM, AS WELL AS THE MARKS ON THE QUIZZES


Try playing this timeless melody, using the primary chords, as above.
Skip the video from 11:40 to 18:30

```
- Practice playing 4 beats per chord.
- Practice changing between each
    chord.
- Finished? Play the bass note in the left hand (key board) and
```

- Too easy? Play the chords for 'Oh When the Saints' and sing along!

Syncopated Rhythms: Accents on weak beats: Clapping with Ms Charatan

A semitone is the smallest distance between 2 pitches ( 1
step). On a keyboard, that will be the nearest note up or
down.


Task: tone or semitone?

1. C - C\#
2. E-F
3. D-E
4. G-A
5. $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{Bb}$
6. B-C

A tone is two semitones

## The C major scale

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Play the C major scale up and down.
If you were to write a melody, what pitch should you start and end on?

Try this on your instrument for a few minutes.

## Writing a melody

- Start and end on C - this will make it sound finished!
- Limit yourself to C, E, F, G to start. (Too easy? Use more pitches)
- $2 \times 8$ beat sections. The first section should end on $G$.
- Write your pitches down.


5 minutes on this task

## Checklist

Which pitches did you use and why?
How long is your melody?

Which notes did you start and end on, and why?

Write your two 8-beat melodies here, using letter names:
1.
2.

Harmonising your melody: Try chords that contain a matching note to your melody note. See which one sounds best. If you haven't done one yourself, use this melody. Two chords per box, only.

Harmonising your melody

$$
1 \quad C, E, F F F C, F, G \quad 2, F, F, E, C, C
$$

- Too easy? Experiment with playing your chords in a syncopated rhythm.
If it doesn't sound right, then choose a different chord. - Finished? Write a longer melody.


## Checklist

## Which chords did you choose and why?

How did you choose them?

## CONSOLIDATE:

## Perform your melody



- Find an audience member.
- Show them your melody and harmony.
- Could you teach them a part and you play it together?

Take the Quiz. It will be used to test you at the start of next lesson.

Q1.What are the three most useful chords called?

## Q2.What are the numbers of the primary triads?

Primary triads
$1,2,3$
secondary triads
First triads
$1,3,5$

Q3.What are the primary triads in roman numerals?
○ı, IIv
○illv
Oinv
310
Next Question

Q4.What is this chord?

Q6.What does syncopated mean?F majorA majorC major

Q5.What are the three primary chords in C major?
Oceg
Ocfg
OcdeEmphasising the strong beatsEmphasising the weak beats

Q7.What is a scale?Two or more pitches played at the same timeA melodyA set of pitches

## Q8.What is a semitone?

The smallest distance between 2 pitches (1 step)A distance between 2 pitches ( 2 steps)- A micro note

Q9.Which of these is a semitone? Use the keyboard to help you.

Q10.Which of these is a semitone? Use the keyboard to help you.C-C\#
○ C - D $\#$

## Week 5 or 6 Lesson 3: Title: Secondary Chords LI: to use secondary chords to add interest to chord progressions

## (Video 4 of Oak National Academy, The 4 Chord Trick)

https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/how-can-secondary-chords-be-introduced-in-an-accompaniment-cgrk6r CONNECT:

Q1.What are the three most useful chords called?
$\bigcirc$ Primary triadsSecondary triadsFirst triads
Q4.What is this chord?F majorA majorC major

Q2.What are the numbers of the primary triads?
1,4,5
$1,3,5$

Q3.What are the primary triads in roman numerals?
Oı.IIV
OıI.
Oinv
$3 / 0$

Q5.What are the three primary chords in C major?
OcdeEmphasising the strong beatsEmphasising the weak beatsOff beat

Q8.What is a semitone?Two or more pitches played at the same timeA melodyA set of pitchesThe smallest distance between 2 pitches (1 step)

## Q9. Which of these is a semitone? Use the keyboard to

 help you.A distance between 2 pitches ( 2 steps)A micro note

Q10.Which of these is a semitone? Use the keyboard to help you.

CDEFGABCDEFGABC$C-D$D- $E$E-F


## DEMONSTRATE:

Playing Some Famous Chord Progressions:

## Chord progressions

- A chord progression is the same as a chord sequence. It is a set of chords.
- Chord progressions often use a mix of primary and secondary chords.
- A song might use more than one chord progression

Do you recognise any of these chord progressions?

| Chord numbers | Chords in C | Song |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| I, V, vi, IV | C, G, Am, F | I'm Yours |
| vi, IV, I, V | Am, F, C, G | Poker Face |
| I, vi, IV, V | C, Am, F, G | Stand By Me |
| ii, V I | Dm, G, C | Summertime |

## Try these chord progressions now

Skip 18:22 to 23:00
Composing your own chord progression
Use the grid below to write the chords you will use for your chord progression.
You can put the number of the chord below it.
Chord progressions

aVOID chord VII as it will sound strange and diminished. Practice playing it fluently. How can you make it more interesting?

- Change the rhythm - Add syncopation - Add the root note in the left hand - Different rhythms in RH and LH



## CONSOLIDATE:

Perform your chord progression


- Find an audience member.
- Show them your interesting chord progression - two contrasting ways.
- Could you teach them it and then you play it together?


## Quiz:

## Q1.What are the secondary triads?

 Q2.What are the numbers of the secondary triads?Minor triads in a major keyMajor triads in a minor keyThe second most important chords
$\bigcirc$
I, iiD minor
〇ii, iii, viI, iii, viF majorA minor

Q4.What does the ' $m$ ' in Dm mean?MajorMinorMostQ7.What does syncopated mean?Emphasising the strong beatsEmphasising the weak beatsOff beat

Q5.What are the three secondary chords in C major?D, E, ADm, Em, Am$\mathrm{Cm}, \mathrm{Fm}, \mathrm{Gm}$
Q8.How can you make an accompaniment more interesting?Change the rhythmAdd more melodiesPlay it more loudly

Q6.What is the accompaniment?The main melodyThe drum beatThe other parts under the melody
Q9.How long is a dotted crotchet?$1 / 2$ beat1 beat1 1/2 beats

Week 7 or 8 (including $1^{\text {st }}$ week after half-term) Lesson 4 (Video 5 of Oak National Academy, The 4 Chord Trick)
Title: The Structure of Pop Songs LI: to understand the different sections in song structure.

## https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/how-are-pop-songs-constructed-64ukct CONNECT: Quiz: (FROM LAST LESSON)



Q4.What does the ' $m$ ' in Dm mean?
Q5.What are the three secondary chords in C major?
〇MajorD, E, ADm, Em, Am$\mathrm{Cm}, \mathrm{Fm}, \mathrm{Gm}$

Minor

Q7.What does syncopated mean?
Q8.How can you make an accompaniment more interesting?Emphasising the strong beatsEmphasising the weak beatsOff beatChange the rhythmAdd more melodies
$\bigcirc$ Play it more loudly

Q6.What is the accompaniment?The main melodyThe drum beatThe other parts under the melody
 Q9.How long is a dotted crotchet?$1 / 2$ beat1 beat$11 / 2$ beats

## Mark: /9

## ACTIVATE:

Stretch and rhythm with Miss Charatan. Make sure you have a keyboard to play, today.


The Structure of a Song:

## Question: do you know any parts of a song structure already?

- What do you call the beginning of a song or piece of music? What do you call the end?
- What do you call the catchy section of a song that repeats, with the same lyrics each time?
- What do you call the sections of a song that repeat, with different lyrics?



## Question: how can we tell which bit is which?

- Are there lyrics?
- Are there repeated lyrics?
- Are there repeated melodies, or new melodies?
- Does the chord sequence change?
- Does the rhythm change?
- Does the sonority change?

(1) Analysing a song: Shotgun - George Ezra c
Homegrown alligator, see you later

Gotta hit the road, gotta hit the road
C
The sun it changed in the atmosphere
F
Architecture unfamiliar
Am
can get used to this ${ }^{\text {C }}$
Time flies by in the yellow and green
Am
Stick around and you'll see what I mea Stick around and you'll see what I mean C There's a mountaintop that I'm dreaming of If you Am ned me you know where I'll be

How many chords are used?
How many beats is each chord?

## Do they change?

$\square$
(1) C

F
I'll be riding shotgun underneath the hot sun Feeling like a someone ${ }^{\text {G }}$
I'll be riding shotgun underneath $\quad \mathbf{F}$
Feeling like a someone ${ }^{\text {© }}$ 2

## Shotgun - George Ezra - Verse

Homegrown alligator, see you later
Gotta hit the road, gotta hit the road

The sun it changed in the atmosphere Architecture unfamiliar
I can get used to this

- Do the lyrics come back later in the song? no
- How does it repeat? Two sections - no repeat
- Does it move by step or leap? Mainly step


## Shotgun - George Ezra - Chorus

$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|}\hline \text { Time flies by in the yellow and gleere leaps } \\ \text { Stick around and you'll see what I mean }\end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l}\text { - Do the lyrics come back later } \\ \text { in the song? yes }\end{array}\right\}$

Listen to the whole of George Ezra's 'Shotgun' and follow this diagram that outlines the overall structure:
Task: simplify Shotgun


Skip video from 17:04 to 33:27

## - What 4 chords does shotgun use?

C, Am, F, G (I, vi, IV, V)

How long is each section? It's quite symmetrical
Intro $=4$ bars
Verse $=\mathbf{8}$ bars
Pre chorus $=8$ bars
Chorus = 8 bars

Use them to play through the lyrics above, noticing the structure as you go.
You could even play the whole thing if you have all the lyrics.

## DEMONSTRATE:

Use 4 or 8 chords to create a chord progression of your own. You can use primary and secondary chords.
Decide whether this will be a verse or chorus. See if you can put some words to it.
Can you use a different chord progression and decide what you will use that for?
You need at least a verse and a chorus. Then you can perhaps add an intro and outro.
If you are feeling really confident, see if you can come up with a bridge section that is a even more different from the other sections.

## CONSOLIDATE:



- Show it to someone at home - you
could play alona!
- Send it to a friend or family
- member for feedback.


## Quiz:

Q1.What is structure in music?The way the music is laid out/ the planThe order that you play the notes inThe way the melodies and chords fit together

Q2.What do you call the catchy section of a song that repeats, with the same lyrics each time?verseChorusBridge
Q4.What do you call the beginning of a song or piece of music?introBridge
Bridge

Q5.What is a contrasting section that prepares us for the chorus again?verseBridgePre chorusStart
Q6.What is the correct order of a typical song structure?Intro, verse 1, chorus, bridge, verse 2, chorus, chorus, outroIntro, verse 1 , chorus, verse 2 , chorus, bridge, chorus, outroIntro, verse 1 , bridge, chorus , chorus , verse 2, chorus, outro

Q7.Where would you find a pre chorus?Before the chorusAt the same time as the chorusAfter the chorus

Q8.What parts are the accompaniment?Melody, chords, rhythmMelody, bass line, rhythmChords, bass line, rhythm

