

Year 7 Homework

Film Composer

Project

Task:

Imagine you have been asked to write an article for a children's music magazine. The article is all about a film composer....someone who writes music for films.

Your challenge is to create a colourful, informative profile of a film composer which would be interesting for children to read.

You will need to:

1. **Choose a film that you like** (15 or 18 certificate films should NOT be used). It must be a film and not a musical....so not Grease, Sound of Music etc. Find out who composed the music for the film you have chosen.
2. You will need a **front cover title page**. This should have the **composer's name**, their **date of birth**, **when they died** or if they are still living, **a picture** and the **names of some of the most famous films** they have written music for.
3. Next should be about **their background**. Please do not print off 17 pages of Wikipedia nonsense as this is not your work. You should find out **where they were born and where they grew up**. How did they start to write music? Where did they study music? What instruments did they play?
4. Then tell us something about their most famous pieces of music. What do you think is **so special about them**? You could **tell us about the film** you have chosen and **explain how they music helps to tell the story**.
5. Aim to make the profile **your own**. Collecting the best bits of information takes time and effort. Imagine your report for the music magazine is read by children who have never heard about your composer. Keep it interesting and lively.

For example:

You could research John Williams, John Barry, Howard Shore, Henri Mancini, Don Davis, John Carpenter, Max Steiner, Charlie Chaplin, Jerry Goldsmith, Harry Gregson-Williams, Danny Elfman, Elmer Bernstein, Michael Giacchino.....

This represents a piece of homework that should take no less than two hours to complete. Cutting, sticking and pasting ideas to your profile, researching, colouring, designing – all ideas you could use. A few words on a sheet will not be accepted – this is a detailed piece of homework. The best profiles will clearly show some knowledge of the music. Watch the film / clips several times and make your own judgements.

So, how do you achieve the best marks ?



SUCCESS CRITERIA

LEVEL 3 - A rather brief account with only some detail and no musical examples. Comments are copied rather than created. There is some colour although the task has not been fully understood.

LEVEL 4 - A worthy effort with appropriate illustrations and comments. Musical examples are only partly referenced and although the article is aimed at a young audience, the profile lacks a little organisation and imagination.

LEVEL 5 - This profile is well - organised and well - researched. Examples are accurate and the presentation is attractive to children. Most of the requirements have been met with imagination and some flair.

LEVEL 6 - A terrific article that captures the imagination. Personal judgements and comments have been made and there is clear evidence that the relationship between the moving image and the music is understood. A pleasure to read.

LEVEL 7 - An outstanding article in every way. You have planned and researched thoroughly, adding additional details to help attract the target audience. Your understanding of the music is precise and your use of subject specific language is successful.