

LISTEN IMAGINE COMPOSE Exploring Composition Through Action Research

Short Film Worksheet

Discussion Questions (General)

- Was there anything that you heard in this film that really struck a chord for you?
- Do these stories reflect your experience of KS3 music?
- What experience do you have of using action research as a means of developing your work
- How often do you/teachers in your school or area have access to professional learning opportunities that focus on subject specific pedagogy or subject knowledge?

Questions for teachers

- How confident are you in teaching composition?
- What do you find difficult about teaching composition?
- Are there any strategies from this film that you would be interested to explore in your teaching?
- In what ways could you and others watching this film today support each other to develop your teaching?

Questions for others

- What did you learn from this film about the professional development needs of teachers?
- What could you/your organisation do differently that would help KS3 teachers to develop their teaching?

More Information

This short film captures a number of KS3 music teachers from London schools talking about their teaching of composition. They discuss:

- attitudes to teaching composition
- what they find challenging
- learning from the *Listen Imagine Compose* TTM Short Course
- use of action research to develop their teaching of composition
- how their teaching has changed and the impact this has had on pupils

Listen Imagine Compose is a partnership project between Sound and Music, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and Birmingham City University. It investigates how composing is taught and learned in secondary schools and draws on the expertise of teachers and their pupils, composers, music education academics and arts organisations. Listen Imagine Compose delivered a short course for Teach Through Music, led by Pam Burnard of Cambridge University.

Why did we make this film?

Teach Through Music (TTM) research found that the average number of teachers in the music departments of participating schools was 2.5. That means that many music teachers only have one or two specialist peers with whom to discuss their teaching, share experiences or exchange ideas. Of those teachers who enrolled to Teach Through Music, more than 50% cited isolation from other subject specialists or the desire to know more about what is happening in other schools as important Learning Goals.

TTM Short Films capture KS3 Music teachers in conversation about their experiences. Each focuses on one key area of practice as well as how a specific model of professional development has supported them to develop their teaching.

Who is this film for?

TTM Short Films are for everyone and anyone who cares about access to high quality musical learning experiences for young people. Whether you are a KS3 teacher, music hub, cultural organisation, senior leader or policy maker, they aim to provide insight into the perspectives of teachers and inform your work.

How can I use this film as a resource?

- Why not show this film to colleagues? This could be other teachers at your school, a Music Hub Network Meeting or a team meeting within a cultural organisation. Could you show it to a school Senior Leader or policy maker?
- If you can, please take the opportunity to discuss the film and issues it raises. This worksheet provides a series of questions you might like to consider.

Additional Resources:

Find further information on how Listen Imagine Compose impacted on Teach Through Music Teachers within the Resource Bank located in www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/musicprofessionals.

Access Listen Imagine Compose research reports and resources at:

<http://www.soundandmusic.org/projects/listen-imagine-compose>