

Inspired by Canada Composition Assignment **(Student Handout)**

“The rhythm had a vaguely familiar sound, with its soothing, flowing tones..... the melody that always ran through his head when he watched the stately flowing Rhine. He was surprised and delighted. Over and over he played the lovely air, his song of the river – his very own. The ugly exercises were forgotten”

Madeleine Goss, “Beethoven”

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6609108-beethoven>

Here is an interesting Canadian musical inspiration for your composition assignment. You are to compose the music depicting a few scenes from this article from “Tunescapes” (or another Canadian inspiration). Imagine you were along for the ride, and let the music tell the story of this travelling band.

Steps/ Instructions:

1. Read the Article: [“Tunescapes: The 1978 Western Tour”](#) (*Canadian Geographic Magazine*, January/February 2006, pg.37).
2. Select any 3 scenes from the article for your composition. Examples of scenes might be:
 - a. The train trip from Edmonton to Vancouver
 - b. Pat driving the Cadillac
 - c. The Vancouver Concert
3. Compose your music to those scenes. Each scene must be at least 16 bars long.

Please Note: You may use any form of notation you wish, traditional or your own (with a legend for us to understand). You may notate by hand or with any composition software, but make sure it is neat and readable!



Inspired by Canada Composition Assignment Criteria

This may be performed live or presented as recorded tracks. The composition may be performed by 1 or more people. Instrumental effects or vocalizations may be added (and notated).

Criteria

- Must have at least 1 change in dynamics
- Must have at least 1 change in tempo
- Must have at least 2 different “feels”
- Must have a definite beginning and ending (A and B sections)
- Must have a “storyline” or a setting (choose from various scenes)
- Must use 4 different sound sources/instruments
- Must have at least 1 solo portion
- Must have at least 1 example of “full ensemble” in unison rhythm
- Must have at least 1 call and response (echo) pattern
- Must use eighth and sixteenth notes and rests included somewhere in your composition

Due Date: _____

Inspired by Canada Composition Rubric (30 marks)

Criteria	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
SCORE X 20	Musical Score is illegible and many of the required musical score elements are missing	Musical score is legible. Several of the required elements are missing from the musical score.	Musical score is clear. One or Two of the required elements are missing from the musical score	Musical Score is very clear and all required elements are included: Song, Title, Composer Instrumentation
	The composition was not complete, and very difficult to read. Most of the required elements were missing.	The composition was basic and legible. At least half of the required elements were included.	The composition was creative and legible. Most of the required elements were included.	The composition was very creative, clean/easy to read, and included all required elements, plus many innovative and creative ideas.
OVERALL PERFORMANCE X10	Student(s) frequently stopped and could not complete performance; little resemblance to score	Student(s) did not perform what was notated; breaks and hesitations in performance	Student (s) performed as notated on their score, and had an uninterrupted performance	Student (s) performed exactly as notated with much continuity musicality, and professionalism