

## STAGE 3 - Music Home Learning - Week 7, Term 3

### Design and Make an Instrument

#### Design Criteria:

- Instrument must be able to make at least two different sounds (high and low)
- Instrument must be able to be used by one's hands (not blown into)

1. Design your object.
2. List the materials you will need.
3. Get making!

#### Examples:

##### Water-Glass Xylophone:

4 or 5 same-sized glass glasses

water

metal spoon, any size



##### Bottle Organ:

5 same-sized plastic soft drink/ water bottles

water

##### Shoe Box Guitar:

sturdy shoebox

8-10 rubber bands of varying widths

cardboard



# Maurice Ravel (1875 - 1937)

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Maurice Ravel was born in France close to the Spanish border. His Spanish mother was an amateur musician and his father was an inventor of engines and machines. The family moved to Paris when Maurice was only months old but his mother's Spanish heritage and father's mechanical brain greatly influenced Ravel and nowhere more so than in his Bolero composition of 1928.

Ravel had piano lessons from the age of 6 and progressed quickly performing in public at the age of 14 and eventually studying at the Paris Conservatoire.

He found himself at the top of the French music scene. His experiences during the war had added a touch of melancholy to his music which, coupled with his unique rhythmic energy and luscious orchestrations appealed to many.

Ravel died in 1937 after five years of declining health. He is now considered to be one of France's greatest ever composers and until recently was the highest earning French musician of all time, out-earning even Elvis Presley!

## Ravel's Bolero (1928)

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Bolero is the longest single-idea crescendo in the history of music. It is the most repetitive piece ever written and it divides opinion unlike any other work. Generally, audiences love it!

Bolero was originally commissioned as a one-act ballet for the famous Russian ballerina Ida Rubinstein and whilst these days it is rarely danced, the music is now Ravel's most famous composition by far.

The piece consists of one repeating bassline, one repeating rhythm and two melodies that alternate. Each time either melody is heard it is given to a new combination of instruments and the accompaniment around it grows thicker and louder. At a crucial point towards the end the whole piece is transposed up a third briefly before collapsing back down to C for an enormously exciting close.

## Questions

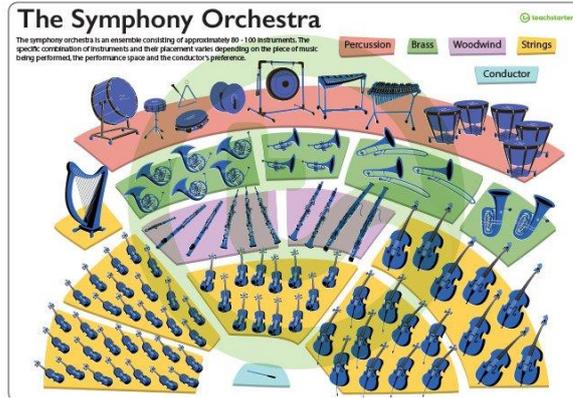
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1. What experience did Ravel have that added a 'touch of melancholy' to his music?
2. By whom was Bolero originally commissioned?
3. What are the 3 elements that make up the 'Bolero' piece?



### STAGE 3 - Music Home Learning - Week 9, Term 3

Cut and past the instruments into the correct sections of the orchestra. Use the picture below as a guide.

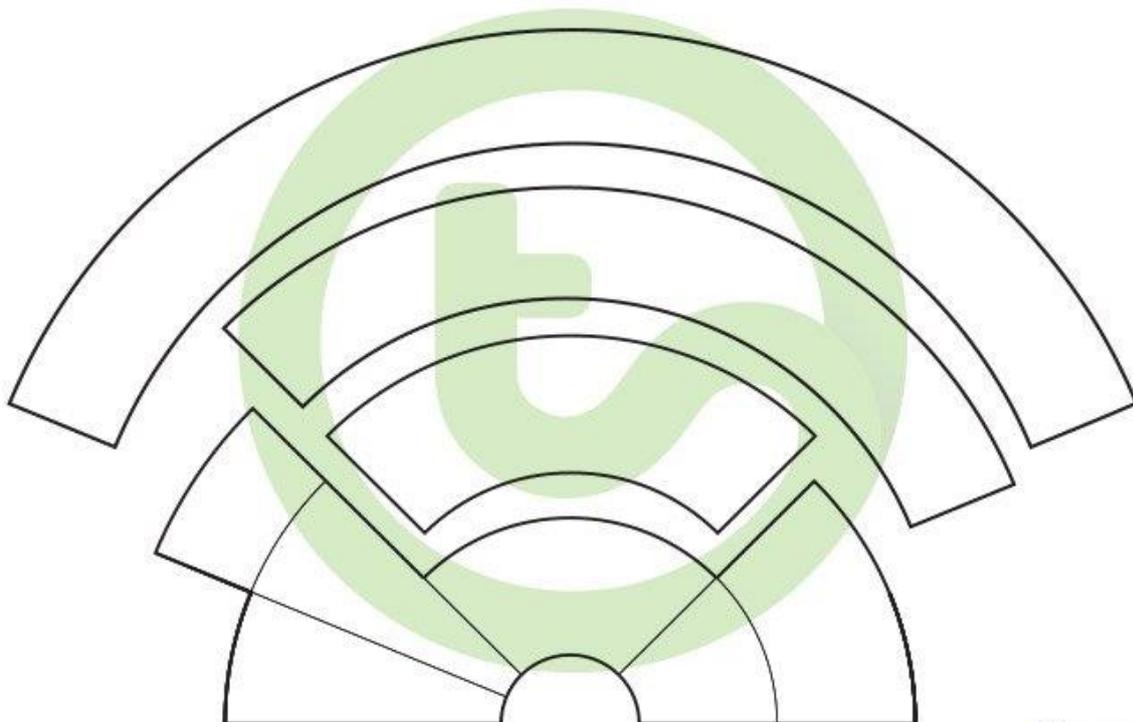


### Orchestral Instruments



teachstarter

### The Symphony Orchestra



teachstarter

## Counting Beats

 whole note 4 beats	 half note 2 beats	 quarter note 1 beat	 eighth note $\frac{1}{2}$ beat
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examples:

$$\bigcirc + \text{half note} = \underline{6 \text{ beats}}$$

$$\text{quarter note} + \text{half note} = \underline{3 \text{ beats}}$$

a.  $\bigcirc + \bigcirc = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

b.  $\text{half note} + \bigcirc = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

c.  $\text{quarter note} + \bigcirc = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

d.  $\text{quarter note} + \text{quarter note} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

e.  $\text{quarter note} + \text{eighth note} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

f.  $\text{eighth note} + \text{eighth note} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

g.  $\text{half note} + \text{eighth note} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

h.  $\text{eighth note} + \bigcirc = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

i.  $\bigcirc + \bigcirc + \text{half note} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

j.  $\text{quarter note} + \text{quarter note} + \text{quarter note} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

k.  $\bigcirc + \text{half note} + \text{quarter note} + \text{eighth note} + \text{eighth note} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$