

War and Music Topic

Song Story 4: We're Gonna Hang Out The Washing On The Siegfried Line

by Jimmy Kennedy and Michael Carr

The Siegfried Line was a front between the German and Allied forces in the 2nd World War. This song is one designed to cheer up both the soldiers and particularly their families back home. This one makes a joke of the Siegfried Line, pretending it is a washing line. There were many songs that made light of the horrors of the war being endured by the soldiers. They also aimed to keep up the spirits of the people left at home. They were also suffering with air raids, rations and missing their family members who were still fighting or who had been killed.

Aim: To understand that music can be used for propaganda purposes; To understand elements of music notation

Music Skills: Listening; Singing; Using Music Notation

Resources: A copy of the score, a recording of the music.

Activities: listening to the song; reading the score; singing the song;

Listen to the song and read the score in order to locate these musical and lyrical things in the song:

★ List three lines in the song designed to cheer up the families back home.

1.

2.

3.

★ Put a circle around each note D

★ Put a star at the beginning of the chorus.

★ Put a square around three crotchets in a row.

★ Put a letter A next to a sign that tells you to raise the note a semitone.

★ Put a letter B next to the composers.

★ Put a letter C next to a musical tie.

★ Put a letter D next to four notes that are a repeat of the previous four notes.

★ Put a letter E next to the longest note in the piece.

★ Put a letter F next to a crotchet rest.

★ Put a letter G next to a natural sign.

★ Sing along with the song