

Farewell Symphony Music/Drama Unit (Years 3-6)

Introduction

This unit of work has always been done in conjunction with another similarly aged class tackling the Devil Music unit – this has provided a ready and understanding audience for each class. We listened to Haydn’s Farewell Symphony a lot and watched videos of orchestras playing so that they could imitate the actions of the orchestra as accurately as possible and also so that they knew when to play and when to wait. We listened actively, and learned to sing or dance to some of the other Farewell music in the selection. The Farewell Music Mix and Match is a listening activity. I usually printed the different pages off on different coloured pieces of paper, cut them up and working in groups, the listeners have to match the correct answers with the examples. I had all the recordings for this on CDs, but you can find them on Youtube.

Content	Possible Strategies	Resources
Creative Writing/Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Students write and act out stories they write based on given stimuli: Josef + picture of him; Vienna; farewell; orchestra. Haydn's Farewell Symphony as background music 	Pic of Josef CD of Farewell Symphony
Learning about Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Violin parts Chart. Orchestra pictures ★ Haydn Code 	Violin parts charts Orchestra Pictures Haydn Code
Creative music-making - composing and performing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ In groups or individually - compose own Good-bye/Farewell music and perform to class ★ Perform other goodbye/farewell music 	Classroom percussion instruments Farewell songbook
Music/ Drama performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Tell them real story of Josef and the Farewell Symphony ★ Practice Haydn Play ★ Performance of Freeze Frames with narration, and own Devil's trill compositions to audience 	Haydn Play Props for play Compilation Tape for performance
Performance Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Class evaluation of own performance and that of other group. Note potential improvements for next time 	Evaluation sheets
Listening/Music Appreciation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Listening Activity with Farewell Music 	Listening Tape and Activity Sheets
Movement/ Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Create Farewell Dance with Class 	Haydn CD or tape

Josef Haydn and the Farewell Symphony

Characters: Josef; Prince; Princess; Important guest; Important guest's wife; Complaining musician;
The members of the orchestra

- Josef Hello everyone. My name is Josef and I have the best job in the world. I compose music and conduct the orchestra for the great Prince Esterhazy of Vienna. We're about to start a concert. Please stay and listen
- Josef and Orchestra Perform 1st movement, after exposition, volume down
- Prince Splendid, splendid . I'm the luckiest Prince. Did you know that my musicians have been here with me in my country retreat for several months now, and they never complain about being away from their families in Vienna....
- Princess and they always play so beautifully after dinner. They are very happy in their work.
- Important guest You truly are a lucky Prince.
- Josef and orchestra Finish off 1st movement. Applause and bowing
After performance. Prince and Princess and guests leave
Orchestra members slump in their chairs and start muttering
- Complaining musician Maestro Josef, do you know that we have been away from our families in Vienna for several months without one single day off. Please say something to the Prince for us.
- Josef You know that I too have a wife and family in Vienna. I would like to see them as well, but the Prince would sack me if I asked him for a few days off - he has so many important guests. How would he entertain them if we weren't here? We are very lucky to have such a great job. We shouldn't complain really. I'm sure the Prince will let us have some time off soon. I'll try and think of something though

Josef goes and sits at his desk and thinks.
Then has an idea and music starts to come from his head. He writes it down
Play beginning of 4th movement
- Prince Maestro Josef has written some new music I think. What a treat for us all. Please play for us musicians!
- Josef and musicians perform last movement.
Each player one by one packs up his or her instrument until just two are left
The Prince looks shocked at first but then realises what's happening
- Prince You are not only a great composer and conductor Maestro Josef, but you are also very clever...I think your new piece of music should be called the Farewell Symphony. So the musicians want to pack up and go do they? Well I tell you what...we'll all return to Vienna tomorrow.
- Everyone Hurrah

Farewell Music: Mix and Match

Goodbye
(from the White Horse)

Goodbye Blinky Bill

Farewell Symphony
(1st Movement)

Yo no se decir

Now Is The Hour

Never Can Say Goodbye

Josef Locke

The Wayfarers

Josef Haydn

M.Loubert/C.Cabrera

Maewa Kaihau & Scott
Clement, arr. John Wells

Clifton Davies/
The Communards

1930's

1980's

1772

1990's

1950's

1970's/1980's

Ireland

Australia

Austria

Chile

New Zealand/England

USA/England

Male singer and orchestra

Male singers and guitars

Orchestra

Male Singers, percussion,
electric guitars, bass guitar

Choir

Male singers,
lots of keyboards

This is a rousing song which would be sung by a soldier heading off to war

The verses are sung by one person, and the choruses are sung by several singers

This music is in 3, and has some music which is at first loud and then is repeated quietly

It has some rhythm patterns which don't change at all during the whole song

It starts with fragments of the tune here and there, then the tune happens altogether

It makes you feel like disco dancing and has a fade-out at the end
