

Music Critics

**A fun activity to
try out at home**

Become a music critic!

A music critic, is someone who listens to music and tells us what they really think about it, what they liked and what they didn't like. We can all be music critics, but we need to sharpen our listening skills.

You can do this activity on your own, or in a group. You need to choose a few music tracks to listen to – you could choose these, or to find new music, try collecting ideas from the people around you. You might want a pencil and paper to write down your ideas.

Stop what you are doing and listen really carefully to each track. To help you get started, here are some questions to sharpen your music critic skills:

How would you describe the music to someone else?

- Is it fast or slow?
- Is it calm or exciting?
- Is it simple or complicated?

Who is making the music?

- Does it sound like a band or a single person (musicians call these soloists)?
- Does it sound like it might be a rock band, or a choir, or an orchestra?

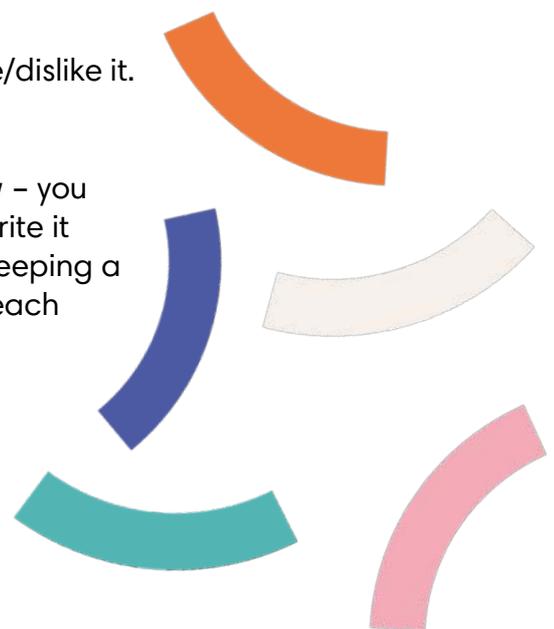
How does the music make you feel?

- Does it make you happy or sad?
- Does it make you want to dance or want to sleep?
- Does it make you feel excited?
- Does it remind you of something/someone?

Do you like it or dislike it?

- A good music critic will also remember tell us why they like/dislike it.

Once you have listened to the track, you need to give your review – you might want to do this by telling someone, or you might want to write it down. Remember to give each track a star rating out of 5! Try keeping a log of the tracks you review, along with the star rating you gave each track.



Top tips:

- Remember that everyone has different tastes in music, and other people might really like music you don't – try to be sensitive to this and never be mean about other peoples' choices!
- Stay open minded about new music – you won't like every track you hear, but that doesn't mean it is bad – it just isn't your taste.
- Keep exploring – there is a whole world of music out there for you to discover. Try and pay close attention to any new music you hear around you and always try to find styles of music that are new to you.

