



Topic Background

Onomatopoeia is a word that sounds like the noise it describes. The word onomatopoeia comes from the two Greek words, *onoma* meaning 'name' and *poiein* meaning 'to make'. So, literally, onomatopoeia means the name (or sound) I make. For example, the words 'pop', 'crack' and 'boom' are all onomatopoeic.



Musical Knowledge

tempo

S L O W



FAST



pitch



low

HIGH



dynamics



decrescendo

quiet

LOUD



crescendo

Listening Pieces

- Superman, John Williams, 1978

Key Vocabulary

composer: someone who writes/creates music

conductor: the leader of the orchestra, letting the musicians know when and how to play

crescendo: getting louder

decrescendo: getting quieter

dynamics: how loud or quiet a sound is

graphic score: images or a mark used to write music down that is not traditional music notation

pitch: how high or low a sound is

score: how a musician writes music down

sound: what an instrument, voice or found sound sounds like e.g. twinkly, crunching

soundscape: sound effects or music composed to a given theme

