

Composition Assignment

Standards:

- Students will create short pieces using instruments and voice.
- Students will be productive in a group.
- Students will express ideas clearly and effectively.

Task:

Students will be asked to create a short composition using instruments and voice in small groups. The teacher will assign groups of 4 or 5. Students will hand write their composition on staff paper. Groups will have four weeks to work on their composition before performing for the class. For the performance, each student is required to participate in playing and/or singing.

Requirements for the composition include:

- Three instruments: voice, pitched and unpitched instrument
- Lyrics can be original or taken from a poem, but not a known song! The subject of the lyrics is up to you. Some suggestions of topics: school, parents, homework, video games, recess. You may look on the internet or in the library for poems.
- 16 measures long (no repeats)
- 4/4 time signature
- Rhythms to be used: quarter, half, eighth, dotted quarter, corresponding rests
- Key of C major

Process:

- Students will be assigned a group of four or five.
- The group will have three class sessions to compose their song.
- The fourth class period will be for students to finish their song and practice their performance.
- Teacher will observe each group and the contribution of group members.
- Students will perform their compositions for the class on the fifth day.

Rubric:

	5	4	3-2	1-0	Weight
Instruments Used		Used correct number and types of instruments	Used correct types of instruments, but one less than needed	Used less number of instruments than needed and wrong types	
Rhythms	Used all rhythms correctly	Used all rhythms with 1-2 measure mistakes	Used most of rhythms with 1-2 mistakes	Used 3-0 of rhythms with 3-more mistakes	X2
Notes		Used correct key signature and notes	Used correct key signature and made 1-2 errors in notes	Used incorrect key signature	
Contribution		All students wrote composition	3-4 students wrote composition	3-1 students wrote composition	
Performance			All students perform	3-0 students perform	

Total _____ / 24