



# Beethoven

Creative Response  
Activities  
KS1 and KS2

In my *Fifth Symphony*, there is a *repeating group of notes*.

We call this a ***motif***. It is made up of 3 short notes and 1 long note (ti-ti-ti-taaaa)

Find out more in this amusing clip:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcbkcj6/articles/z3yfng8>



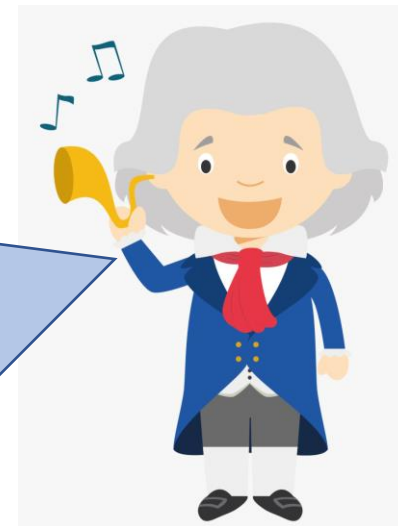
Motifs are used a lot in the writing of symphonies but mine is probably one of the most famous!

Try this:

Listen to the first **15 seconds** on the music.

<http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/tv/tenpieces/beethoven-short.mp3>

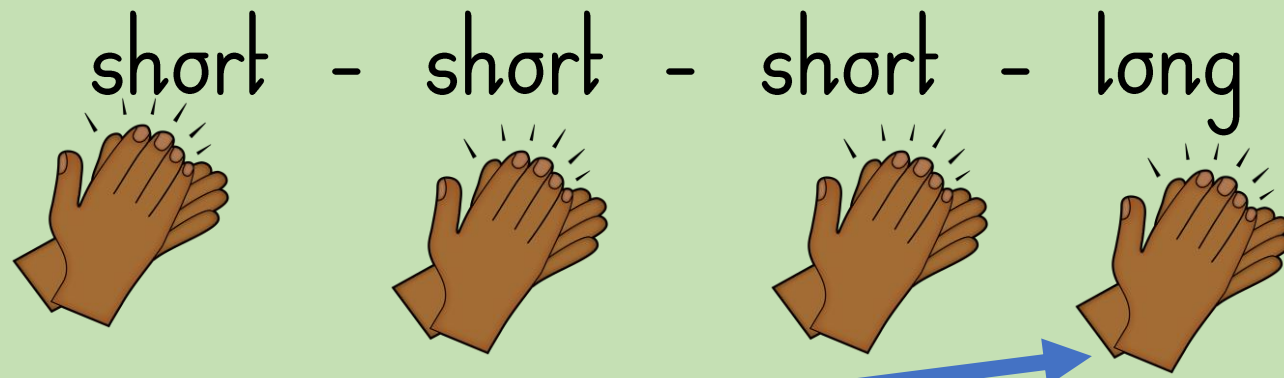
How many times do you hear the motif (ti-ti-ti-ta)?



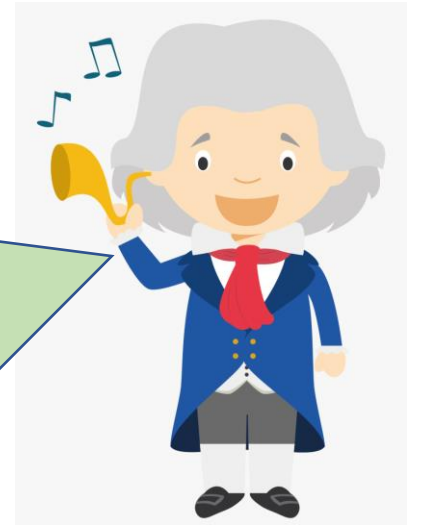
Listen carefully!

The notes change but the rhythm (short, short, short, long) stays the same.

Can you clap the rhythm of the motif?



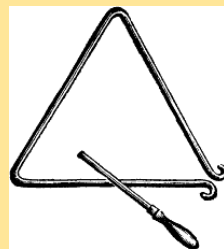
Slide your palms across each other for  
then long note.



Now try this:

Find some 'instruments' around the house or classroom. Can you play the same motif again?

Tip: Find something that will 'ring' to make your last note long.



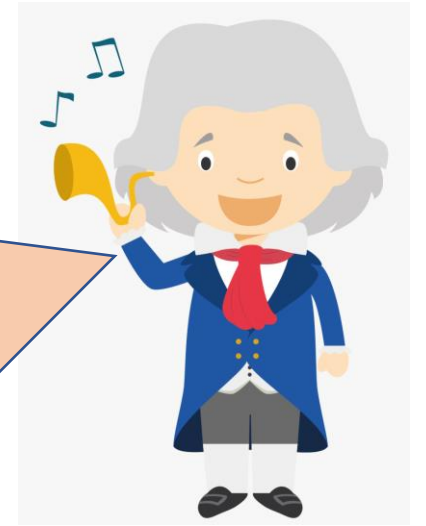
Experiment:

Do you get different sounds if you hit your instrument in different places?

Can you change the pitch:

*Pitch* means how **high** or **low** the notes are.

Try the same motif on tuned percussion (such as chime bars) or by adding liquid to bottles or glasses before tapping them.



Experiment:

How much liquid do you need to add?

## Even more to try

Make up your own **motif of 4 notes**.

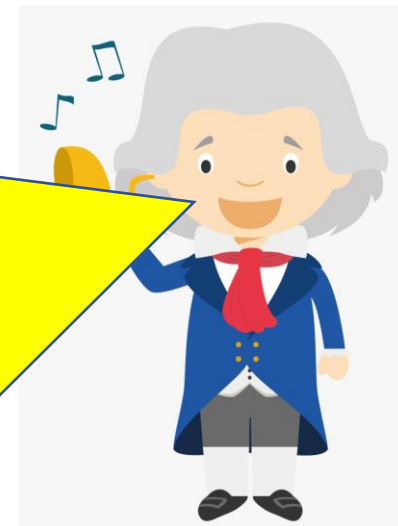
Write it down using symbols like this:

Short notes: ● ● ●

Long notes: ○

Give it to a classmate or family member to play.

Get everyone together on different 'instruments' and play your motif one after the other.



### Finally:

Make a recording of your piece and share it with your teacher.

Find out more about 'pitch'  
here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcbkcj6/articles/zp99cj6>

Find out more about instruments of the orchestra here.  
(You need Adobe Flash):

<http://www.sfskids.org/classic/templates/instorchframe.asp?pageid=3>

Want to know more?

