

Music

**How do we decide how to structure a composition so that it has a sense of direction?**

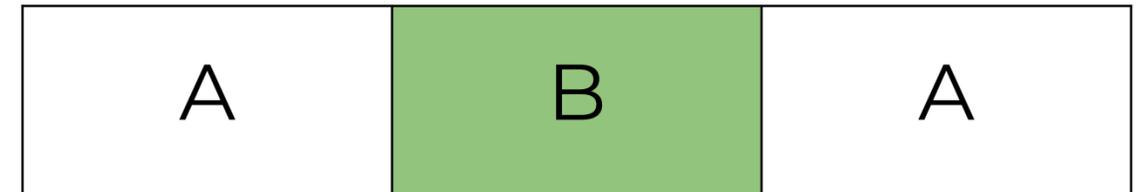
Mr Chapman



# Western Structures

## Ternary

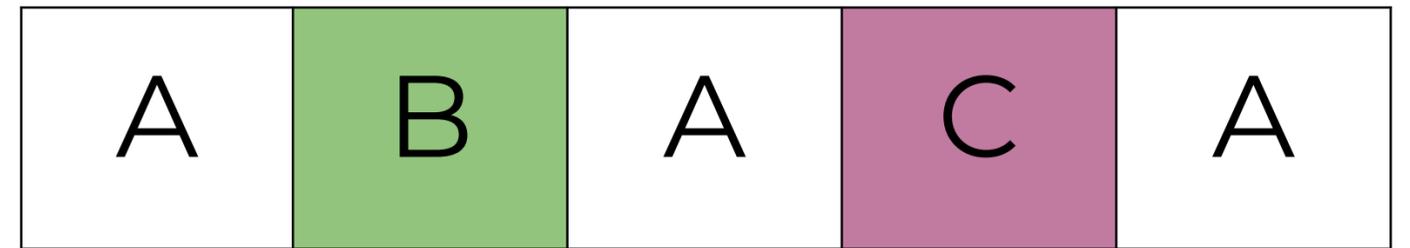
ABA - A three part structure with an opening section (A) that repeats after a contrasting (B) section.



# Western Structures

## Rondo

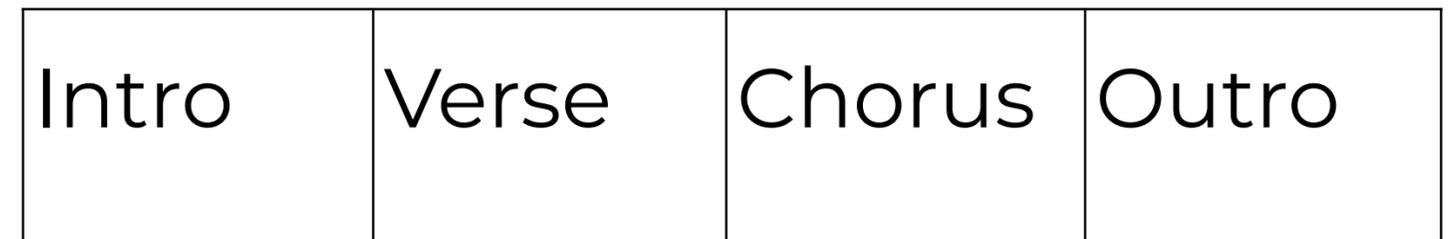
ABACA - A structure that alternates between a **refrain** section and contrasting 'episodes'.



# Western Structures

## Song form

A popular structure used in modern pop songs that contains an introduction, verse, contrasting repeating chorus and an outro.



# Listening activity:

Stand up when you hear the B section and sit down when you hear the A section.

What is the structure of the music?

Ternary

Rondo

Song Form

What might happen if the piece ended after section B?



# What was the question?

???

A structure with three sections (ABA)

???

The introduction and outro sections

???

It gives the music a sense of direction (beginning, middle, end)



# What was the question?

## What is a ternary form?

A structure with three sections (ABA)

## What sections usually open and close a song?

The introduction and outro sections

## Why is structure important in music?

It gives the music a sense of direction (beginning, middle, end)



**Improvisation**

**Start signal**

**Stop signal**

**Ostinato  
Polyrhythms**

**Ostinato**

**Call +  
Response**

**Singing**

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**Ostinato**

**Ostinato**

**Ostinato**

**Ostinato**

**Ostinato**

**Ostinato**

**Ostinato**

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Why are these structures not effective?



**Start signal**

**Stop signal**

**Ostinato  
Polyrhythms**

**Improvisation**

**Call +  
Response**

**Singing**

Arrange the sections into a full structure.

Write a justification for you choices.

**Ostinato**



# How do we decide how to structure a composition so that it has a sense of direction?

## Strong opening

The start of any piece of music should grab the audience's attention and set the scene for the rest of the piece.

## Contrasting middle section

A contrasting B section adds interest and ensures the listener does not get bored!

## Closure

The ending should draw the piece of music to a close. It should sound 'finished'.

