8D AND 8B

Thursday 4 November 2021

Today's Activities

1. Complete the Initial Listening Task on Slide 3 – you can make notes on page 34 of your Music Organiser.

2. Write the key words and definitions from Slide 4 into the Glossary on page 32 of your Music Organiser – the topic is Minimalism.

3. Complete Minimalism Piece 1 in the BBL booklet – try to use the key words you have just written down. The link is here:

    Time Lapse https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3WSFVdQQwhc

4. If you wish, you may look ahead to the practical task for next lesson, which is on slides 5-9.

Initial Listening

Listen to the opening 2 minutes of *Tubular Bells* by Mike Oldfield:

- Describe the **texture** at the start of the piece.

- What happens to the texture as the piece develops?

- Describe the **musical ideas** that you hear.

- What features of the music make it a piece of **minimalist** music?

Features of Minimalist Music

- **Cell** – a short idea that is **repeated** and **developed gradually**.

- **Layering** – building up parts one at a time to create a more complex texture.

- **Phase Shifting/Rhythmic Displacement** – displacing a cell onto a different beat.

- **Note addition/subtraction** – gradually adding to, or taking notes from, the cells.

- **Inverting** – turning cells upside down.

Introducing a Minimalist Piece

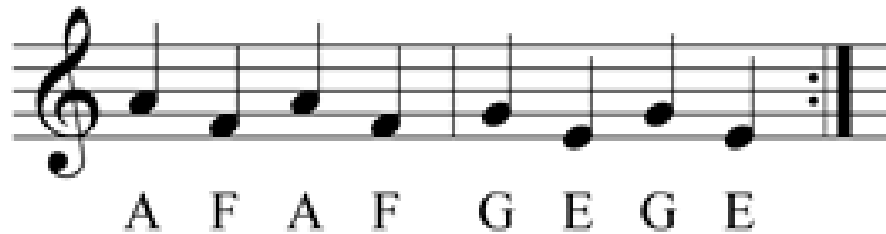- Start with two simple chords, Dm (DFA) and C (CEG):

Dm   C
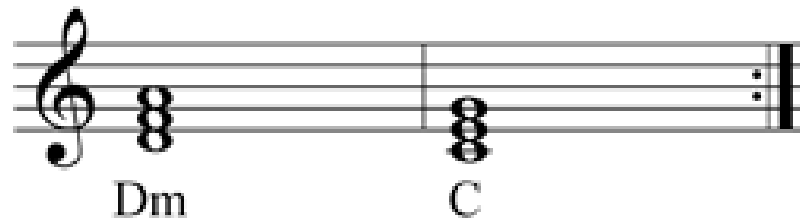
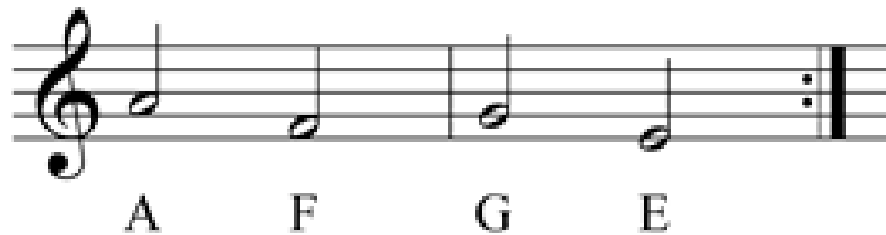- Create a 2-note **cell (ostinato)** from notes in the chords:

A F A F A F A F   G E G E G E G E

Add slower versions of the original…

- Play the original cell in crotchets:

A F A F G E G E

- Or even minims:

A F G E

Lengthening the notes is called **augmentation**

Time Quantising in GarageBand

- The **Time Quantising** function snaps all of the notes you record to the nearest beat on the time grid.

- Press **E** on the typing keyboard to open the **Editor**.

- You can choose what length of beat you want to snap to at the bottom of the screen.

	Smallest Note Value
1/1	Semibreves – 1 note per bar
1/2	Minims – 2 notes per bar
1/4	Crotchets – 4 notes per bar
1/8	Quavers – 8 notes per bar
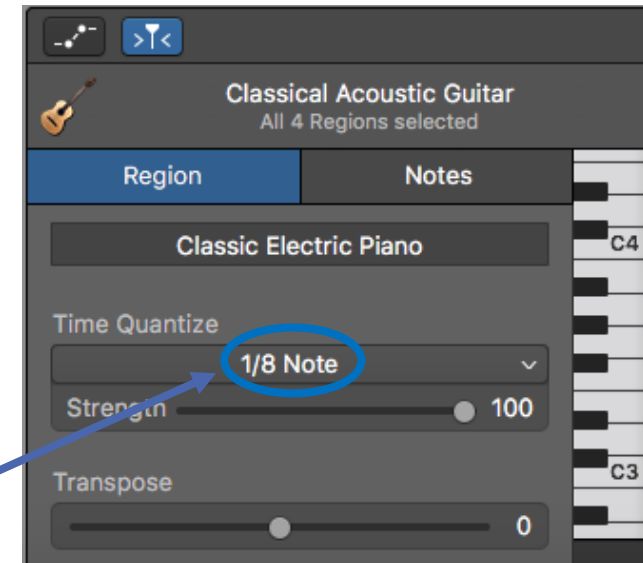
Your Task

- Record the **chords**, the original **cell** and **augmented versions** of the cell into separate tracks in GarageBand.

- Experiment with different instrument sounds and the octave at which each version is played (higher and/or lower).

- Use the **Time Quantising** to make sure that your parts are in time:

	Smallest Note Value	Part
1/1	Semibreves	Chords
1/2	Minims	Augmented versions of the original Cell
1/4	Crotchets	
1/8	Quavers	Original Cell

Time Quantising: Example Tracks

Cell (Quavers): Time Quantise 1/8

Chords (Semibreves): Time Quantise 1/1

Augmented Cell (Minims): Time Quantise 1/2

Augmented (Crotchets): Time Quantise 1/4