

# 8D AND 8B

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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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfWJqKlxyGc>

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

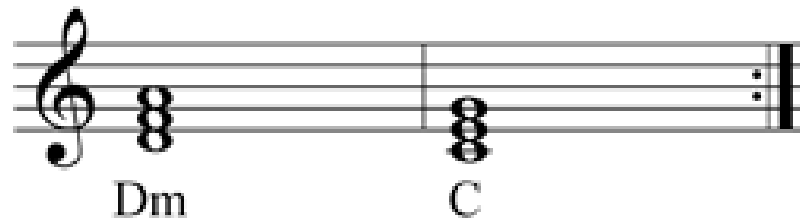
- Describe the **texture** at the start of the piece.
- What happens to the texture as the piece develops?
- Describe the **musical ideas** that you hear.
- What features of the music make it a piece of **minimalist** music?

# 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):

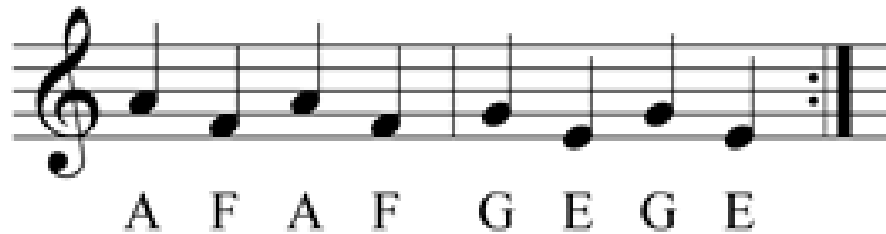


- Create a 2-note **cell (ostinato)** from notes in the chords:

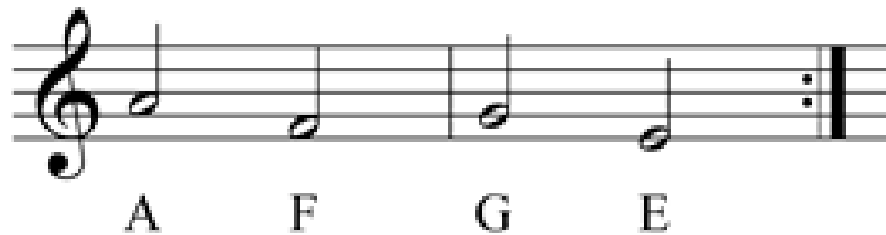


# Add slower versions of the original...

- Play the original cell in crotchets:



- Or even minims:

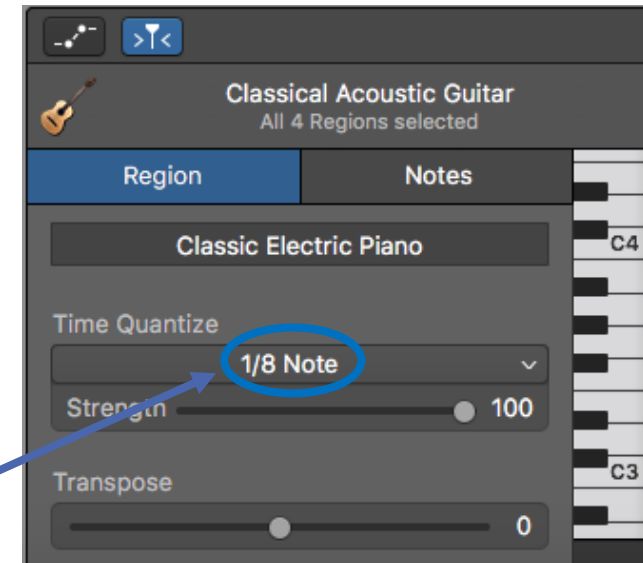


Lengthening the notes is called **augmentation**

# 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

The screenshot shows the Ableton Live interface. On the left, the 'Cell' track is selected, with the name 'Cell' and the subtitle 'on Track Orchestra Harp'. Below this, the 'Region' and 'Notes' tabs are visible. The 'Notes' tab is active, showing a piano roll with notes and rests. The piano roll is divided into two regions: 'Region' and 'Notes'. The piano roll shows notes and rests for the track 'Cell'. The piano roll is divided into two regions: 'Region' and 'Notes'. The piano roll shows notes and rests for the track 'Cell'.

## Chords (Semibreves): Time Quantise 1/1

## Augmented Cell (Minims): Time Quantise 1/2

The screenshot shows the Ableton Live interface with the 'Augmented Minims' track selected. The track is set to 'Region' and 'Notes' view. The 'Time Quantize' is set to '1/2 Note' and the 'Strength' is at 100. The piano roll shows four green horizontal bars representing notes on the C3 and C2 keys, spanning measures 19 and 20.

## Augmented (Crotchets): Time Quantise 1/4

8 Notes selected  
in Augmented Crotchets

Region

Notes

Time Quantize

1/4 Note

Q

Velocity

15

16

Augmented Crotchets