

Improvisation

Part I: Chapter 22

Simple Meter—Irregular Division of Beat

Twisted Theme

- **Process:**

- Divide class into teams of 4-6. Using the phrases drawn from a known rote song, each participant varies the rhythms and/or meter but retains the same pitches; each participant sings one phrase before passing it to the next participant. Sing on rhythm syllables, tonal syllables or a neutral syllable (bum).

Twisted Theme

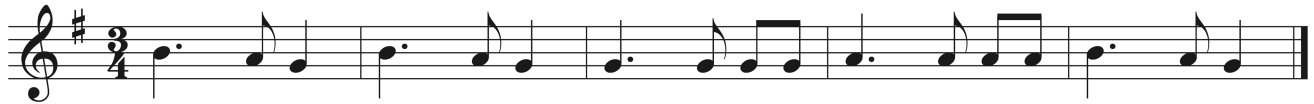
A. Original Song: Quadruple-Simple Meter



B. Improvisation: Duple-Simple Meter – Rhythm Changed



C. Improvisation: Triple-Simple Meter – Rhythm Changed



D. Improvisation: Duple-Compound Meter – Rhythm Changed



- Variation I: one team improvises on a neutral syllable while the other team(s) writes (dictates) each pattern;
- Variation II: Integrate accents, articulations and/or dynamics.
- **Parameters:**
 - The instructor designates the rote song and the meter (simple/compound-duple, triple or quadruple), physical motion (metric motion, heel march, circular hand/arm motion, and/or down-up/down-up-up motion) and then sets the tempo.
 - Remember to perform the song (a) with inflective expression (foundation of phrasing) and (b) while moving to meter, macro beat, or micro beat (facilitates understanding of rhythm).

The ability to improvise is a skill that can be learned!

Additional Improvisation Activities

- **Call and Response**
See Chapter 2 for instructions
- **Pass the Pattern**
See Chapter 3 for instructions
- **Change Challenge**
See Chapter 14 for instructions
- **Parameters:**
 - See the indicated chapter on the Oxford Learning Link, Improvisation-Part I for instructions.
 - Integrate patterns containing quintuplets, sextuplets, and septuplets in simple meter found in Section 22.3 into the improvisation activities above.
 - The instructor designates the meter (simple-duple, triple or quadruple), physical motion (metric motion, heel march, and/or down-up/ down-up-up motion with hands) and then sets the tempo.
 - Remember to perform the patterns (a) with inflective expression (foundation of phrasing) and (b) while moving to meter, macro beat, or micro beat (facilitates understanding of rhythm).
- **Same or Different**
See Chapter 2 for instructions
- **Ostinato Groove**
See Chapter 6 for instructions
- **Table of Truth**
See Chapters 4 & 13 for instructions
- **Add A Rhythm**
See Chapter 2 for instructions
- **Anything You Can Do . . .**
See Chapter 10 for instructions
- **Twisted Theme**
See Chapter 22 for instructions

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Improvisation promotes creativity and musical expression.