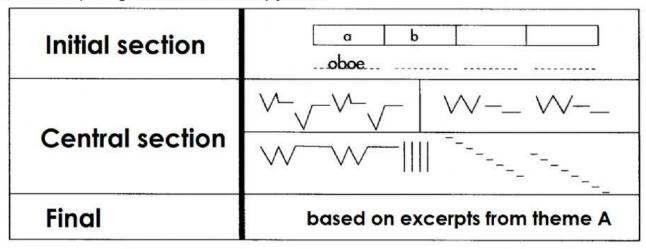
Romantic music VII

Exercise 1: Pl. Tchaikovski is a Russian composer of the 19th century. Swan Lake is one of his compositions for ballet. The plot tells the story of a girl turned into a swan. When the play was released in 1877, it seems that it did not have much success, since the sets and costumes were a disaster. However, Tchaikovsky's music possesses such a brilliant and well thought out orchestration that very soon this work became famous.

Pay attention to the structure first. This piece has three sections. Listen to the opening section and write the
letters corresponding to the themes in the empty boxes.



- Listen to the start again. Now look at the timbral aspect and answer the questions.
- The first time the melody "a" appears, it is played by an oboe. The oboe is an instrument of the family of
- Write in the corresponding place which instrument plays the melody "b".
- Write in the 3rd and 4th boxes which instrumental family is in charge of interpreting the melody.
- Look at the dynamics. Tchaikovsky is a romantic composer, and in romanticism, the use of dynamics is highly
 developed. Mark with a tick on the score the crescendo at the point where you hear it (be careful: two more
 have been used to mislead).
- Now look at the rhythmic part.
 - What time signature does the piece have?
 - The movement is.
 - Rhythmically read the themes "a" and "b". Look at the dotted crotchets.
- Observe various melodic aspects.
 - Look at important melodic aspects, such as the last note of the score, or the high points, represented by the highest sounds. You will see that they all coincide in a single sound, which is going to be the tonic or the most important note of this piece. Which?
- And the harmony? Listen to the voices that are hidden behind the main melody.
 - What instruments accompany the oboe at the beginning?