

# OPEN CLOZE- Fill in the blanks with one word.

## MUSIC AS A LANGUAGE

**Music is a language.**

\_\_\_\_\_ music and verbal languages serve the same purpose.

**They are both forms of expression.**

**They can be used as a way to communicate with others.**

**They can be read and written.**

**They can make you laugh \_\_\_\_\_ cry, think or question, and can speak to one or many.**

**And both can definitely make you move.**

**In some instances, music works better \_\_\_\_\_ the spoken word, because it doesn't have to be understood to be effective.**

\_\_\_\_\_ many musicians agree that music is a language, it is rarely treated as such.

**Many of us treat it as something that can only be learned by following a strict regimen, \_\_\_\_\_ the tutelage of a skilled teacher.**

**This approach has been followed for hundreds of years with proven success, but it takes a long time.**

**Too long.**

**Think about the first language you learn as a child.**

\_\_\_\_\_ importantly, think about how you learned it.

**You were a baby when you first started speaking, and even \_\_\_\_\_ you spoke the language incorrectly you were allowed to make mistakes.**

**And the more mistakes you made, the more your parents smiled.**

**Learning to speak was \_\_\_\_\_ something you were sent somewhere to do only a few times a week.**

**And the majority of the people you spoke to were not beginners.**

**They were already proficient speakers.**

**Imagine your parents forcing you to only speak to other babies \_\_\_\_\_ you were good enough to speak to them.**

**You would probably be an adult before you could carry on a proper conversation.**

\_\_\_\_\_ use a musical term, as a baby, you were allowed to jam with professionals.

\_\_\_\_\_ we approach music in the same natural way we approached our first language, we will learn to speak it in the same short time it took to speak our first language.

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**Proof of this could be seen in almost any family where a child grows up with other musicians in the family.**

**Here are a few keys to follow in learning or teaching music.**

**In the beginning, embrace mistakes, \_\_\_\_\_ of correcting them.**

**Like a child playing air guitar, there are no wrong notes.**

**Allow young musicians to play and perform with accomplished musicians on a daily basis.**

**Encourage young musicians to play more than they practice.**

**The more they play the more they will practice on their own.**

**Music comes from the musician, not the instrument.**

**And most importantly,**

**remember that a language works best \_\_\_\_\_ we have something interesting to say.**

**Many music teachers never find out what their students have to say.**

**We only tell them what they are supposed to say.**

**A child speaks a language for years \_\_\_\_\_ they even learn the alphabet.**

**Too many rules at the onset, will actually slow them down.**

**In my eyes, the approach to music should be the same.**

**\_\_\_\_\_ all, music is a language too.**

