

Music

- Types of film
- The role of music in film

Language

- Adjectives
- Agreeing/disagreeing
- Film music terminology

1a Match the types of film to the pictures.

horror comedy science fiction
action/adventure musical western



1 horror



2 _____



3 _____



4 _____



5 _____



6 _____

1b Work with a partner. Ask and answer questions about films.

A What's your favourite film?

B It's *War Horse*.

A What type of film is that?

B I think it's an adventure film.

A Why do you like it?

B I like the story and I love the music – it's exciting.

2a 07 Listen to six pieces of music (1–6). Choose adjectives to describe the music.

exciting scary funny sad mysterious fast happy loud romantic slow

1 This music is exciting and scary.

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

2b 07 Work with a partner. Listen to the music again.

Match the music to a type of film from Exercise 1a.

A I think the first one is from a horror film.

B I agree, because it's exciting and scary.

CLIL Vocabulary

Learn these words!

actors / characters / composer
action / adventure / comedy / horror /
musical / science fiction / western
leitmotif / major/minor keys
clues / plot / setting / soundtrack /
special effects

film music

1 When you go to the cinema, what can you remember about the film? The story of course, the actors and perhaps the special effects. But do you remember the music? Perhaps not, but the music in the film is very important. It tells you about the characters and the setting. It creates the atmosphere and gives us clues about what is going to happen.

2 Composers use different techniques to write music for different films and different moments in the films. Music in horror films is exciting and scary. Action and adventure films are often spectacular and the music is exciting and loud. Science fiction film music is more like the music in horror films, scary and mysterious. Musical films combine music, dance and song. Music for a comedy is lighter and faster. On the other hand, music for a romantic film may be slower and sadder.

3 To create the effect of a happy mood composers use major keys. For slower more dramatic music they use minor keys. Listen to this music. Which is heavy and sad? Which is light and happy?



4 The Italian composer Ennio Morricone has composed music for more than 500 films! He has won lots of awards for his work. The first films he wrote music for were westerns. He became famous for using lots of special effects in his music such as whips, guns, whistles and drums. Sometimes this is for comic effect.

5 Musical themes can represent a particular character, place or idea. This technique is called *leitmotif*. For example, there are over 80 leitmotifs in the *Avatar* soundtrack! So next time you go to the cinema, watch the film – but listen to the music too!

3a  **08** Listen and read the article. Then circle the best heading for each paragraph.

- 1** a The importance of music in films
- 2** a Horror films
- 3** a Comedy films
- 4** a A famous composer
- 5** a Leitmotifs

- b Special effects in films
- b Types of film music
- b Musical themes
- b Music awards
- b the *Avatar* soundtrack

3b  **09** Listen to the pieces of music. Decide if they use major or minor keys.

- 1 minor 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

CLIL project Our film club

4a Work with a partner. Discuss your favourite films. Use these expressions to help you.

- I think ...
- I like/love ...
- Me too ...
- I don't. I think it is ...
- Maybe ...
- Yes, that's right / No, because ...



4b Make a poster about your favourite film and the music. Present your poster to the class.