

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.

