

Music

Topic: Hector Berlioz – Symphonie Fantastique– Context, structure, sonority and melody

Year Group: 12/13



1. Context and structure				Melody		4. Key vocabulary			
1	Hect or	French composer crucial in development of Romantic music. Wrote on a large scale, increasing orchestra size and performance techniques. Mostly self-taught until he pursued career in composition at the Paris Conservatoire, where he was inspired by Beethoven's compositions. A long, slow introduction in ternary form. Bar 1-2 intro. A is bar 3-16, B is bar 17-27 and Av is bar 28-42. Coda bar 43-63.	1	Idee fixe	A repeated musical idea that keeps returning throughout. The whole symphony is based on this.	1	Romanti c period	An artistic movement in the 1800s, known for the development of instruments and expressiveness. Music that is written to tell a story. In this case the story of a talented artist with a lively imagination who has poisoned himself with opium in the depths of despair because of hopeless love.	
	Berli oz		2	First subject	The first subject is the idee fixe, first seen in bar 72. Opens with a rise of a 4 th , then a 6 th and then descends		Duazua		
			3	Second subject	by step. Shares similarities with the idee fixe. Starts with long note, leap of 4 th and 6 th but then descends with two note sigh effects.	2	Program me Music		
	Intro		4	Counter melodies	Secondary melodies. These are based on ascending and descending arpeggios. E.g. bar 30-34/				
2	ducti on		5	Sequence	Melodic material repeating at a higher or lower pitch. E.g. Ascending sequence in bar 94.	3	Piano trio	A trio for piano and 2 string instruments, usually violin and	
	Link	Bar 64-71 acts as a link between the intro and the exposition.	6	Chromatic melodies	Melodies that move in semitones. For example bar 107 and 198, 439 and 443.		Movem	cello. An independent section in a	
3			7	Repetition	Melodic ideas repeat to create tension. E.g. bar 146	4	ent	longer piece of music. Our piece is in five movements, which is unusual for a symphony, we study the first.	
4	Expo sitio	The first time the main musical material is introduced. Bar 71-	8	Extreme leaps	Some sections with large leaps in the melodic line. E.g. Bar 226-7 in Violin 2.				
	n Deve lopm ent	Musical ideas are developed through various means. For example musical ideas passed around the ensemble. Bar 166-231.	3.	Sonority – Ho	w the instruments are used	5	Sonata Form	A common structure in the Classical era and later. Consists of expositions, development, recapitulation and coda. Berlioz	
5			1	Orchestra	A large group of performers playing a variety of instruments. Berioz uses a very large Orchestra for the time.				
			2	String writing	Uses advanced techniques including con sordini (mute), punta d'arco (point of bow), pizzicato and con arco, double stopping, tremelo and divisi.	6	Subject	adds a long intro and coda. The main musical ideas used in a piece in Sonata form. Ours has	
6	Reca pitua	The main ideas return, and develop material further. Bar 232-474.		Timp Uses both sponge and leather drumstick heads and drum				two.	
	tion		3	writing	rolls.		Appoggi	A 'leaning' dissonant note that	
7	Coda	The end of the recapitulation. Ours is from 475-end.	4	Performa nce	Lots of detail given by Berlioz – romantic feature. Includes semi-staccato, portato, legato and staccato.	7	atura	comes before the chord and resolves onto it.	
				directions	directions				



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5.	5. Texture					7. Harmony and Tonality		8. Key vocabulary		
1	Homophonic		An accompaniment that moves together, often in block chords – for example the woodwind at		C minor	The home key of the piece – uses 3 flats.	1	Main Texture	The texture throughout is varied and changes	
<u>_</u>	Name and a min deputy on a		the opening.		C major	The tonic major key – used	\vdash	Large	frequently. A slow tempo. Seen in	
2	Monophonic texture Unison		One part only. E.g. bar 7 and 505.			frequently. E.g. bar 61 and the end.		Largo	the opening.	
3	Unison		Different lines playing the same music at the same pitch. E.g. bar 72 when the idee fixe is first used.		Modulati ons	Piece modulates to both related and unrelated keys including Ab major (42 and 133), G major (150), E minor (155) and G major (166).	3	4/4	Simple quadruple time.	
	. Octaves		Parts playing an octave apart. E.g. bar 166 in				4	2/4	Simple duple time	
4	Octaves		lower strings.				5	Rests and pauses	Used in the intro to fragment the melody lines.	
5	Dialogue		Motifs exchanged between parts without overlapping. E.g. bar 36.	4	4 Pedal	A sustained or pulsating note sounded against changing harmonies. Uses tonic (in bar 46).		Homorhyt hm	All parts play the same rhythm. Bar 1.	
6	Melody dominated homophony		A tune with clear accompaniment. E.g. bar 92.					Highly varied rhythms	Includes quaver (b1) and crotchet triplets (b358), sextuplet semiquavers (b17) and all in between.	
7	Homophonic chordal texture		All instruments move together in chords. The best example is from bar 511.		4-3 suspensi on	spensi as the 4 th degree of the chord	7			
6.	6. Tempo, metre and rhythm					Chord V with the 7 th added. Bar		Diatonic	Chords and melody belong	
1			or more notes that occur before the first strong		Dominan t 7 th	146.	\vdash		to the key, not chromatic.	
\vdash		-	t of a phrase – used in the idee fixe in bar 74.		Diminish ed 7 th chord	Chord built on minor thirds. Bar 224	9	Functional	Music that uses traditional cadential progression.	
2	Dotted rhythms		rung rhythm usually with the 1st longer than the . Used in second subject.					Chromatic harmony	Chromatic notes added to chords to create chords not from the main key.	
3	Long duration		movement ends with rhythms of longer duration. Tied semibreves in bar 511.		Dominan t 9 th	A chord with more dissonant extensions. Used in bar 10 but	0			
4			uments playing different rhythms that cross each r. E.g. bar 29 or 60.		chord isn't prepared or resolved.		1	Tonal	The chromatic movement	
H	Syncopation	Rhythmic device where a note is stressed on a weak		9	Plagal cadences	Chord IV-I, used at the end.		ambiguity	of the melody and chords often hide the key.	
5	· ·		or between beats. E.g. Bar 43-45.		D. C. A	Chord V-I, used frequently to			<u> </u>	
6	Moto perpetuo crotchets	Continual crotchets to add excitement to the music. E.g. bars 198-227.		0	Perfect cadence	confirm key changes. E.g. bar 110-111.				