# Create a Full Theme

You've created an 8-measure phrase before starting with a motif. This time Mr. Windsor is giving you a motif, and asking you to create a full theme from

it. Your full theme will need to be at least 24 bars long, but you should aim for 32 bars.

#### A Review of Hooks and Motifs

"Hooks" and "Motifs" are the exact same thing; short melodic segments that are easily repeated and altered to create a full melodic phrase. The only difference; one is a traditional

compositional term, the other is what modern musicians tend to call it.

#### USERS OF FLAT.IO

IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON USING FLAT.IO, FIRST CREATE A FREE ACCOUNT WITH YOUR SCHOOL GOOGLE ACCOUNT.

WHEN YOU CREATE A NEW SCORE, MAKE SURE YOU USE THE "SHARE" BUTTON TO SHARE IT WITH JWINDSOR@REDEEMER.AB.CA OR WITH @WINDYJMUSIC.

#### A Review of Basic Compositional Devices









A Basic Motif

A Sequence of the Motif

A Retrograde of the Motif

An Inversion of the Motif

Repetition - The simplest of all the compositional devices, simply repeating your hook or motif. This can be used once or twice, but you should avoid using it too much for the fear of making your music boring.

**Sequence** – Move your whole motif either up or down one or more steps, giving you a new idea.

Retrograde – Rewrite your whole motif in backwards order, providing you a new idea.

**Inversion** – Change the direction of the jumps without changing the size of the jumps, reflecting it on the first note.

## The Motif Mr. Windsor Is Giving You.

Use the motif shown here to write your theme. Note that there are different transpositions for different instruments, make sure you use only your own instrument.

#### Flute Percussion









Trombone

## Try some Compositional Devices

Now that you have the motif provided to you, try some Compositional Devices in the space below. Don't miss any steps!

- 1. Write your clef
- 2. Write your key signature
- 3. Write the time signature
- 4. Write your version of the compositional device.
- 5. Put the double-barline at the end.

In the spaces of music shown to the right, try writing each a

- a. Sequence
- b. Retrograde
- Inversion

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# Now that you've tried some Compositional Devices, it's time to assemble your first phrase. You'll notice that Mr. Windsor has started his motif on the first note of the Concert B-flat scale to fully establish that sound in our minds. In the space below, write 8 measures of music starting with Mr. Windsor's motif, and using a variety of Compositional Devices to write it all. TURNING ONE PHRASE INTO A THEME. The most basic type of theme is a ritornello, or a theme that returns to the original phrase. We usually refer to these themes as "A-B-A". Twinkle Twinkle Little Star is a type of ritornello in the "A-A-B-A" form. The basic idea is that you write one phrase (Phrase A) that leads into the next phrase (Phrase B). You then finish off with Phrase A again, making sure to meet some basic compositional rules. Here is the first rule you must manage: The last note of Phrase A tells you what you should start with for the first note of Phrase B. 1. If you ended on the first, third, fourth, fifth or sixth of the scale, your next phrase should start on the fifth (as your first choice), and in rarer cases you can start on the seventh or second of the scale. 2. If you ended on the fifth, seventh or second of the scale, your next phrase should start on the fourth (as your first choice), and in rarer cases the sixth or even first of the scale. Notice how the fifth of the scale worked in both options? This is why we call it the "dominant" because it is the most dominantly used note in the scale next to the first note of the scale. That means you get to pick what you want to do! Use that information to choose how to start your Phrase B and write another 8 measures of music using various Compositional Devices.

#### The Final Phrase, The Final Rule

MAKE A FULL PHRASE

The final phrase should be the exact same as Phrase A, with *possibly* one change. You may need to change the very last bar to make sure the very last note is the first note of the scale. This is how you make sure your theme sounds finished.

#### THE ASSIGNMENT - MAKING A PHRASE BASED ON YOUR MOTIF

Your assignment is to create an entire Theme using the instructions on the previous pages. Here's what you will need to do to complete this entire assignment.

- 1. Write an 8-measure "Phrase A". Label it **A** somewhere on the music, like a Big Box number on sheet music.
- 2. Write an 8-measure "Phrase B" using the rules from the first page to make sure it starts on an appropriate note. Also label it **B** as if in a Big Box.
- 3. Write the 8-measure "Phrase A", changing it only to meet *The Final Phrase, The Final Rule*. Label it **A**, or if you had to change it **A'** as if in a Big Box.

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You can complete this assignment either in Flat.io and Share it to @windyjmusic or jwindsor@redeemer.ab.ca or you can

complete it on paper, take a photo of it, and submit it to the <b>#create-a-full-theme</b> Discord channel. Som provided for you to complete this task.	e space below