

UNPROTECTED PRACTICE:  
Including Process as Compositional  
Material

2.1.1.1 Definition Songs

Full Score

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The *Definition Songs* were created in order to support the artistic concept of any work which needs it. They have most often been used in performances with collections of other smaller pieces.

A key word is chosen for the occasion and the dictionary definition is found on Google, then this definition is sung with a simple melody and accompaniment.

### **Performance Instructions:**

Choose the word you wish to perform.

Type *define* followed by your word (i.e. define commentary) into the Google search engine, then hit return.

The definition will appear at the top of the Google search results. You may need to click on the down arrow to see the whole definition and, in cases where there are many synonyms, you may need to click on the word more.

The definition should be sung with any simple melody and accompaniment, using any voice or voices and any instrument or instruments.

The definitions themselves are the verses and the synonyms are the choruses. Each verse should use the same musical material, as should each chorus.

Any words which are not definitions or synonyms can be ignored.

Optionally, the dynamics can be followed as shown in the graph, where the x-axis represents the full length of the song and the y-axis the dynamic range. Even the loudest dynamic should never sound harsh. Accuracy with dynamics is not crucial.

Each time the defined word is sung, it should be emphasised in some way.

Any number of repetitions of any section is also permissible, but not necessary. However, all definitions and synonyms must be sung at least once.

The following scores show every *Definition Song* I have realised so far.

# comfort

/ˈkʌmfət/ 

*noun*

noun: **comfort**

1. a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint.  
"there is room for four people to travel in comfort"
  - things that contribute to physical ease and well-being.  
plural noun: **comforts**  
"the low upholstered chair was one of the room's few comforts"
  - prosperity and the pleasant lifestyle secured by it.  
"my father left us enough to live in comfort"  
*synonyms:* ease, freedom from hardship, repose, relaxation, serenity, tranquillity, contentment, content, well-being, cosiness, enjoyment; luxury, affluence, prosperity, prosperousness, wealth, opulence; plenty, sufficiency, welfare; bed of roses; rare easefulness  
"they travel in comfort"  
*antonyms:* discomfort, hardship
2. the easing or alleviation of a person's feelings of grief or distress.  
"a few words of comfort"  
*synonyms:* consolation, solace, condolence, sympathy, fellow feeling, commiseration; help, support, succour, relief, easement, alleviation; reassurance, cheer, gladdening  
"a few words of comfort"  
*antonyms:* grief
  - a person or thing that helps to alleviate a difficult situation.  
"his friendship was a great comfort"
3. US *dialect*  
a warm quilt.

*verb*

verb: **comfort**; 3rd person present: **comforts**; past tense: **comforted**; past participle: **comforted**; gerund or present participle: **comforting**

1. ease the grief or distress of.  
"the victim was comforted by friends before being taken to hospital"
- improve the mood of or restore a sense of physical well-being to.  
"he dined outdoors, comforted by the crackling sounds of the fire"

*ff*

Dynamics

*pp*



# health

/hɛlθ/ 

*noun*

noun: **health**

the state of being free from illness or injury.

"he was restored to health"

*synonyms:* good physical condition, healthiness, **fitness**, physical fitness, **well-being**, haleness, good trim, good shape, fine fettle, good kilter; **robustness**, **strength**, **vigour**, **soundness**, salubrity

"he was restored to health"

*antonyms:* **illness**

- a person's mental or physical condition.

"bad health forced him to retire"

*synonyms:* state of health, physical state, physical health, physical shape, **condition**, **constitution**, **form**

"bad health forced him to retire"

- used to express friendly feelings towards one's companions before drinking.

exclamation: **your good health**; noun: **your health**; plural noun: **your healths**; exclamation: **your health**


*ff*

Dynamics

*pp*



# and

/ənd,(ə)n,ənd/ 

*conjunction*

conjunction: **and**

1. used to connect words of the same part of speech, clauses, or sentences, that are to be taken jointly.  
"bread and butter"  
*synonyms*: together with, along with, **with**, as well as, in addition to, **including**, **also**, **too**; **besides**, **furthermore**, **moreover**; *informal plus*, what's more
  - used to connect two clauses when the second refers to something that happens after the first.  
"he turned round and walked out"
  - used to connect two clauses, the second of which refers to something that results from the first.  
"there was a flash flood and by the next morning the town was under water"
  - connecting two identical comparatives, to emphasize a progressive change.  
"getting better and better"
  - connecting two identical words, implying great duration or great extent.  
"I cried and cried"
  - used to connect two identical words to indicate that things of the same name or class have different qualities.  
"all human conduct is determined or caused—but there are causes and causes"
  - used to connect two numbers to indicate that they are being added together.  
"six and four makes ten"
  - *archaic*  
used to connect two numbers, implying succession.  
"a line of men marching two and two"
2. used to introduce an additional comment or interjection.  
"if it came to a choice—and this was the worst thing—she would turn her back on her parents"
  - used to introduce a question in connection with what someone else has just said.  
"'I found the letter in her bag.' 'And did you steam it open?'"
  - used to introduce a statement about a new topic.  
"and now to the dessert"
3. *informal*  
used after some verbs and before another verb to indicate intention, instead of 'to'.  
"I would try and do what he said"

*noun*

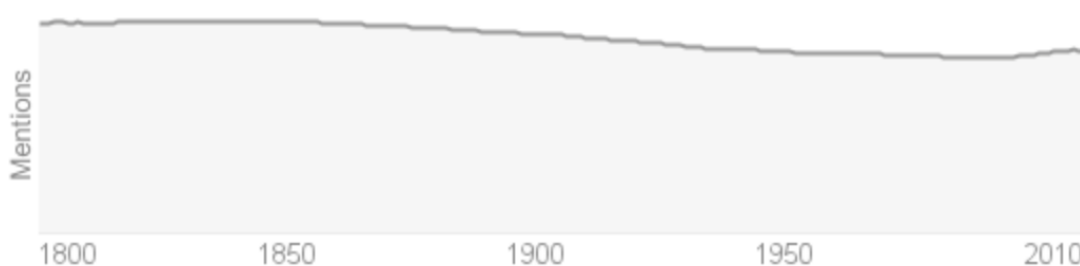
noun: **AND**; plural noun: **ANDs**

1. **ELECTRONICS**  
a Boolean operator which gives the value one if and only if all the operands are one, and otherwise has a value of zero.
  - a circuit which produces an output signal only when signals are received simultaneously through all input connections.  
noun: **AND gate**; plural noun: **AND gates**

*ff*

Dynamics

*pp*



# safety

/ˈseɪfti/ 

*noun*

noun: **safety**

1. the condition of being protected from or unlikely to cause danger, risk, or injury.

"they should leave for their own safety"

*synonyms:* **welfare**, **well-being**, **protection**, **security**

"she is still driving too fast for the safety of local residents"

- harmlessness, lack of side effects

"the safety of medicines"

*antonyms:* **danger**

- denoting something designed to prevent injury or damage.

modifier noun: **safety**

"a safety barrier"

- **NORTH AMERICAN**

short for **safety catch**.

plural noun: **safeties**

2. **AMERICAN FOOTBALL**

a defensive back who plays in a deep position.

- a play in which the ball is downed by the offence in their own end zone, scoring two points to the defence.

3. **US** *informal*

a condom.

*ff*

Dynamics

*pp*



# television

/ˈtɛlɪvɪʒ(ə)n,tɛlɪˈvɪʒ(ə)n/ 

*noun*

noun: **television**; plural noun: **televisions**; noun: **television set**; plural noun: **television sets**

1. a system for converting visual images (with sound) into electrical signals, transmitting them by radio or other means, and displaying them electronically on a screen.

"the days before television"

- the activity, profession, or medium of broadcasting on television.

"she has a job in television"

- television programmes.

"Dan was sitting on the settee watching television"

2. a device with a screen for receiving television signals.

"a colour television"

*synonyms:* **TV**, television set; *informal* small screen; *informal* **telly**, the box, the gogglebox;  
*informal* the tube, the boob tube, the idiot box



# lecture

/ˈlektʃə/ 

*noun*

noun: **lecture**; plural noun: **lectures**

1. an educational talk to an audience, especially one of students in a university.  
"in each course there are supporting lectures and tutorials"  
*synonyms*: **speech**, **talk**, **address**, **discourse**, **disquisition**, **presentation**, **oration**, **lesson**, **recitation**, **monologue**, **sermon**, **homily**  
"a lecture on children's literature"
2. a long serious speech, especially one given as a scolding or reprimand.  
"the usual lecture on table manners"  
*synonyms*: **scolding**, **chiding**, **reprimand**, **rebuke**, **reproof**, **reproach**, **remonstration**, **upbraiding**, **berating**, **castigation**, **tirade**, **diatribe**, **harangue**, **admonition**, **admonishment**, **lambasting**, **obloquy**; *informal* **dressing-down**, **telling-off**, **talking-to**, **tongue-lashing**; *informal* **rocket**, **wigging**  
"Dad got a severe lecture for wasting his money"  
*antonyms*: **commendation**, **pat on the back**

*verb*

verb: **lecture**; 3rd person present: **lectures**; past tense: **lectured**; past participle: **lectured**; gerund or present participle: **lecturing**

1. deliver an educational lecture or lectures.  
"he was lecturing at the University of Birmingham"  
*synonyms*: give a lecture, give a talk, **talk**, give a speech, make a speech, **speak**, give an address, **discourse**, **expound**, hold forth, **declaim**, **expatiate**, give a sermon, **sermonize**, **pontificate**; *informal* **speechify**, **preachify**, **spout**, **jaw**, sound off, **spiel**, drone on  
"he visited schools to lecture on the dangers of drugs"
- give a lecture to (a class or other audience).  
"he was lecturing future generations of health-service professionals"  
*synonyms*: **teach**, tutor in, instruct in, give instruction in, give lessons in  
"she lectures in Communications at Dublin University"
2. talk seriously or reprovably to (someone).  
"I do not wish to be lectured about smoking"  
*synonyms*: **scold**, **chide**, **reprimand**, **rebuke**, **reprove**, **reproach**, remonstrate with, **upbraid**, **berate**, **castigate**, **chastise**, **admonish**, **lambaste**, **nag**, haul over the coals, take to task, read someone the Riot Act; *informal* give someone a dressing-down, give someone a talking-to, tell off; *informal* tick off, **carpet**; *informal* bawl out  
"he was lectured by the headmaster in front of the whole school"





# inlet

/ˈɪnlet/ 

*noun*

noun: **inlet**; plural noun: **inlets**

1. a small arm of the sea, a lake, or a river.  
*synonyms:* arm of the sea, **cove**, **bay**, **bight**, **creek**, **estuary**, **fjord**, **sound**; **voe**; **firth**, sea loch;  
*technical* **ria**; *rare* **fleet**, **armlet**
2. a place or means of entry.  
"an air inlet"  
*synonyms:* **vent**, **flue**, **shaft**, **conduit**, **duct**, **channel**, **pipe**, **pipeline**, **passage**, **tube**  
"a fresh air inlet"  
*antonyms:* **outlet**
3. (chiefly in tailoring and dressmaking) a piece of material inserted into a garment.



# water

/ˈwɔːtə/ 

verb

gerund or present participle: **watering**

1. pour or sprinkle water over (a plant or area) in order to encourage plant growth.  
"I went out to water the geraniums"  
*synonyms*: **sprinkle**, **moisten**, **dampen**, **wet**, **spray**, **splash**; **soak**, **douse**, **souse**, **drench**, **saturate**, **flood**, **waterlog**; hose (down), water down; *archaic* **sodden**  
"he told me to water the plants"  
*antonyms*: dry out, **parch**
  - give a drink of water to (an animal).  
"they stopped to water the horses"
  - take a fresh supply of water on board (a ship or steam train).  
"the ship was watered and fresh livestock taken aboard"
2. (of a person's eyes) fill with tears.  
"Rory blinked, his eyes watering"
  - (of a person's mouth) produce saliva, typically in response to the sight or smell of appetizing food.  
"the smell of frying bacon made Hilary's mouth water"  
*synonyms*: **moisten**, exude water, become wet, **leak**; **cry**, **weep**; **salivate**  
"Ralph's eyes were watering"
3. dilute or adulterate (a drink, typically an alcoholic one) with water.  
"staff at the club had been **watering down** the drinks"
  - make a statement or proposal less forceful or controversial by changing or leaving out certain details.  
"the army's report of its investigation was considerably watered down"  
*synonyms*: **moderate**, **temper**, **qualify**, **mitigate**, **mute**, **mellow**, tone down, **soften**; **subdue**, **curb**, **tame**, **calm**, **bridle**; **understate**, **underemphasize**, play down, soft-pedal, **downplay**  
"in the end the proposals were considerably watered down"  
*antonyms*: **enhance**, **strengthen**
4. (of a river) flow through (an area of land).  
"the valley is watered by the River Dee"
5. **FINANCE**  
increase (a company's debt, or nominal capital) by the issue of new shares without a corresponding addition to assets.



# commentary

/ˈkɒmənt(ə)ri/ 

*noun*

noun: **commentary**; plural noun: **commentaries**

an expression of opinions or offering of explanations about an event or situation.

"a biting social commentary about the divide between rich and poor"

- a descriptive spoken account (especially on a broadcast) of an event or performance as it happens.

"a live commentary on radio"

*synonyms:* [narration](#), [description](#), [account](#), [report](#), [review](#), [analysis](#)

"he spent the morning listening to the test match commentary"

- a set of explanatory or critical notes on a text.

"a commentary on the Old Testament"

*synonyms:* [explanation](#), [explication](#), [elucidation](#), [exegesis](#), [examination](#), [interpretation](#), [analysis](#); [criticism](#), critical analysis, [critique](#), [assessment](#), [appraisal](#), [opinion](#); notes, footnotes, comments, [weblog](#), [blog](#), [vlog](#); *rare* scholia

"the second volume contains detailed textual commentary"


*ff*

Dynamics

*pp*



# definition

/dɛfɪˈnɪʃ(ə)n/ 

*noun*

noun: **definition**; plural noun: **definitions**

1. a statement of the exact meaning of a word, especially in a dictionary.  
"a dictionary definition of the verb"
  - an exact statement or description of the nature, scope, or meaning of something.  
"our definition of what constitutes poetry"  
*synonyms*: **meaning**, **denotation**, **sense**; **interpretation**, **explanation**, **elucidation**, **explication**, **description**, **clarification**, **exposition**, expounding, **illustration**; deciphering, decoding;  
statement/outline of meaning  
"there is no agreed definition of 'intelligence'"
  - the action or process of defining something.  
"a question of definition"
2. the degree of distinctness in outline of an object, image, or sound.  
"the clarity and definition of pictures can be aided by using computer graphics"  
*synonyms*: **clarity**, clearness, **visibility**, **precision**, **sharpness**, crispness, acuteness, distinctness;  
**resolution**, **focus**, **contrast**  
"the definition of the picture can be aided by using computer graphics"  
*antonyms*: **blurriness**, fuzziness
  - the capacity of a device to make images distinct in outline.  
"we've been pleased with the definition of this TV"

