



Glossary

Double Bass - the largest and lowest-pitched bowed (or plucked) string instrument

Composition -

1. a piece of music
2. the art of composing music

Register - a division of the range of an instrument or singing voice, usually defined by a change in the quality of the sound between a lower range and a higher range

Melodic - describing the pleasing product of a given succession of pitches in musical time; a melodic line has several key characteristics, including contour, range, and scale

Rhythmic - patterns of sound (notes), silence, and emphasis (including pitch and timbre) in a song

Solo - a piece or a section of music played or sung featuring a single performer, who may be performing completely alone

Techniques -

Pizzicato - plucking the strings of a violin or other stringed instrument with one's fingers

Arco - notes are played by drawing the bow across the strings

Structure - the arrangement and order of the parts or sections of the music

Create and Make

Name that Song – What art and song title can you create inspired by okra?

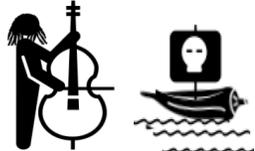
Dig Deeper

Compositional Process – A composition is like creating a job for an instrument. Each instrument has special skills and capabilities. What skills and capabilities do you wish you could use in a job?

Listen

Listen and Imagine – Take a healthy break. Listen to the music and imagine what the sounds look like.

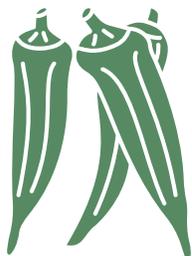
Create and Make - Name that Song – a 5 steps to a title

1	<p>Wu Fei wrote a musical composition for double bass. The composition was a solo for one performer to play by herself.</p>	
2	<p>Wu Fei was thinking about what she should name her composition for double-bass while she was preparing okra for dinner.</p>	
3	<p>Wu Fei was also thinking of a story about one woman that was a pirate* in charge of many boats and men working for her. * Cheng I Sao - pirate during the Qing dynasty in China</p>	
4	<p>Wu Fei looked at the okra pods she was slicing lengthwise for dinner and thought they looked like the many boats in the story about the pirate.</p>	
5	<p>Wu Fei was inspired to name the title for her double bass composition...The Pirate and the Okra Boat.</p>	

Composer, Wu Fei prepared her okra for dinner in a way that made her imagine a boat and create a song title about it.

What would she have imagined and created for a song if she had cut the okra a different way?

Create a picture and a song title *INSPIRED BY*:



OKRA - an herb plant with green pods, full of healthy nutrients, used especially in soups or stews – yummy in a long pod or cut into short slices.

WHAT CAN AN OKRA SLICE INSPIRE?

(a flower, a house, a star...a story...a song)



NAME THAT SONG _____



Dig Deeper

The music composition process ... it's like applying for a JOB

Find out what you are good at – and have fun doing it!

Future Employer:

Composer/Musician, Wu Fei

Job Applicant: Double Bass

Reference:

- Bassist, Tiffany Freeman performed Wu Fei's solo composition, The Pirate and the Okra Boat. Tiffany says that her favorite thing about the double bass is that it is versatile; bassists get to be included in many different types of musical performances and forms, such as jazz ensembles, full orchestra, and solos.

Special Skills:

- Before Wu Fei started composing the piece, she wanted to understand fully what the double bass as an instrument is able to do like its ability to play in both the low and higher register of sounds.
- The double bass is known for low register sounds, but a listener's ears might not hear them all the time in music. A listener's ears are used to hearing higher register sounds, but those sounds are not always on a double bass.

Job Description:

- Wu Fei wanted to compose a solo piece for the double bass that would be melodic, something fun for the "player" (musician) to play as a whole piece all on their own. A solo piece is different than an orchestral piece, every note the one player plays is completely exposed.
- Wu Fei knew she wanted to include arco and pizzicato techniques in the composition to project different sound images, but she didn't want to



LISTEN – Educational Activities to Accompany THE PIRATE & THE OKRA BOAT by Composer Wu Fei

focus on them or the structure she would use...she let the natural melody come out of her heart as she began the writing process.

- This composition gives an opportunity for a listener’s ears to hear the whole potential of the double bass’s range.

The Pirate and the Okra Boat is a **great job** (composition) for the Double Bass to perform a solo in.

What job would you like to be created or “composed” that showcases your own range of skills best?

Job: _____

Job Applicant: _____

Reference: _____

Someone that is good at talking about what you are good at?

Special Skills:

What are you good at? What do you keep trying to get better at?

Include any lessons, classes, or special tests you have taken.

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Job Description:

Listen

Listen and Imagine – a healthy break

“Music is like a healthy food - your body reacts in a very satisfying way.”

– Wu Fei



Listen to the song,
The Pirate and the Okra Boat

- Try not to think too much about the title.
- Imagine in your own head what it sounds like.
- Let yourself ENJOY the sounds made by the melody.

As you imagined the sounds and enjoyed the melody, did it feel like a healthy choice?

Why do you think music is good for your health?

“Music is essential to our health - music is for your soul. Music helps us get through good times, hard times...it’s something we need it to be able to function.”

– Tiffany Freeman