

ACTIVITY FOUR: CREATE A MARCHING SONG

LINK TO P.E ACTIVITY 2

Learning Objectives

- To learn about writing text for songs;
- To learn about the importance of moral boosting songs during the First World War;
- To create a marching song for performance to the rest of the class.

Resources

- Paper and pencils
- Listening equipment (optional)

MAIN TASKS

1. Introduce the idea of Music for Morale. Discuss the different forms: for those at home in the Music Halls, the concerts arranged for troops at bases, and the songs that soldiers sang as they were going from location to location; the marching songs. ([Historical Context 21](#). [Creative responses](#))
2. Either as a class or in groups, discuss the importance of the morale boosting activities. Discuss the types of lyrics that were used. Think about the song from Trench Brothers you will have been learning “*It’s a long way from Rawalpindi*” and also look at these further examples:
 - a. [Pack up your Troubles in your old kit bag](#)
 - b. [Oh It’s a Lovely War](#)

Composition

3. Write your lyrics. Things to think about:
 - a. Do you want it to rhyme?
 - b. Should it be funny?
 - c. Should the verses be short with a chorus that everyone can join in with?
4. Create a melody for the piece – remember that it should be suitable for everyone to sing therefore think about the following aspects:
 - a. Vocal range
 - b. Difficulty
 - c. Rhythm
 - d. Beat – can you march to it?

Perform

5. Rehearse it in groups and then perform it to the class. Can you learn everyone else’s too?