

## Year 3: Ballads

## Musical style: Ballads

Ballads are songs which tell a story. They can be in many styles, such as pop and musical theatre and were used in ancient times to carry news and legends across countries.



## Vocabulary

**Ballad** A song which tells a story - similar to a poem.

**Compose** To create an original piece of music.

**Stanza** A short section of text, sometimes known as a verse in a song or poem.

**Solo** Performing alone.

**Ensemble** A small group of musicians who perform together.

**Expression** Making your thoughts or feelings known when reading, singing or performing.

**Lyrics** The words in a song.

**Chorus** Repeated section of music with the same tune and lyrics.

**Nonsense words** Words which have no meaning and are often used for filling time in songs - e.g. 'la', 'do', 'ooh'.

## Story mountain

Ballads tell a story and usually have a similar structure to stories.



**OPENING** - Describes the setting, introduces the characters.

**BUILD UP** - Excitement and tension grows, gives emotion.

**CLIMAX** - Major dilemma.

**RESOLUTION** - Characters find a route through their difficulties.

**ENDING** - Happily ever after.