



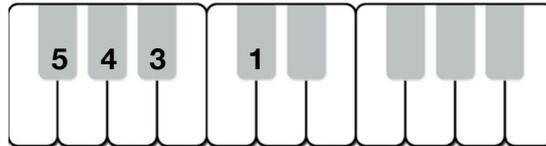
## The Grandfather Clock

### Stage 1:

Start by exploring all the black keys on the piano (the pentatonic scale). Play them staccato (detached) to imitate the ticking of the clock. As this piece is about a Grandfather clock, you could choose which part of the piano you think best describes it!

### Stage 2:

An ostinato is a repeated pattern, and can be very simple. For example, place your left hand fingers on the black keys as follows:



Your pattern could then perhaps be finger 5 and 1, followed by 4 and 1, played at whatever register of the keyboard you have chosen.

### Stage 3:

Place your right hand fingers in a similar position, at least one octave higher than your left. This hand will play the melody while the left repeats the ostinato, but start by experimenting with the right hand alone. Try writing some rhythms in the box below to help you. Remember to keep them simple as you will have to play something different at the same time with your left hand, and you may want some of the melody to be legato (smooth)! You could try tapping the rhythms with your right hand, while your left plays the ostinato, and choose the ones which fit most easily.

### Stage 4:

When you are happy, it's time to write down your ideas. Using the box below, put the rhythm in the middle, the right hand finger numbers above, and the left hand ones underneath. Make sure to align each hand correctly with the rhythm.

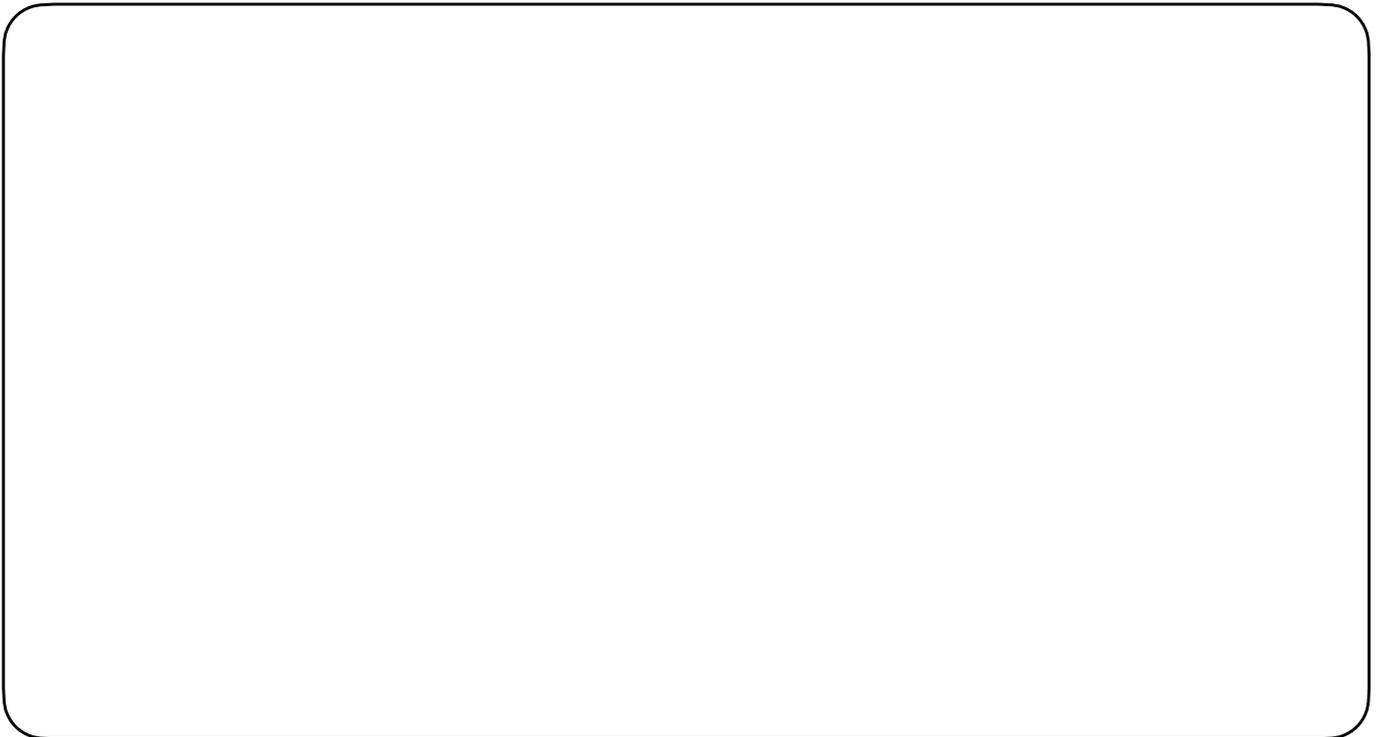
Compose Yourself!

Stage 5:

Now you need to give your piece character by adding performance directions. Decide whether it is soft or loud, fast or slow. Will there be any changes, sudden or gradual? When you are happy, write these down.

Stage 6:

Now for an important musical skill-transposing. Your teacher will show you how to move a musical idea from the black keys to the white. Then it's your turn! Use the ideas you created with the black keys to move your piece onto the white key pentatonic scale. Then you could write the letter names and rhythm in the box below, or even transfer everything onto manuscript paper!



Practise playing The Grandfather Clock until you are ready to perform it. Now you have a composition to be proud of!