

Teachers Resource Kit

BERNSTEIN

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story



Learning & Engagement Stages 5 & 6

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein Stage 5 & 6 Teaching Resource

Sydney Symphony Orchestra

Acknowledgements

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"Your life can be changed and enriched through all sorts of music; music from now, music from the past, music from the very distant past and music from as recently as yesterday.

Through intensive listening students become involved in one of the highest orders of thinking.

As a teacher, by bringing students to a concert and studying music in the classroom, you are providing your students with a special pathway to musical knowledge through direct experience of and contact with live music."

Richard Gill AO (1941 – 2018)

Conductor, notable educator and advocate. Richard was the founding Artistic Director of Education at Sydney Symphony. He has inspired generations of musicians through his work and continues to inspire new generations through his legacy.

Syllabus links

NSW Curriculum

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein covers a range of topics from the NSW syllabuses:

Years 7-10 Mandatory and Elective

Art Music of the 20th and 21st centuries

Theatre Music

Music for Large Ensembles

Jazz

Music of a Culture

Music 1 Preliminary and HSC

Music of the 20th and 21st centuries

Theatre Music

Music for Large Ensembles

Jazz

Music of a Culture

Music 2 Preliminary

Additional Topic: Music 1945 to Music 25 Years Ago

Music of a Culture

Music 2 HSC

Additional Topic: Music 1945 to Music 25 Years Ago

Syllabus Outcomes

The activities included in this kit cover a range of outcomes across the NSW Music Syllabus stages, as mapped below:

Stage 4 Mandatory Music

Activity/ Learning Experience	Syllabus Outcomes
Activity 1: Aural/ Composition (Prologue)	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.11, 4.12
Activity 2: Aural/ Musicology/ Performance/ Composition (Prologue)	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12
Activity 3: Aural/ Performance/ Composition (Somewhere)	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.11, 4.12
Activity 4: Aural/ Performance/ Musicology (Mambo)	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12
Activity 5: Musicology/ Aural/ Performance (Cha-Cha)	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12
Optional Extension Activities: Aural/ Musicology/ Composition/ Performance	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12

Stage 5 Elective Music

Activity	Syllabus Outcomes
Activity 1: Aural/ Composition (Prologue)	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.11, 5.12
Activity 2: Aural/ Musicology/ Performance/ Composition (Prologue)	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 5.12
Activity 3: Aural/ Performance/ Composition (Somewhere)	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.11, 5.12
Activity 4: Aural/ Performance/ Musicology (Mambo)	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 5.12
Activity 5: Musicology/ Aural/ Performance (Cha-Cha)	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 5.12
Optional Extension Activities: Aural/ Musicology/ Composition/ Performance	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 5.12

Stage 6 Music 1

Activity	Syllabus Outcomes
Activity 1: Aural/ Composition (Prologue)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H9, H10, H11
Activity 2: Aural/ Musicology/ Performance/ Composition (Prologue)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11
Activity 3: Aural/ Performance/ Composition (Somewhere)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H9, H10, H11
Activity 4: Aural/ Performance/ Musicology (Mambo)	P1, P2, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11
Activity 5: Musicology/ Aural/ Performance (Cha-Cha)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H9, H10, H11
Optional Extension Activities: Aural/ Musicology/ Composition/ Performance	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11

Stage 6 Music 2

Activity	Syllabus Outcomes
Activity 1: Aural/ Composition (Prologue)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P10, P11, P12 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H10, H11, H12
Activity 2: Aural/ Musicology/ Performance/ Composition (Prologue)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11
Activity 3: Aural/ Performance/ Composition (Somewhere)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P10, P11, P12 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H10, H11, H12
Activity 4: Aural/ Performance/ Musicology (Mambo)	P1, P2, P3, P5, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H5, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11
Activity 5: Musicology/ Aural/ Performance (Cha-Cha)	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P7, P10, P11 H1, H2, H3, H5, H7, H10, H11
Optional Extension Activities: Aural/ Musicology/ Composition/ Performance	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11, P12 H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12

Work: Symphonic Dances from West Side Story (1957) by Leonard Bernstein

Duration: 21:00 minutes

Composer background

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Leonard Bernstein was an American composer, conductor, concert pianist, and music lecturer and was heralded as one of the finest composers/conductors of the 20th century.

His composing style encompasses a range of concert works for orchestra, choir, opera, musical theatre, chamber music and solo piano. His passion to bridge the gap between contemporary music and audiences saw him successfully infuse many jazz concepts into his compositions of which the musical *West Side Story* is his most popular work.

He was one of the foremost conductors of his time, and for many years he was the Music Director of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. His antics on the podium (where he often conducted from memory) were legendary, and his most prominent performance ever was with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 when he conducted Beethoven's *Symphony No.9* to millions across the world on television.

Work Background: Symphonic Dances from West Side Story (1957)

The Symphonic Dances are an orchestration and adaptation of the original musical score from West Side Story.

The musical *West Side Story* is based on a modern-day version of 'Romeo and Juliet' wherein Shakespeare's city of Verona is translated to 1950's Manhattan. The two rival families become two rival teenage gangs: the 'Jets' (New Yorkers) and the 'Sharks' (Puerto Rican immigrants). The contemporary story of gang conflict and racial confrontation is tough and realistic. The combined music embodies a mixture of Latin American dance rhythms, Jazz and expressive love songs.

This concert adaptation includes dance excerpts that have been merged for the concert score. They are called 'symphonic' because the dances of the musical were originally conceived in this manner.

Most of this score, and the original musical score, evolved from a few thematic ideas that are combined and transformed to meet the different dramatic events and moods unfolding on stage.

The *Symphonic Dances* are arranged and performed continuously, with each section flowing into the next, without breaks:

Prologue (Allegro moderato)

The opening suggests the growing rivalry between the two teenage gangs: the Jets and the Sharks.

Somewhere (Adagio)

The two gangs are united in friendship through a dream-dance sequence.

Scherzo (Vivace e leggiero)

In the same dream, the gangs break through from the city walls to find themselves in a playful world of sunshine and fresh air.

Mambo (Meno Presto)

Back to reality, violence returns with the competitive dance at the gym between the gangs.

Cha-Cha (Andantino con grazia)

Lovers, Tony and Maria see each other for the first time and dance together.

Meeting Scene (Meno mosso)

The music that accompanies the first exchange of words between the lovers.

Cool, Fugue (Allegretto)

A contrapuntal dance sequence in which the Jets practice controlling their hostility and violence.

Rumble (Molto allegro)

Climactic gang battle during which the two gang leaders are killed.

Finale (Adagio)

After Tony has died in Maria's arms, *Somewhere* is recalled and developed into a funeral procession, the poignant reality completes the tragic story.

Instrumentation of work

Woodwind	Brass	Percussion	Strings
Piccolo	4 Horns in F	Timpani	Violin I
2 Flutes	3 Trumpets in B flat	Bongos	Violin II
2 Oboes	3 Trombones	Tambourine	Viola
Cor Anglais	Tuba	Timbales	Cello
E flat Clarinet		Tom-tom	Double Bass
2 Clarinets in B flat		2 Snare Drums	
Bass Clarinet		Conga Drum	
Alto Saxophone		Tenor Drum	
2 Bassoons		Bass Drum	
Contrabassoon		4 Pitched Drums	
		Traps (Cymbals, Snare	
		Drum, Tom-toms, Bass	
		Drum)	
		Triangle	
		Suspended Cymbal	
		Cymbals (pair)	
		Finger Cymbals	
		3 Cowbells (one large)	
		Tam-tam	
		Vibraphone	
		Glockenspiel	
		Chime	
		Woodblock	
		Guiro	
		Maracas (large and smal	l)
		Xylophone	
		Police Whistle	
		Harp	
		Piano	
		Celeste	

Listening Guide

Overview & Detailed Analysis

All audio excerpts are from Spotify playlist:

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein

All extended score extracts are reproduced with the kind permission of Boosey & Hawkes Pty Ltd.

Prologue (bars 1 - 275)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
1 - 46	0:00 - 0:44	 Allegro Moderato, 6/8 metre. Opens with the 'Discord' motif (bars 1 - 4) - a dramatic <i>crescendo</i> of an ascending perfect 4th from G to a sustained concert C, moving up to an accented <i>sff</i> dissonant F sharp quaver in unison (creates a tritone interval upon which much of this music is based).
		 Discord' motif: The Jets 'Cool' motif is referenced by alto sax and vibraphone (bars 18 - 19) provides a Jazz feel (in A minor) and utilises a descending tritone. 'Cool' (Jet) motif: The Jet's 'Cool' theme leads to key change (bars 27), with accompaniment suggesting a waltz feel within the 6/8 pulse. Syncopated clarinet soli provide the 'Waltz' response to 'Cool' theme fragments at bar 28, later doubled in flute and violin I (bar 34) builds textural density to 'Joyously' climax (bar 40). The full 'Cool' theme returns (bar 40) in flute, oboe, violin I and II.
47 - 87	0:45 - 1:18	 Solo trombone heralds the opening 'Discord' tritone motif (bars 46 - 48) Solo percussion player on 4-pitched drums interrupts the flow of the dance with an extended variation of the semi-quaver - quaver 'Sting' from bar 5 heard in bassoon and trombone in bar 54.

		 Cool' theme re-stated by trumpet (bars 53) followed by 'Waltz' response again. Return of A minor tonality in bar 74 with 'Cool' theme played again by all woodwinds and trumpet in unison.
88 - 99	1:18 - 1:27	 Return of percussive 'Interruption' (bar 88) with further development of brass 'Sting' through imitative interplay within the orchestra (bars 93 - 95). Trombone initiates <i>canonic</i> entries of 'Cool' motif with brass and strings in bar 98.
100 - 140	1:28 - 2:00	 Varied 'Waltz' motif returns in Major 3rds played in woodwinds and strings. Imitative fragments of the opening 'Discord' motif continues in woodwinds, xylophone and piano in bars 107 and 108. Variations in texture and sudden silence (bars 109) create interest. the three motives: 'Discord', 'Cool' and 'Waltz' continue to be juxtaposed and superimposed for variation. Metre changed to simple duple in bar 133 with augmented 'Discord' motif accompanied by harp and piano chromatic runs and orchestral <i>tutti gliss</i>. Sudden <i>General Pause</i> signals a new section.
141 - 153	2:01 - 2:12	 Section begins with new key (B flat major suggested) and new mood - Scherzando e misterioso. 'Discord' motif is diminished rhythmically, fragmented and passed through the orchestra for tone colour interest and to build momentum.
154 - 224	2:13 - 3:13	 Bebop-esque in style with sudden driving accented quaver ostinato at bar 154 in piano, cello and double bass creates melodic and rhythmic contrast to the short brass and woodwind melodic fragments. Ostinato grouped in an uneven 7 note pattern (bracketed in score for accented phrasing) creates syncopation and metric displacement through the shifting phrase accents.

		 Ride and bass drum straight quaver pulse also alludes to Bebop style. Other percussion adds interest in tone colour and creates tension. Shorter note values provide a sense of faster tempo. Key change at bar 179 (unresolved dominant (E) vamp of A major) Violin II and violas <i>spiccato</i> semiquavers at the frog allude to the similar rhythmic drive of the ride or crash cymbal rhythm in Bebop Jazz (bars 179 - 188). Key change (G major) at bar 195 with rapid, ascending arpeggio movement in woodwinds and violin I and II contrasts to descending contrary motion contour in horn and trombone parts. Sudden texture contrast at bar 203, solo xylophone provides theme followed by imitative rhythmic answer from bongos and re-statement of theme again on xylophone, piano, trumpet then later piccolo (bar 216).
225 - 242	3:14 - 3:27	 Key change (C major) signalled by <i>tutti</i> accented quaver "Cadd b5" chord (C and F sharp interval provides tritone dissonance) leads to new syncopated theme on bass instruments. Syncopated bass line theme introduced in layers creating increase in textural density.
243 - 263	3:28 - 3:46	 Furioso increases tension with faster tempo providing the impression of a chase, also added police whistle (bar 258) supports this idea. Stravinsky-like driving accented tritone chords in orchestral tutti (bar 258) lead to eventual return to 6/8 metre.
264 - 275	3:47 - 4:07	 Return of opening ideas, metre and key. Original 'Cool' theme on vibraphone and harp at bar 269.

Somewhere (bars 276 - 346)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
276 - 314	0:00 - 2:21	 Sustained C beneath introduction of 'Somewhere' theme on solo viola doubled by harp. Cello, violin I, violin II introduce counter melodies over theme. At bar 286, horn takes theme, with oboe countermelody and arpeggio ostinato accompaniment on piano and harp. Rich harmonies in strings at bar 294 indicates modulation and bridge into 'Somewhere' theme in strings and clarinet at bar 302, a tempo, with counter melody played on flute and violin I. Climax in theme through textural and dynamic build at bar 310 then diminuendo and rall. from bar 312 - bar 314.
315 - 328	2:22 - 3:14	 E pedal point in bass on the offbeat accompanies dovetailing thematic fragments between the flutes at bar 315. Imitative 'Somewhere' theme led by solo trumpet in bar 322 with response from flute and violin I and II. F sharp pedal point in double time (bars 322 - 326) leading to pulled back tempo just before bar 329.
329 - 346	3:15 - 3:51	 Sudden tempo change to Andante con moto followed by an accelerando bridge into 'Scherzo'. Manipulation of beats and groupings with multimetre, e.g. 2/4 to 3/4 at bar 338 and 339, 2/4 at bar 342 and 4/4 at bar 343.

Scherzo (bars 347 - 399)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
347 - 399	0:00 - 1:17	 Scherzo Vivace e leggiero begins with new lilting melodic material introduced by strings. Characterised by metre changes per bar 3/4, 4/4, 9/8, 2/4,3/4 that interrupt the 'flow'. Alternating arco and pizz. in strings. Irregular 5/4 metre begins at bar 396, foreshadows the incoming syncopated groupings in 'Mambo'.

Mambo (bars 400 - 544)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
400 - 409	0:00 - 0:07	 Meno Presto tempo and simple duple metre. Sudden loud opening with the introduction of Latin percussion (timbales, bongos, cowbell) playing strong driving Latin-style syncopated rhythms. New fortissimo accented and highly syncopated and dissonant melodic theme introduced in bar 404 - 409. Key change at bar 404 (no definitive tonal centre).
410 - 437	0:08 - 0:33	 Contrasting 'answer' theme at bars 410 - 415 characterised by repeated arpeggiated minor/major 7th chord in semiquaver rhythm. Arpeggios suggest A minor tonal centre. Arpeggio thematic material returns throughout the 'Mambo' section in fragment and sequenced variations, e.g. up a tone to B minor at bar 420 - 421 then returns to A minor at bar 430.
438 - 544	0:34 - 2:14	 Secondary 'Mambo' theme in bassoon, brass and low strings at bars 438 - 441, characterised by strong driving accented and syncopated quavers in rhythmic unison followed by <i>tutti</i> orchestral shout: "Mambo!" (not heard in this particular recording though). The percussion also reinforces this rhythm. The 'Mambo' theme is repeated followed by further development of earlier material. Tritone interval continues as a common harmonic relationship between parts. Multiple key changes: A major at bar 466, C major at bar 484, A major at 508, C major at 524. Rallentando ending introduces the slower 'Cha-Cha' section.

Cha-Cha (bars 545 to 568)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
545 - 562	0:00 - 0:39	 G major, Andantino con grazia, simple quadruple metre. Four bar introduction with solo bass clarinet figure, accompanied with pizzicato and harmonic interjections from bassoon, low strings and harp. Finger cymbals add a new, contrasting tone colour. Introduction of 'Cha-Cha' theme in strings (pizzicato) and flute trio (staccato) at bar 549. The pizzicato and staccato articulation provide a dry and light tone colour. This is accompanied by arpeggio figures in cello and harp. Return of opening theme at bars 555 - 556 followed by 'Cha-Cha' theme again for the proceeding 6 bars.
563 - 568	0:40 - 0:53	 Answer theme at bar 563, denser in texture to create contrast from previous light and graceful theme. This is created through more prevalent <i>arco</i> strings and <i>forte</i> dynamics in woodwinds. Oboe solo at bar 566. Chromatic ascending run in celesta and harp doubled with interpolated and diminished run from the vibraphone at bars 567 - 568. Solo violin I lead into 'Meeting Scene'.

Meeting Scene (Bars 569-580)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
569 - 580	0:00 - 0:47	 Meno Mosso, simple quadruple time with sempre rubato. shortest 'section'. Strings, celeste and vibraphone play reminiscent of 'Maria' theme from West Side Story, providing a bridge into 'Cool' theme at bar 581. String play with mutes and 4 soli divisi violin I part for thinner texture. Viola and cello introduce the Augmented 4th interval (tritone) characteristic of the 'Cool' theme at bar 578, followed by echo in bass clarinet at bar 579. Accel. molto from bars 578 - 580.

Cool (bars 581 to 729)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
581 - 606	0:00 - 0:41	 Allegretto, key change to C major 'Cool' theme characterized by ascending and descending Augmented 4th interval, in <i>pizzicato</i> viola and cello and <i>staccato</i> bass clarinet and piano and then vibraphone, alto saxophone and flute I. Descending accented 'Answer' theme in 3/2 metre at bars 585 - 588, doubled or in unison. Strings emphasise driving <i>pizzicato</i> accent on the last quaver every bar. Bar 589, 'Cool' theme for two bars in solo flute, followed by answer from vibraphone, celeste and cello playing B flat and D flat major/minor 7th chords in <i>syncopated</i> rhythm. This question/answer structure continues through this section.
607 - 665	0:42 - 2:04	 Fugue section introduces swing rhythm on cymbal played with brushes. This section uses the 12-tone serialism system - all 12 tones are used throughout. Tension created through orchestral dialogue and polyphonic textures, featuring a series of countermelodies in fugal structure. Recurring semibreve melody in trumpet with tight cup mute at bars 607-610 and at bars 612 - 615, reappears in cello and horn at bar 620 and then in muted trombone and double bass at bar 632. Tight cup mute Tight cup mute Contrasting second 'subject' or theme with characteristic swung rhythm and
		 blues notes is heard in flute I and doubled in vibraphone at bar 620 and passed to clarinet and piano at bar 632. At bar 644, the theme appears in strings and trombone while woodwinds provide the swing countermelody. Bars 658 - 665, <i>sfz</i> dissonant, accented chords in brass and xylophone joined by strings and piano with unison swing countermelody in woodwind and low strings. This provides a bridge into the next section at bar 666.
666 - 729	2:05 - 3:03	Bars 666 - 668, syncopated blues melody played in unison and doubled in tutti orchestra. This creates a sudden contrast to homophonic texture from

the preceding polyphony.



- Solo Jazz break on 'Traps' at bars 668 669 and bars 672 673 provides further textural contrast.
- These musical ideas are repeated a major third down at bars 670 673.
- Bars 677 684 melodic and rhythmic ideas are fragmented, repeated and developed, e.g., rhythmic displacement through metric change to 3/2 in bar 681 and 4/4 in bar 684.
- Bars 685 704, original 'Cool' theme returns at a key change to G major, with thicker orchestration and ornamentation, e.g., 'shake' and *glissando* on brass.
- Extreme textural contrasts bars 705 711, with flute, harp, clarinet, bassoon, vibraphone and celeste playing the 'Cool' theme with intermittent bursts from *tutti* orchestra.
- Further contrast in tonal centre with key change to C major at bar 705.
- Return of 'swing' rhythm on hi-hat at bar 717 to the end.

Rumble (bars 730 to 812)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
730 - 812	Audio Cues 0:00 - 1:52	 Molto Allegro, 6/8 time signature. New melodic material opens the 'Rumble' with sudden ff syncopated opening. Melodic material consists of ascending and descending chromatic movement and frequent tritone intervals. Key change at bar 746 suggests E flat major (although continues to be ambiguous with frequent dissonance and chromatic movement). Rhythmic and harmonic ostinato in bassoon, piano and strings supports this tonal centre. Bars 759 - 768, hears a return of melodic and rhythmic ideas from the
		 previous 'Cool' section. Bars 769 - 775, sffz accented and syncopated dissonant chords reminiscent

of 'Cool' theme but with more emphasis and *tutti* orchestral density to build to a greater climax before sudden textural shift to imitative dialogue between woodwind and strings at bar 776.

- Melodic material builds over time within bars 776 792 with an increase in notes and layering, leading to all parts finally in unison at bar 793.
- Flexibility in time and beat is emphasised by metric change to 9/8 and 6/8 at bars 806 807, the 'approximately 3 bar long' pause on the dotted minim *glissando* at bar 810 and extended *lunga* pause leading into a flute *cadenza* in bar 812.
- This solo flute cadenza is reminiscent of the 'Cool' theme with descending minor second intervals.



Finale (bars 813 to 851)

Bar/s	Audio Cues	Features
813 - 851	0:00 - 2:47	 Adagio, 4/8 time signature, D flat major. Bars 813 - 818, solo flute accompanied by strings provides reminiscent melodic development of 'Somewhere' theme. Bars 819 - 836, lush harmonies dominated by strings playing with mutes. Key change to C minor at bar 825 elevates the theme by a tone and propels the music forward through the use of the syncopated C pedal ostinato in viola and cello. Bars 837- 843 sustained high E flat in violin and E flat pedal point on the second beat of every bar accompanies melody on solo oboe and moves the piece to E flat major resolution. Groupings from here to the end provide a more even simple duple feel, even though still in 4/8 metre. Bar 844 to end shifts up a tone to F pedal point with 4 bars of 'Somewhere' theme on flute and violin I and counter melody on violin II. Ends with three statements of an unresolved and sustained A flat minor 7th chord with final F pizzicato on cello and double bass.

Audio Excerpts

Access the Spotify playlist by visiting the following link:

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein

Excerpt No.	Movement	Time Stamp	Activity	Page
1	Prologue	0:00 - 0:47	Activity 1 task 1 and 2	21, 22
2	Prologue	3:13 - 3:46	Activity 2 task 1	24
3	Somewhere	0:00 - 0:27	Activity 3 task 1	34
4	Somewhere	0:00 - 1:32	Activity 3 task 2	35
5	Mambo	0:00 – 0:16	Activity 4 task 1	36
6	Mambo	1:38 – 2:05	Activity 4 task 1	37
7	Cha-Cha	0:00 - 0:53	Activity 5 task 2	49

Score Extracts

Score extracts have been provided in the Appendix to this resource.

Extract No.	Movement	Bars	Activity	Page
1	Prologue	1 - 48	Activity 1 task 2	22
2	Prologue	225 - 263	Activity 2 task 1	24
3	Prologue	254 - 263	Activity 2 task 2	25
4	Somewhere	276 - 299	Activity 3 task 2	35
5	Mambo	400 - 419	Activity 4 task 1	36
6	Mambo	508 - 541	Activity 4 task 1	37
7	Cha-Cha	545 - 568	Activity 5 task 2	49

Learning Activities

Activity 1: Aural and Composition

Prologue

Score Extract 1 (bars 1 - 48)

Audio Excerpt 1 (0:00 - 0:47)

The tasks in this learning activity are designed to assist students in developing their understanding of the *Prologue*. Students will:

- Become familiar with the repertoire in preparation for a concert experience.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the work in terms of its musical features and stylistic characteristics.
- Develop their listening/aural skills through responding to the music and analysing score excerpts.
- Develop their understanding of motivic development through participating in performance and composition activities, making judgements about the composition processes of self and others.

Task 1: Aural

Listen to **Audio Excerpt 1** (0:00 - 0:47) and answer the following question:

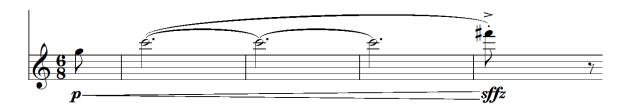
1. The opening *Prologue* is characterised by a unique orchestration of musical ideas. List some of the distinctive features in this opening section for each concept below:

Duration	
Pitch	
Tone colour	
Texture	
Dynamics & Expressive Techniques	

Task 2: Aural

In the *Prologue* there are two main musical ideas or motifs that can be heard. These come from the original music from *West Side Story* and have quite a lot of meaning.

The 'Discord' motif (first heard in the opening 4 bars) represents the growing tension and conflict between the rival gangs in the musical (the Sharks and the Jets).



Notice how, even in *Symphonic Dances* (without the action on stage), the escalating conflict is mirrored in the build-up of texture, addition of instruments, expansion of pitch, shorter note values, increase in dynamics and articulations and dense clashing chords.

The Jets are depicted by the '*Cool*' motif (first heard in bars 18 -19, played by alto saxophone and vibraphone). This motif is then taken and developed more later on in *Cool*.



Listen to **Audio Excerpt 1** again, while following **Score Extract 1** (bars 1 - 48) to answer the following questions:

- 1. Describe the opening 'Discord' motif (bars 1 4) in terms of pitch contour and intervals used.
- 2. Describe the vibraphone and alto saxophone 'Cool' or 'Jet' motif at bar 18 19 in terms of melodic shape and rhythm.
- 3. How are these motifs similar and/or contrasting?
- 4. How does Bernstein develop these motifs throughout the *Prologue?* Mark or circle these on the given score extract.

Task 3: Composition

On your own instrument, play through the two motifs introduced in the *Prologue*:



- 1. a) Using these as a guide, compose your own 1 or 2 bar motif based on a tritone and at least one other interval.
 - b) Write at least 2 developments of your motif, based on your observations of how Bernstein developed his motifs from task 1.
 - c) Perform your motif and your developed ideas on your own instrument for the class.
 - d) Compare and evaluate your ideas. Ask members of the class which ideas are the most successful and their reasons why.

Optional Extension Tasks - Composition

Arrange your original motives and their developments into a structured 8 to 10 bar composition. Write
accompaniment parts (Can be both harmonic and rhythmic) and perform your compositions in groups.
Evaluate each composition.

Activity 2: Aural, Musicology, Performance and Composition

Prologue

Score Extract 2 (bars 225 - 263)

Audio Excerpt 2 (3:13 - 3:46)

The tasks in this learning activity are designed to assist students in further developing their understanding of the *Prologue*. Students will:

- Become familiar with the repertoire in preparation for a concert experience.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the work in terms of its musical features and stylistic characteristics.
- Develop their understanding of the rhythmic aspects of the work through participating in listening, performance and composition activities, responding to the music and making judgements about the creative processes of self and others.

Task 1: Aural and Musicology

Listen to **Audio Excerpt 2** (3:13 - 3:46) while following **Score Extract 2** (bars 225 - 263) and answer the following questions:

 a) Complete the table below, making a list of all the percussion instruments used in this excerpt, identifying whether they are classified as tuned or untuned and if their role is melodic or non-melodic in this excerpt.

odic/ Non-melodic	Tuned / Untuned	Percussion name

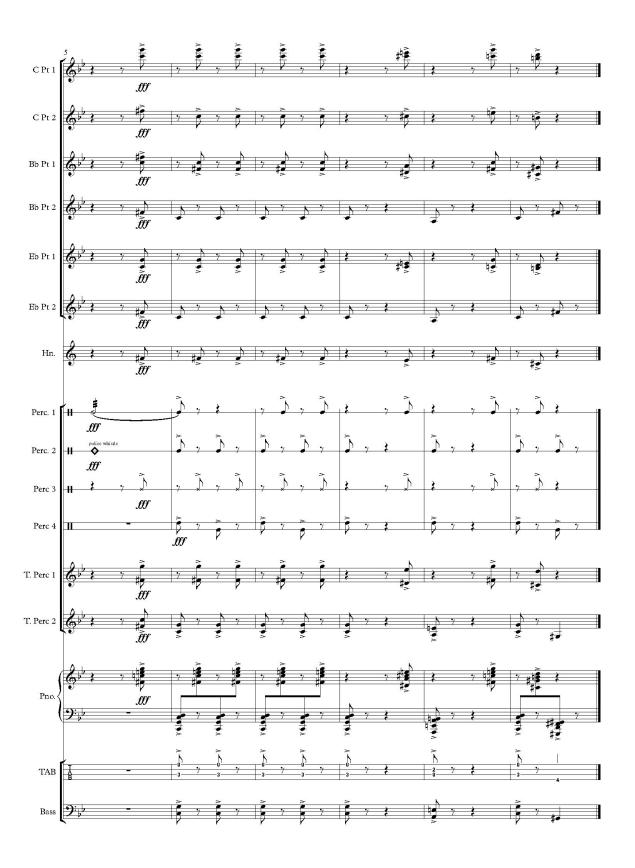
- b) Comment on what you notice about how Bernstein utilises and writes for percussion from the above information gathered.
- 2. Research other 20th century composers who have written for percussion with a more melodic role or to explore their tone colour effects, e.g., Varese, Stravinsky, Cage, Copland.

Task 2: Performance

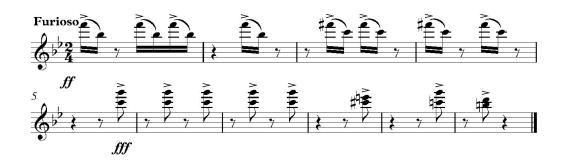
1. As a class or in groups, learn to play the classroom arrangement of *Prologue* **Score Excerpt 3** (bars 254 - 263). Experiment with different combinations of percussion instruments.







Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) C Instrument Part 1



Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) C Instrument Part 2



Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) Bb Instrument Part 1



Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) Bb Instrument Part 2



Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) Eb Instrument Part 1



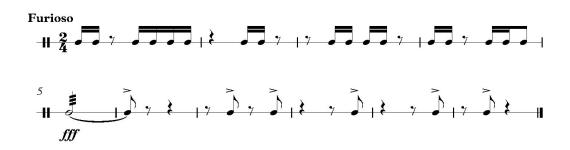
Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) Eb Instrument Part 2



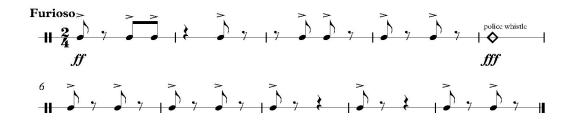
Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263)



Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) Percussion 1

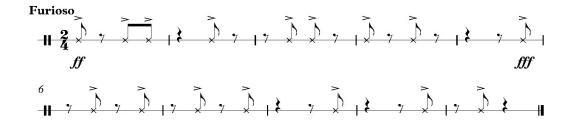


Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) Percussion 2



Percussion 3

Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263)



Percussion 4

Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263)

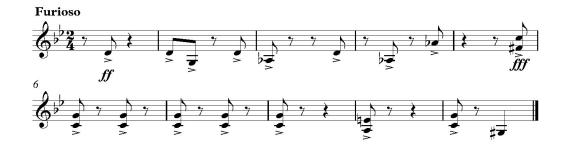


Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263) Tuned Percussion 1



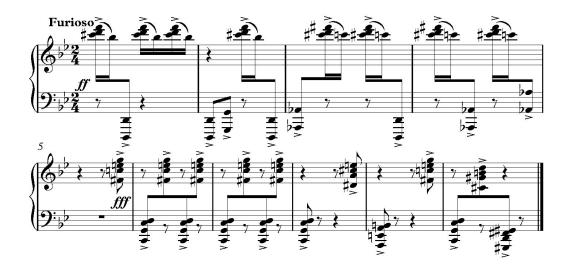
Tuned Percussion 2

Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263)



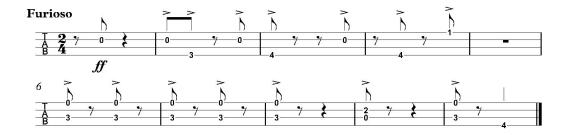
Piano accompaniment

Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263)



Bass TAB

Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263)



Bass Instrument

Class Arrangement - Prologue (Bars 254-263)



- 2. After playing this arrangement, answer the following questions:
 - a) Which instrumentation combinations were the most successful and why?
 - b) What musical terms could be used to describe the rhythmic material in the arrangement?

Task 3: Composition

- 1. Compose your own rhythmic arrangement to accompany the bass line from the performance arrangement in task 2.
 - a) Select three contrasting untuned percussion instruments to write for.
 - b) Compose a different rhythmic pattern for each instrument. Use some of the rhythmic concepts from the task 2 arrangement, e.g., Polyrhythm, ostinato, syncopation.
 - c) Compose a new bass line to be performed with the three-part rhythmic composition.
 - d) Perform your composition with the original bass line and then with the new bass line.

Optional Extension Task: Musicology

- 1. Research in more detail, the rhythmic ideas used by Stravinsky in some of his works and compare these directly to this section of the *Prologue*.
- 2. Present information on the stylistic influences of 20th century Art Music and Jazz within the *Prologue* through one of the following modes:
 - a) musicology essay
 - b) viva voce
 - c) podcast
 - d) class presentation

Activity 3: Aural, Performance and Composition

Somewhere

Score Extract 4 (bars 276 - 299)

Audio Excerpt 3 (0:00 - 0:27)

Audio Excerpt 4 (0:00 - 1:32)

The tasks in this learning activity are designed to assist students in developing their understanding of *Somewhere*. Students will:

- Become familiar with the repertoire in preparation for a concert experience.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the work in terms of its musical features and stylistic characteristics.
- Develop their aural skills through melodic dictation and their understanding of thematic development within the work through participating in listening, performance and composition activities, responding to the music and making judgements about the creative processes of self and others.

Task 1: Melodic Dictation and Performance

- 1. Without the score, listen to **Audio Excerpt 4** (0:00 0:27) several times to complete the 8 bar melody dictation of the *Somewhere* theme, as first stated in viola.
 - Write in treble clef. The rhythm and some pitch have been given to assist you in your answer.
- 2. Describe this melody (in terms of contour, tonality, pitch range, phrase structure).



3. Play this theme on your class instrument. Transpose as necessary for the concert sounding pitch.

Task 2: Aural

Listen to **Audio Excerpt 4** (0:00 - 1:32) while following **Score Extract 4** (bars 276 - 299) and answer the following questions:

- 1. Highlight/Mark on the score all statements or variations you can hear of the *Somewhere* theme in this section.
- 2. Explain how Bernstein developed this melody in this section for interest?
- 3. Describe the interaction between the oboe and horn at bars 286 293?
- 4. Identify the texture at bars 286 293 and describe the roles of the instrument parts in this section.

Task 3: Composition

- 1. Write an accompaniment part to harmonise with the Somewhere theme from task 1 and perform it.
 - a) Select chords that are best suited to the melody.
 - b) The harmony does not have to be the same as Bernstein's progression.
 - c) The instrumentation could be chords on piano or a small group of instruments supporting the melody with notes from the chords chosen.
 - d) Evaluate the performances and compositions.
- a) Compose a 12 bar counter melody to complement the theme that is based on the same harmonic progression used in part 1.
 - b) Perform the countermelody.
 - c) Discuss and evaluate the performances.

Optional Extension Task: Aural and Composition

- 1. Complete and compare the harmonic analysis of the piano/harp accompaniment parts at bars 287 293 and at bars 302 309. Compare this to your task 3 composition.
- 2. Change the style of the final task 3 composition to perform.

Activity 4: Aural, Performance and Musicology

Mambo

Score Extract 5 (bars 400 - 419)

Audio Excerpt 5 (0:00 - 0:16)

Score Extract 6 (bars 508 - 541)

Audio Excerpt 6 (1:38 - 2:05)

The tasks in this learning activity are designed to assist students in developing their understanding of *Mambo*. Students will:

- Become familiar with the repertoire in preparation for a concert experience.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the work in terms of its musical features and stylistic characteristics.
- Develop their understanding of rhythmic aspects in this section of the work through participating in listening, performance and musicology activities.

Task 1: Aural

Listen to **Audio Excerpt 5** (0:00 - 0:16) while following **Score Extract 5** (bars 400 - 419) and answer the following questions:

- 1. a) How would you describe the overall mood created in the Mambo?
 - b) How is this mood musically represented?
- 2. Describe the texture and rhythm at bars 404 409.
- 3. Analyse the features of the *Mambo* theme in the woodwinds, piano and string sections at bars 410 419.

Features	Description
Melodic shape	
Phrasing	
Tonality	
Rhythm	
Texture	

- 4. Listen to **Audio Excerpt 6** (1:38 2:05) while following **Score Extract 6** (bars 508 541) and answer the following questions.
- a) In reference to the concepts of music, describe how the *Mambo* theme and earlier rhythmic patterns have been developed in this section.

Concept	Description of development or changes.
Pitch	
Duration	
Tone Colour	
Texture	
Dynamics & Expressive Techniques	
Structure	

b) What effect do these developments have on the music?

Task 2: Performance

Perform the following arrangement of the Mambo theme (bars 453 - 466).

Note the syncopated rhythms, shifting accents and repeated rhythmic patterns used throughout this section.

Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465)

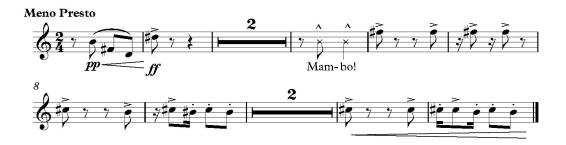




Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465) C Instrument Part 1



C Instrument Part 2



Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465) Bb Instrument Part 1



Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465) Bb Instrument Part 2



Eb Instrument Part 1

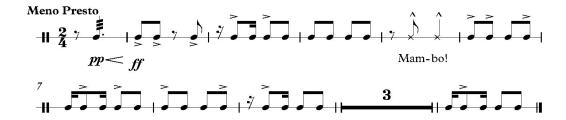


Eb Instrument Part 2

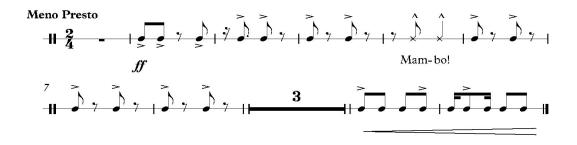




Percussion 1 Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465)

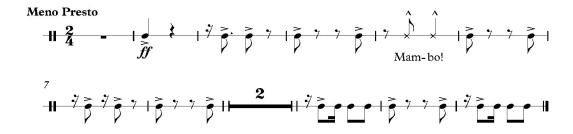


Percussion 2 Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465)



Percussion 3

Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465)

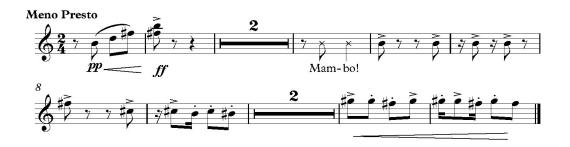


Percussion 4

Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465)



Tuned Percussion 1

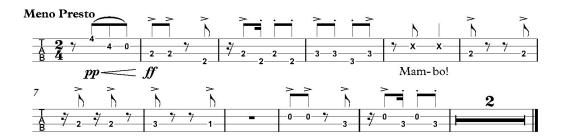


Tuned Percussion 2

Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465)



Bass TAB

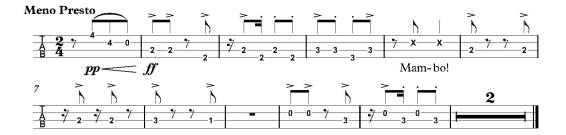


Piano accompaniment

Class Arrangement - Mambo (Bars 453-465)



Bass TAB



Bass Instrument



Task 3: Musicology

1. The brass section in *Mambo* utilizes some effective expressive and extended techniques. Research the following techniques, including a description of how it is played and its tone colour.

Extended Technique	Bar/s & instrument	How is this played?	Tone colour description
Flutter tongue	bars 418, bars 422 in trumpet 1, trombone		
cuivre	bars 426 in horns		
shake	bars 508 in trumpet 1 and 3.		

- 2. Research 2 3 extended techniques for your own instrument and source suitable video examples of these.
 - a) Complete the following table.

Extended Technique	How is this played?	Tone colour description	video link of a piece that uses this technique, or a demonstration video

b) Present your findings to the class.

Optional Extension Task: Musicology and Composition

Mambo utilises many Latin-American and Afro-Cuban rhythms and stylistic characteristics.

- 1. Research the following stylistic rhythms to gain a greater understanding of how they are incorporated into *Mambo*.
 - a) son clave
 - b) cascara
 - c) martillo

For each, identify and describe:

- Characteristic rhythmic pattern/s
- The style/origin of music they are used in
- Characteristic instruments that may play this part.
- The role this pattern/style has within the music.
- 2. For each of the above rhythms, find examples or aspects of how these have been incorporated in *Mambo* score extracts and also in the Audio Excerpts. Highlight or circle these in the score and label them accordingly.
- 3. Compose an 8 to 10 bar piece that incorporates the above rhythmic styles in ostinato and polyrhythmic patterns.
 - Write for at least 4 different percussion parts.
 - The composition should be able to be repeated as many times as desired.
- 3. Play your percussion composition along with the class performance arrangement from task 2.

Activity 5: Musicology, Aural and Performance

Cha-Cha

Score Extract 7 (bars 545 - 568)

Audio Excerpt 7 (0:00 - 0:53)

The tasks in this learning activity are designed to assist students in developing their understanding of the *Cha-Cha*. Students will:

- Become familiar with the repertoire in preparation for a concert experience.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the work in terms of its musical features and stylistic characteristics.
- Develop their listening/aural skills through responding to the music and analysing score excerpts.
- Develop their understanding of the style and characteristics of Cha-Cha dance through participating in listening and performance arrangement activities.

Task 1: Musicology

- 1. What is a traditional Cha-Cha in dance terms?
- 2. What is a Cha-Cha in musical terms?

Task 2: Aural

Listen to **Audio Excerpt 7** (0:00 - 0:53) while following **Score Extract 7** (bars 545 - 568).

1. Locate and explain the following musical terms that appear on the score.

Term	Location and Definition
andantino con grazio	
pizz.	
tutti. div. a.2	
arco	
dolce	
Sul G	
con sord	
staccato	

- 2. a) Identify the key at bar 545.
 - b) Does this key continue throughout the Cha-Cha section?
- 3. Which instrument/s first introduces the Cha-Cha theme and at which bar?
- 4. Discuss the role of the bass clarinet and bassoon throughout Audio Excerpt 7.
- 5. Describe the role of the strings in the excerpt.
- 6. a) Highlight or circle on the score extract where the main *Cha-Cha* theme is repeated.
 - b) Describe how each repetition is similar and/or different to the first statement.

Task 3: Performance

Arrange bars 549 - 562 (from **Score Extract 7**) of the *Cha-Cha* for class instruments to perform.

Optional Extension Task: Musicology and Composition

- 1. a) Research in detail the *Cha-Cha* as a dance form and the musical characteristics.
 - b) What characteristics can be heard or seen in the Bernstein Cha-Cha?
- 2. What is a 'Charanga'?
- 3. Compose an 8 to 10 bar Cha-Cha for a Charanga.

Optional Extension Activities:

Musicology and Aural

- 1. Research Cuban music and in particular the *Mambo* and *Cha-Cha* and put together a short presentation on the following slide titles:
 - a) The history/background to Cuban music.
 - b) The Mambo and the Cha-Cha.
 - c) Duration in the *Mambo* and *Cha-Cha* with musical examples.
 - d) Tone colour & performing media in the *Mambo* and *Cha-Cha* with musical examples.
- Research an Australian composer who incorporates Afro-Cuban/Latin-American stylistic characteristics in their music. If possible, find a particular composer who has similarly written for orchestra. Write a musicology essay comparing their work to Bernstein's Symphonic Dances.
- 3. Listen to other sections of *Symphonic Dances* that are not covered in this kit and write your own set of aural/listening questions for another student or the class to answer.
- 4. Listen to *Cool* and study the score (if your teacher has access to one) and discuss the Jazz elements and characteristics that are heard in this music.

Composition and Performance

1. Write and perform a composition to describe an aspect of two conflicting groups/people/ideas, as similar to the 'gang rivalry' that is the basis of the story and music of *West Side Story*.

Suggested Answers and Teaching Notes

Activity 1: Aural and Composition

Teaching Notes

- For each task, depending on student level of ability, listening questions can be completed with or without score analysis.
- The motivic ideas for task 2 could be given as a melodic dictation activity for advanced Stage 5 and Stage 6 Music 2 students.
- To guide the students with the motivic development in task 2, guide deductions on the analysis regarding the interval of a tritone.
- You may wish to discuss the historic aural implications of tritones in music and why they were avoided in early music.
- As an additional composition task to that of task 3, students could develop variations of Bernstein's
 motifs from the *Prologue*. This could be used as a starting point for students who need help with
 getting started or struggle to write their own original ideas.

Task 1: Aural

Duration	 6/8 but not clearly heard as a regular metre/grouping until bar 8 highly syncopated rhythms opening 4 bars contrasts with long sustained notes and short and abrupt quavers Swing feel in the 'Cool' theme motif used. 		
Pitch	 heavy use of tritone interval dissonance used frequently large pitch range across the orchestra 		
Tone colour	 full orchestra opening with bright and rich sound. bongos with sticks - harsh and loud muted brass into bar 8 pizzicato strings into bar 8 finger snaps provide the dramatic West Side Story element. lots of percussion parts - e.g., choke cymbal, tenor and bass drum, bongos, traps. piano part in mid-low register for a richer sound. big contrast to 'joyously' at bar 40, with brighter tone colour from the flute and violin legato solos. 		

Texture	 full orchestra opening, lots of <i>tuttil</i> rhythm and pitch unison blocks (<i>heterophony</i>). also, use of <i>homophony</i> - where instruments play an accompaniment role with a clear melodic idea. sudden changes from thick to sparse.
Dynamics & Expressive Techniques	 sudden changes in dynamics and extremes used. opening p with fast crescendo to sffz dynamics constantly build and then drop off - never sounds quite resolved or reaching a climax.

Task 2: Musicology and Aural

- 1. Opens with unison concert G ascending to C (perfect 4th) then ascending again to F sharp (augmented 4th tritone).
- Ascends from first to second note, then descends for the rest of the phrase. Quite disjunct in intervallic
 movement. Syncopated first, 4th and 5th notes of the phrase. This creates a swing and jazzy feel to the
 rhythm.
- 3. Similarities: use of disjunct intervals for contour. Opening rhythm/start of the phrase from short quaver at the end of the bar into the first beat of the bar and a longer duration note.
 - Differences: contour is ascending for the first one and mainly descending for 'Cool' motif. The discord motif is not *syncopated*, while the 'Cool' motif is. A much stronger tonal centre in the 'Cool' motif A minor, while 'Discord' motif is more dissonant and ambiguous in tonality.
- 4. Many variations and extensions of the motif throughout.

Activity 2: Aural, Musicology, Performance and Composition

Teaching Notes

- Task 1 should highlight the use of untuned percussion in a more melodic role. The examples
 provided and also from studying the suggested 20th century composers, students should get an
 understanding that percussion can have a melodic role, not just simply rhythmic.
- For task 2, get students to experiment with the different tone colours of various available percussion.
 See the optional extension activity to really develop students' ensemble skills and understanding of parts they can re-compose this arrangement for pentatonic tonality for tuned percussion (or available tuned instruments). This task could work in small groups or as a whole class.
- Task 3 should be a progression further from the first two tasks of how percussion can be used in composition. This could be done in small groups or as a whole class. Some students may wish to do this individually on computer notation software.

Task 1: Aural and Musicology

Percussion name	Tuned / Untuned	Melodic/ non-melodic
Snare Drum	untuned	non molodio
	untuned	non-melodic
Cymbal	untuned	non-melodic
Bass Drum	untuned	non-melodic
Bongos	untuned	non-melodic
Congas	untuned	non-melodic
4 Pitched Drums	tuned	melodic
Xylophone	tuned	melodic
Piano	tuned	melodic
Police Whistle	tuned	non-melodic
Timpani	tuned	non-melodic

b) Bernstein mimics the rhythmic ideas of percussion in tuned instruments and vice versa. There is a lot of rhythmic unison between the orchestral instruments and untuned/tuned percussion. He particularly uses tuned percussion for main melodic roles in the work.

Task 2: Performance

3. a) syncopated, ostinato, repeated patterns, poly-rhythmic

Activity 3: Aural, Performance and Composition

Teaching Notes

- Task 1 melody dictation can be used as Music 2 exam practice, i.e. under timed conditions.
 Depending on student experience and stage/level, guide them in how to best approach the dictation in terms of hearing pitch and rhythmic patterns. For younger students you may wish to provide more playing's and/or perform the main melody in a solo setting on piano for them to isolate intervals and rhythm more easily.
- Task 2 can be done as a whole class or student led as a small group aural worksheet or individually completed. The idea is that students get an understanding of the structure of the main theme and how Bernstein has constructed the countermelody around this, as well as developing these ideas throughout the piece for interest.
- Task 3 can also be done individually by students. Again, students may wish to compose their ideas
 using computer notation software and especially for the second and third extension tasks, this can
 provide more scope for greater tone colour options for accompaniment and style changes.
- The composition activity in task 3 could be done through experimentation and improvisation rather than formal notation.

Task 1: Melodic Dictation

1.



2.

- Legato and expressive melody
- Divided into 3 clear phrases.
- Phrase one opens with major 7th leap then follows descending triadic movement to D sharp. Starts in B major (dominant of tonic, E Major).
- Second phrase ends the same as the first.
- The second part of the third phrase sequences this ending with the same rhythmic ideas.
- Ends on tonic (E major), resolving from the super tonic.

Task 2: Aural

Harp, viola – bars 278 - 285; horn, oboe – bars 286, 293; violin I – bars 291 - 293; violin I, violin II, viola – bars 294 - 299; flute, oboe – bars 298 - 301.

- 2. Tone colour moves the melody to different combinations of instruments. Mostly moving to higher pitched instruments (woodwind and strings mostly) for a lighter/sweeter tone colour. Texture thickens through doubling combinations of instruments in unison with variations of the melody. Pitch- expands to a higher pitch and wider range as more instruments are combined. Key change at bars 294 to E minor/G Major. Extension of last phrase of original statement in bars 294 299. Dynamics starts pp then p, then crescendo to forte, and decrescendo into bars 300.
- Oboe continues with a statement of the main theme, with horn provides a countermelody. The
 countermelody is similar to the main theme but displaced rhythmically as it begins a bar earlier. They
 are in imitation, but some contour directions and pitch are altered.
- 4. Texture polyphonic.

Oboe - main theme.

Horn - countermelody - imitating the main theme but equally important.

Piano and harp - provide harmonic and rhythmic ostinato.

Cellos and double bass - harmony, bass line

Violin I and viola - enter from bars 291 and bars 293 doubling main theme with oboe.

Activity 4 – Aural, Performance and Musicology

Teaching Notes

- Task 1 Aural activities can be done individually or in class as a discussion. Depending on the level
 and stage of the class, the expectation of depth and detail in answers should be varied. Some
 questions could be used as HSC style questions for senior students practising aural and musicology
 skills.
- Task 2 the performance activity will take some work due to the difficulty of rhythms. Encourage students as a class or in small groups to observe the syncopation, polyrhythms and shifting accents.
 Get students to problem-solve how they may go about learning these and putting it all together.
- Task 3 this could be done as a formal/informal assessment task. Students can present individually or in groups. Teachers may like to design an assessment task as a viva voce, or with a different format of presentation that is not oral, e.g. a podcast, video log, a mock interview between two students that can be videoed and shown in class, a written hand-in. More advanced students may be able to demonstrate their techniques on their own instruments to the class.

Task 1: Aural

- 1. a) vibrant, energetic, somewhat frantic mood.
 - b) Duration: tempo fast *meno presto* fast simple duple grouping. Frequent use of short note values, namely quavers, semiquavers. Heavily syncopated with shifting accents and *polyrhythmic* percussion section.

Dynamics and Expressive Techniques - *ff* opening with tutti orchestra, *ff* and accented percussion. Heavy use of accents. Many sudden *crescendi*.

Pitch - static to sudden fast contour changes, unison block *tutti* orchestra with wide pitch range.

Texture - mostly thick with lots of brass and percussion for richer sound.

Tone colour brass = louder and brighter tone, flutter tonguing. Loud and accented timbales, bass drum, bongos and cowbell.

2. Texture - *Homophonic* - melody is doubled in upper woodwinds, trumpets, trombones and RH piano; while harmony and rhythm are provided by bass woodwind and brass, timpani, bass drum, LH piano and low strings.

Rhythm - interaction of melody to harmony is always on opposite beats, never together. Frequent syncopation in both parts. All notes and rhythms are accented.

3.

Features	Description			
Melodic shape	Repeated shape of arpeggio movement, mostly ascending, descends in bars 411 and bars 413.			
Phrasing	 First 6 bars all same material based on opening 4 semiquaver 'cell' that are extended. bars 410 - 415 could be divided further into 3 x 2 bar phrases. The second section of the theme is bars 416 - 419, which could be 1 phrase or divided into 2 uneven phrases of bars 416 - 417a and bars 417b - 419. 			
Tonality	 Opening arpeggio suggests A minor tonality (Am7) for the first 6 bar section. Bars 416 - 419 moves back to tonic (C major) with a flattened third, resolving to the E in bar 418 could suggest C Locrian mode. 			
Rhythm	 All semiquavers for the first section and some tied longer duration notes in the second section. Very fast paced in tempo. Highly syncopated. Presentation of the semiquaver arpeggio cell from bars 410 is metrically displaced to provide the syncopation. Bass drum on offbeat. Son clave 2:3 pattern variation in cowbells and regular semiquaver ostinato providing regular beat in bongos. 			
Texture	Homophonic.Melody doubled in woodwinds, piano and strings.			

Bass line in double bass.
Polyrhythms in percussion.

4. a)

Concept	Description of development or changes.		
Pitch	Pitch expansion as more instruments is playing. Key change – A major at bars 508 (but starts in E major, the dominant).		
	Thicker chords in piano rather than octaves or single notes.		
	 Pitch at bars 508 - 523 relates to bars 404 - 409 and the second section of the mambo theme from bars 416 - 419. 		
	Bars 524 - 541 repeats the arpeggio theme from bars 410 - 419 in the same key - just with pitch expansion through more instruments doubling.		
Duration	Similar with frequent short notes and much syncopation, polyrhythms and many accents.		
Tone Colour	More contrast as more instruments are playing. Louder and brighter as a result.		
	Key changes and thicker texture create a richer tone.		
	Brass extended techniques provide more vibrancy and contrast.		
Texture	Same treatment of doubling parts and rhythms, but now with thicker texture.		
	More instruments doubling all parts - melody and accompaniment.		
	 Polyphonic at opening bars 508 with trumpet 'solo' over the thematic and rhythmic material. 		
	Bars 508 - 523 combines the static pitch and rhythms from bars 404 - 409 with similar texture, but more percussion and parts.		
	Bars 524 - 541 developed the theme from bars 410 - 419 but thicker in texture - more instruments doubling.		
Dynamics & Expressive	Dynamics generally louder.		
Techniques	Moves from forte to ff and fff throughout.		
	Continued use of accents, also short and fast slurs and staccato.		
	sfz used frequently and use of extended techniques in brass.		
Structure	Clear continued variation of ideas in similar structure.		
	Almost in a rondo form.		

Clear phrase structure continued.

b) It provides contrast to the repeated material and also builds to a climax. Builds the energy and vibrancy of the piece. Provides a clear contrast into the next section.

Task 2: Musicology

1.

Extended Technique	Bar/s & instrument	How is this played?	Tone colour description
Flutter tongue	bars 418, bars 422 in Trumpet 1, Trombone 1	flutter or roll tongue with a 'frrrrr' sound in the mouthpiece.	fluttering vibration gives a wavering and buzzing effect.
cuivre	bars 426 in horns	play 'brassy' and overblown tone, also and in this case with hand mute.	Gives a strident, brassy and forced tone.
shake	bars 508 in Trumpet 1 and 3.	bending lip trill to create vibrato and/or shaking the trumpet against lips while playing written note and harmonic.	shaky, rich and wavering tone.

Activity 5: Musicology, Aural and Performance

Task 2: Aural

1.

Term	Location and Definition
andantino con grazio	bars 545 (tempo marking) a little faster than walking pace with grace.
pizz.	strings - bars 545, 549 plucking the strings - <i>pizzicato</i>
tutti. div. a.2	cellos - bars 549 cellos now back into two divided sections (previously in 3 parts)
arco	strings – bars 555 play with the bow
dolce	strings - bars 562 played sweetly
Sul G	cello - bars 546 (and others) play note on the G string

con sord	violin I - bars 568 play with mute
staccato	bass clarinet – bars 545 (many others) short and detached articulation (dot under a note).

2. a) G major

- b) Yes, but there is a suggested temporary move to the relative minor (E minor) at bar 560 and then C major (subdominant) at bar 563.
- 3. Flutes and violin I at bar 549 and following.
- 4. Bass clarinet provides solo for introduction not melody but more a harmonic *ostinato*. Bassoon provides harmonic accompaniment in the introduction. The same figure is repeated in bars 555 556.
- 5. Low strings harmonic and rhythmic accompaniment.
 Bars 545 548 cello 1 opens with dominant pedal point, double bass pizz. tonic pedal.
 bars 549 and following cellos provide harmonic ostinato, double bass bass line (single quaver notes).
 Upper strings violin I and violin II double main melody at bars545-554, bars 557-565 with woodwinds.
 viola mostly harmonic role throughout.
- 6. a) Bars 549 554 (first statement), bars 557 562, bars 563 565 (repeat of second half of theme) b) Violin pitch stays the same in the second statement (bars 557 562), however, flutes are more static and lower in pitch roles between the 3 *divisi* also have changes. Pitch and rhythmic development and repetition of second section ideas (bars 552 554) with crushed notes but some notes removed. Similar articulation short, *staccato*, *pizz*. Dynamics change original is at *p* then *mf* and *f* at bars 563. Similar thickness of texture (also remains homophonic).

Optional Extension Activities:

Teaching Notes

- These extension activities can be used to assist in extending more advanced stage 5 and stage 6 music students.
- The musicology/aural activities can be used as home assignment work, or the musicology essay
 questions could be modified to use as a suggested research basis for HSC Music 2 and Music
 Extension musicology students. Similarly, it would be a helpful stepping stone for HSC Music 1 viva
 voce elective students.
- The composition and performance task could be possibly used as a cross-curricular activity in
 collaboration with other departments or faculties, e.g., History, Drama or English where students
 could select a particular conflict, historic event they are studying or a suitable text in English or
 Drama that involves a type of conflict and write their composition on this. Drama students could act
 out a scene while the composition is being performed.
- Students may find watching some scenes from West Side Story to be helpful in their composition process for this activity.

Glossary

Musical term	Definition
a2	Two instruments play the given pitch.
Accompaniment	The part of the music that is not the main theme or tune, but the musical support.
Da capo	From the beginning.
Dissonant	The term describing the sound when notes played simultaneously do not blend together but clash.
Duration	Referring to the rhythmic aspects of music, length of sounds or silence.
Dynamics and expression	Volume and choice of how the sound is made.
Expressive techniques	Ways of playing or articulating a sound often related to the interpretation of a style.
Extended Techniques	When a player is required to play their instrument in an untraditional manner, such as blowing into a trumpet without the mouthpiece or tapping the belly of a stringed instrument.
Forte (f)	Loud
Fortepiano (fp)	To commence a note loudly and becoming very soft immediately after.
Graphic Notation	A method of indicating pitch, rhythm and dynamics using symbols instead of traditional musical notation.
Legato	Smoothly
Melody	Tune
Metre	The way that the beats are grouped in a piece of music, i.e., the number of beats in a bar
Orchestra	A group of mixed instruments comprising woodwind, brass, percussion and stringed instruments and usually directed by a conductor.
Ostinato	A repeating pattern – may be rhythm only or rhythm and pitch.
Pentatonic Scale	A scale consisting of five notes only – the most common being the 1st, 2nd 3rd, 5th, and 6th notes of the scale.
Piano (p)	A dynamic marking meaning soft.
Pitch	The relative highness of lowness of sounds. Discussion of pitch includes the melody and direction of pitch movement and the harmony (different parts).
Pizzicato	A technique used by string players where the sound is made by plucking the string rather than bowing it.

Program music	Music which is inspired by a story, character, place or atmosphere i.e., it is inspired by a non-musical program.
Sequence	A pattern that repeats at a higher or lower pitch.
Sforzando piano (sfp)	To accent the start of the note loudly, then become suddenly soft.
Soundscape	Compositions of organised sounds which are describe a scene of a place.
Staccato	Playing a note so that it sounds short and detached.
Structure (form)	The plan underlying the construction or the design of a piece of music. Structure relates to the ways in which sections of music sound similar or different.
Texture	The layers of sound in a piece of music.
Timbre/Tone Colour	The particular features of a sound which distinguish one sound (instrument or singer) from another.
Tuned and Untuned percussion	Tuned percussion refers to percussion instruments which play specific pitches such as xylophones. Untuned percussion instruments include shakers, triangles and other instruments with no definable pitch.

Prologue b. 1 - 48

Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story"

Prologue LEONARD BERNSTEIN Allegro moderato (J. = 128) Flutes _molto __ Piccolo - molto Oboes - molto English Horn molto Clarinet in E molto Clarinets in Bb s#z = molto Bass Clarinet in Bb - molto Alto Saxophone in E molto sffz _ molto _ s#z Contrabassoon (nonchalant)
con sord. Horns in F molto s ff z __ molto Trumpets in Bb s#z _ molto molto Trombones molto sffz Tuba Choke Cymbals with sticks Bongos sounds as written Xylophone s#z Piano Harp S**f**Fz Allegro moderato (-= 128) (nonchalant) marc. pizz. div Violin I sffz molto Violin II sffz molto Viola molto Violoncello molto Contrabass

sff2



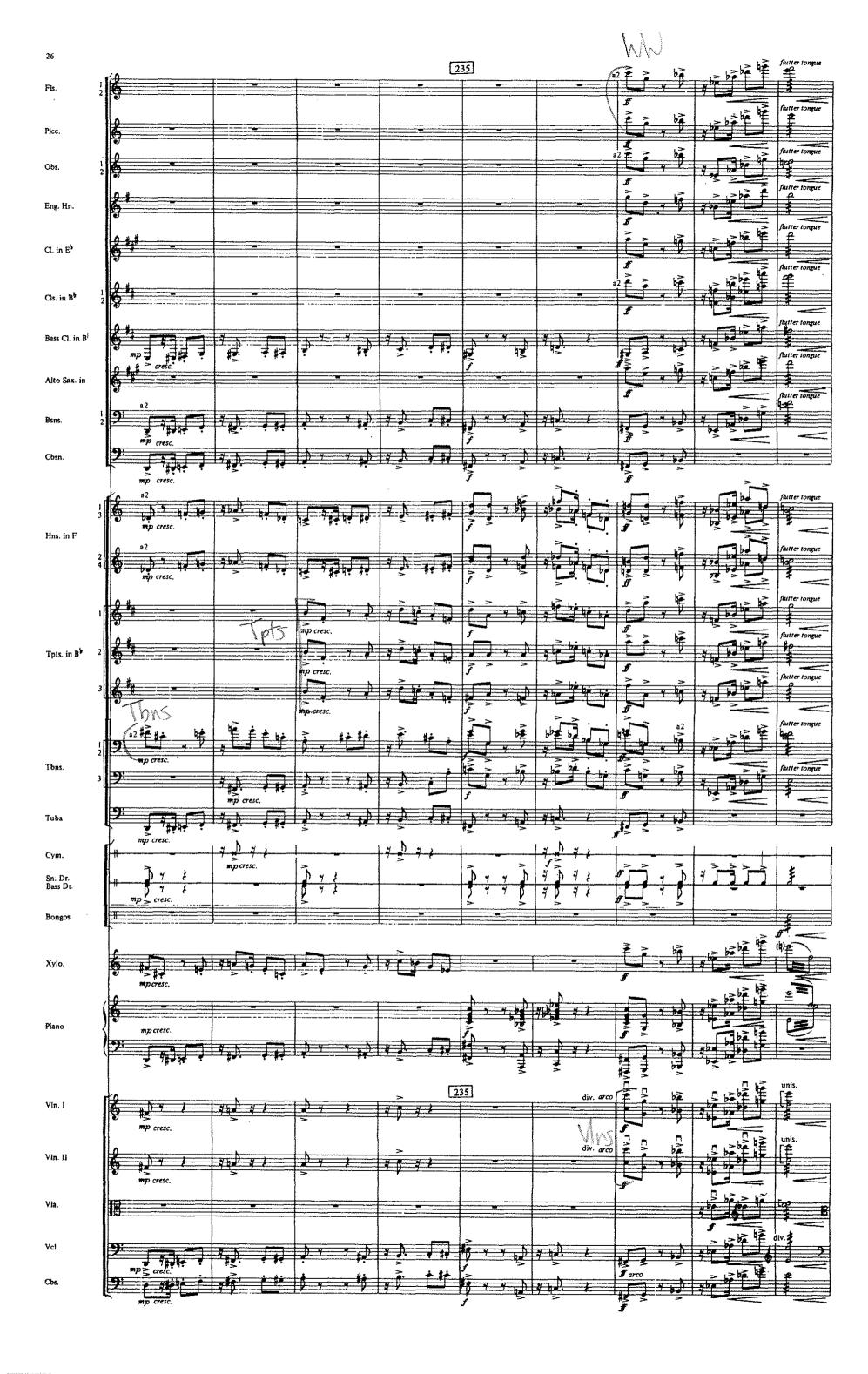












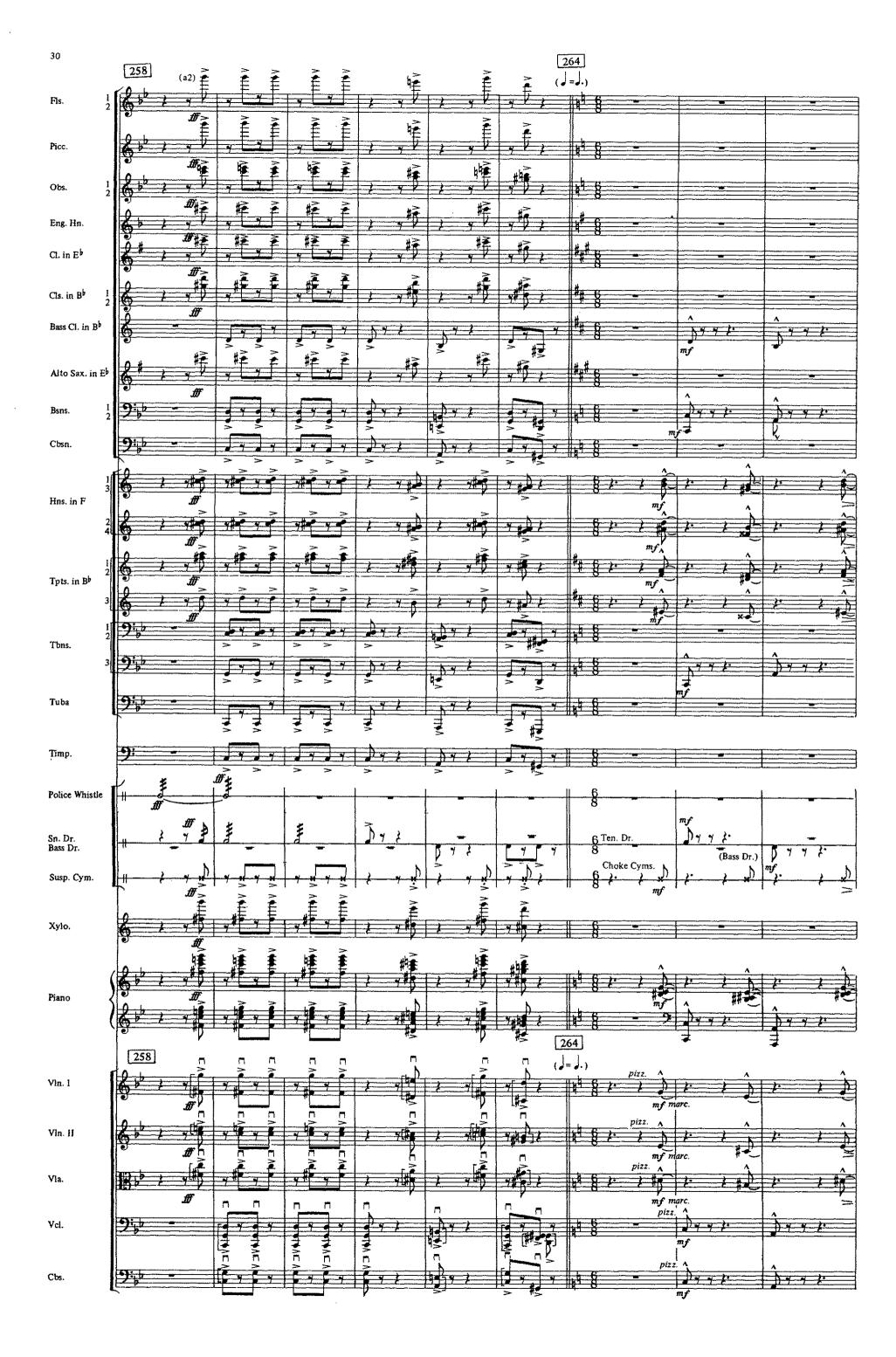


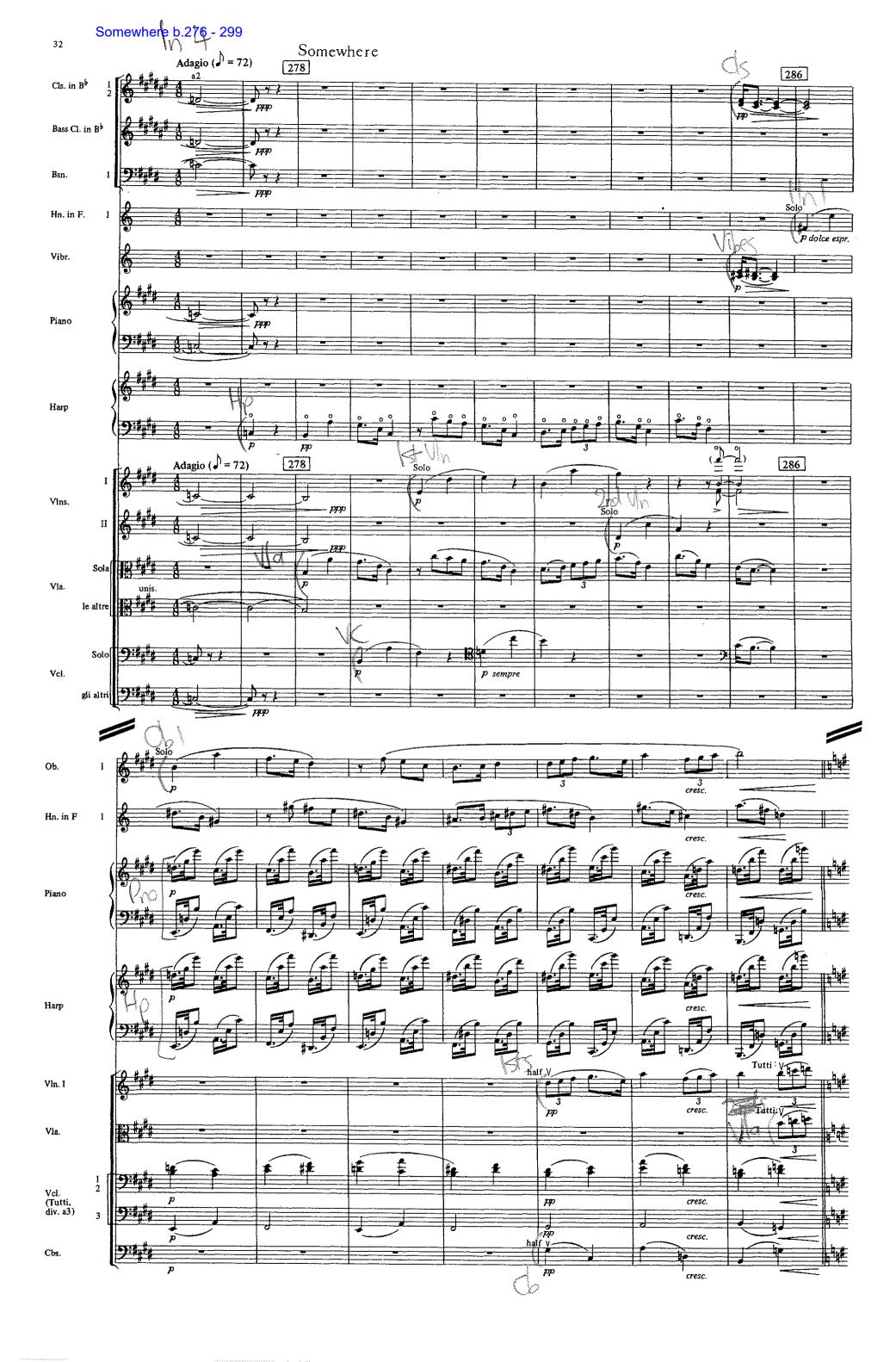








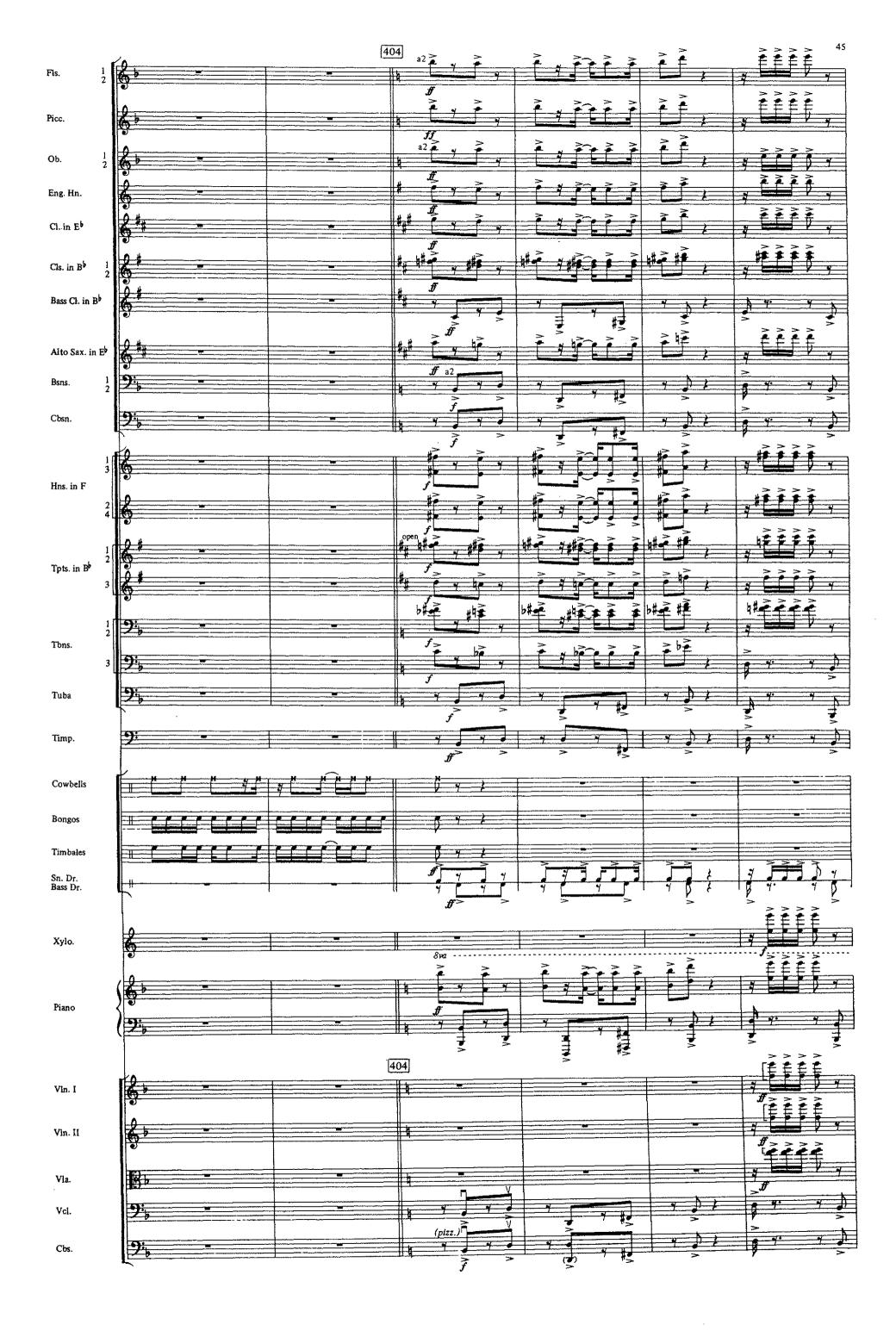


















Mambo b. 508 - 541







