
Music Lab

Unit Four: Setting A Lyric — Vocabulary

AABA Form	Common song form using three similar quatrains and one that is different
Authentic Cadence	Harmonic motion from the dominant to the tonic
B Section	The section of the song that provides variety, also known as the bridge
Ballade	A type of music theatre song which focuses on high emotion
Bridge	The B section of a song form and provides a contrast to the A sections
Charm Song	A type of music theatre song which moves along at a steady pace
Coda	An extension or final small section in a song
Comedy Song	A type of music theatre song where the focus is more on the lyric humor
Couplet	Two lines of lyric or poetry together
Climax	The peak of a musical phrase, quatrain, or song
Extension	Similar to a coda, an extension often prolongs the final harmony
Feel	The rhythmic groove of the music
Female Endings	Syllabic endings where an accent is on the penultimate syllable at the end of a line
Foot Level	Focusing on stress within an iambic foot
Half Cadence	Harmonic motion from the tonic to the dominant
Hook	The phrase — music and lyric — which sticks in the listener's mind
Iambic	A type of poetic foot where there are two syllables: one weak — one strong
Imperfect Authentic Cadence	Harmonic motion from the dominant to the tonic with 'Do' present in bass, but not the melody
Line Level	Considering the shape and stress of a full line of text
Male Endings	Syllabic endings where an accent is on the final syllable at the end of a line
Meter	The organization of the pulse or beat upon which the song is based
Motive	A musical idea that is stated then developed further
Musical Scene	A type of music theatre song that encompasses the action of an entire scene
Phrase Shape	The rising (or falling) of a lyric line and/or its musical setting
Poetic Foot	A lingual measurement consisting of two syllables together
Prosody	Matching the stress of the lyric with the stress in the musical setting
Rhyme	Different words that <i>sound</i> the same at their ends
Quatrain	Four lines of poetry that belong together as a stanza
Stanza	Four or more lines of poetry that belong together and follow the same stress as other stanzas
Stress	Which syllable and note that gets weight or is emphasized within a song
Strong Syllable	A portion of a word (or potentially the entire word) which receives emphasis
Tag	A coda or extension at the end of a song, often following a deceptive cadence
Time Signature	The organization of the meter into groups of duple or triple
Weak Syllable	A portion of a word (or potentially the entire word) which <i>does not</i> receive emphasis