Sample assessment 2020

Stimulus book

Music



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Stimulus 1

Der Erlkönig by Franz Schubert

Read and listen to Stimulus 1 (length: 3 minutes and 41 seconds).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bp4S4ee-t14

Contextual information

Der Erlkönig was composed by Franz Schubert in 1815 and is based on a poem about a creature known as the Erlking (or elf king), which haunts the forest, enticing children away from the safety of their homes, ultimately leading them to their deaths. *Der Erlkönig* tells the story of a father and son riding home on horseback at night. The son is sick with a fever and believes that he sees and hears the Erlking.

Schubert composed the song for a solo voice and a piano. Four characters in the song — the narrator, the father, the son and the Erlking — are sung by the solo vocalist. The fifth character — the horse — is characterised by the piano part.

Lyrics

Source: Goethe, J 1782 (lyrics); Lizst, F 1918 (translation)

(German)

Narrator

Wer reitet so spät durch Nacht und Wind? Es ist der Vater mit seinem Kind; er hat den Knaben wohl in dem Arm, Er fasst ihn sicher, er hält ihn warm.

Father

"Mein Sohn, was birgst du so bang dein Gesicht?"

Son

,Siehst, Vater, du den Erlkönig nicht? den Erlenkönig mit Kron, und Schweif?'

Father

"Mein Sohn, es ist ein Nebelstreif."

Erlking

,Du liebes Kind, komm, geh' mit mir! gar schöne Spiele spiel' ich mit dir; manch' bunte Blumen sind an dem Strand, Meine Mutter hat manch gülden Gewand.'

(English translation)

Narrator Who rides there so late through night so wild? A loving father with his young child; He clasp'd his boy close with his fond arm, And closer, closer to keep him warm.

Father

'Dear son, what makes thy sweet face grow so white?'

Son

'See, father, 'tis the Erlking in sight! The Erlking stands there with crown and shroud!'

Father

'Dear son, it is some misty cloud.'

Erlking

'Thou dearest boy, wilt come with me? And many games I'll play with thee; Where varied blossoms grow on the wold, And my mother hath many a robe of gold.'

Son

,Mein Vater, mein Vater, und hörest du nicht, was Erlenkönig mir leise verspricht?'

Father

,Sei ruhig, bleibe ruhig, mein Kind; in dürren Blattern säuselt der Wind.'

Erlking

,Willst, feiner Knabe, du mit mir gehn? meine Töchter sollen dich warten schön; meine Töchter führen den nächtlichen Reihn und wiegen und tanzen und singen dich ein, sie wiegen und tanzen und singen dich ein.'

Son

,Mein Vater, mein Vater, und siehst du nicht dort Erlkönigs Töchter am düstern Ort?'

Father

,Mein Sohn, mein Sohn, ich seh' es genau: es scheinen die alten Weiden so grau.'

Erlking

,Ich liebe dich, mich reizt deine schöne Gestalt, und bist du nicht willig, so brauch' ich Gewalt.'

Son

,Mein Vater, mein Vater, jetzt fasst er mich an! Erlkönig hat mir ein Leid's gethan!'

Narrator

Dem Vater grauset's; er reitet geschwind, er hält in Armen das ächzende Kind, erreicht den Hof mit Müh' und Noth; in seinen Armen das Kind war todt.

Son

'Dear father, my father, say, did'st thou not hear The Erlking whisper so low in mine ear?'

Father

'Be tranquil, then, be tranquil, my child; 'Mong wither'd leaves the wind bloweth wild.'

Erlking

'Wilt come, proud boy, wilt thou come with me? Where my beauteous daughter doth wait for thee; With my daughter thou'lt join in the dance ev'ry night, She'll lull thee with sweet songs to give thee delight, And lull thee with sweet songs to give thee delight.'

Son

'Dear father, my father, And can'st thou not trace The Erlking's daughter in yon dark place?'

Father

'Dear son, dear son, the form you there see, Is only a hollow grey willow tree.'

Erlking

'I love thee well, with me thou shalt ride on my course, And if thou'rt unwilling, I seize thee by force!'

Son

'Oh father! My father! thy child closer clasp, Erlking hath sei'zd me with icy grasp!'

Narrator

His father shudder'd, His pace grew more wild, He held to his bosom his poor swooning child; He reach'd that house with toil and dread, But in his arms, lo! his child lay dead!

Score

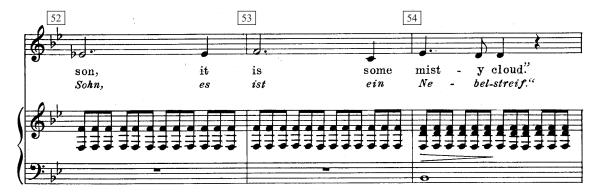
Source: Schubert, F 1815

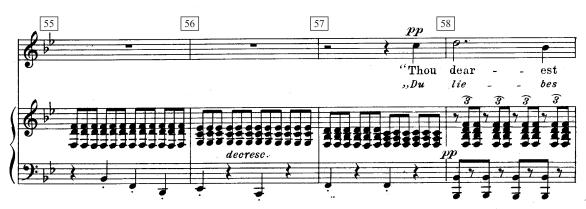




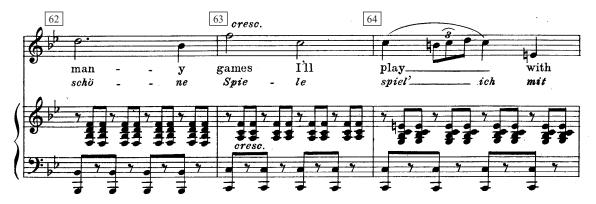












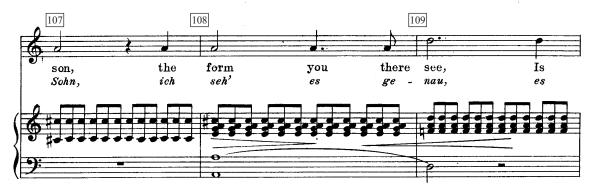


















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– Public use –





Stimulus 2

Excerpt from Forrest Gump Main Title (Feather Theme) by Alan Silvestri

Read and listen to Stimulus 2 (length: 2 minutes and 01 second).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOvuwNyhcqI

Contextual information

Feather Theme was composed by Alan Silvestri in 1994 for the film *Forrest Gump*. The film is centred on the character of Forrest Gump, who tells his life story to the strangers sitting next to him at the bus stop. As the film opens, a single feather floats down lazily from the sky, effortlessly changing direction with the wind as it finds its way to the ground, coming to rest against Forrest Gump's sneaker.

Stimulus 3

Bapa by Dr G Yunupingu

Read and listen to Stimulus 3 (length: 2 minutes and 34 seconds).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKC-Jd7KN64

Contextual information

Dr G Yunupingu was born in Galiwin'ku, Elcho Island¹ in 1971 and was an Aboriginal musician. He was born blind. Although he was left-handed, he learnt to play the right-handed guitar by holding it upside down. His songs are written in the Yolngu language and English. His music focuses on Aboriginal themes of connection with land, identity and spirit. The song *Bapa*² was written after his father's death and conveys Dr G Yunupingu's personal journey of dealing with his grief after the loss of his father.

¹ Elcho Island is located at the southern end of the Wessel Islands group, which is approximately 150 kilometres north-west of Nhulunbuy and 550 kilometres north-east of Darwin

^{2 &#}x27;father' in the Yolngu language

References

- Schubert, F 1815, Der Erlkönig, D 328 (Op. 1) (vocal score), JW Goethe (poem), F Liszt (trans.), in La Mejor Musica del Mundo: Edicion Filarmonica Revisada Y Ampliada, vol. 7, The University Society Inc., 1918, New York, accessed via http://artsongcentral.com/2007/schubert-erlkonig.
- Silvestri, A 1994, *Forrest Gump Main Title (Feather Theme)* (notated music, bars 1–53), P Lavender (ed.), Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC.

Yunupingu, G 2008, Bapa, Sony/ATV Music Publishing (Aust) Pty Ltd.

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