Style composition Basic Crib

Use the **WCT Style Composition** Hub as a reference point when you are composing (there is a link to this on the home page of www.alevelmusic.com).

First write your **basic idea** (see link on the WCT Style Composition Hub). Make sure you have used the simple harmonies suggested and written a rhythm that is simple but has one interesting feature (not a weird syncopation or sudden run of demisemiquavers!)

Check that you have thought properly about:
- Tempo
- Articulation and Dynamics
- Range of your instrument and its qualities in different parts of the range

Use an idiomatic **phrase structure** to expand your basic idea.
You should use the models outlined on the link on the WCT Composition Hub. As you get more experienced, you can adapt and expand these models. Early attempts should follow either a sentence or period structure.

Ensure that your **cadence** follows a standard model as outlined on the hub. Note that cadences will be stronger and more emphatic if …

- they land on the first beat of the bar
- they finish on the root note of the final chord
- they are in root position
- the arrival note lasts longer than previous rhythms / chords
- the harmonic rhythm often speeds up into cadences

Before you go any further check carefully the following:

- Dissonance treatment (link on checklist on Hub)
- Voice-leading (link on top right of Hub)
- Harmonic DOs and DON'Ts (link on top left of Hub)

The final step is adding is clothing your melody in an idiomatic **texture**. WCT composers know much more about writing typical Classical textures that most students so STEAL THEIR IDEAS! Find a texture and copy it as closely as possible.

There are loads of textures on A level music and you can find your own from Moodle or the wider world of the IMSLP ….