

# Year 8 – Song Writing– Knowledge Organiser



A songwriter is an individual who writes the lyrics, melodies and chord progressions for songs. Sometimes a songwriter will not perform their songs but instead will write them for other famous artists. The pressure from the music industry to produce popular hits means that song writing is often an activity for which is distributed between a number of people.

1. Key Words	
<b>Chord</b>	A group of two or more notes played at the same time. They do not normally clash.
<b>Melody</b>	In a song the melody is the tune that the lead vocalist sings.
<b>Lyrics</b>	The words to a song.
<b>Riff</b>	A repeated melody, rhythm or chord pattern. Normally the most recognisable part of the song.
<b>Structure</b>	The order of sections within a song. Example: Verse, Chorus.
<b>Homophonic</b>	Refers to the texture of a song – generally meaning there is a melody part accompanied by chords.
<b>Accompaniment</b>	Backing part which supports the melody/tune .

2. Song Structure	
<b>Verse</b>	The verse is what sets the scene of a song and usually tells a story. The melody will stay the same but the words may change between each verse.
<b>Chorus</b>	The main hook of the song, usually the part that gets stuck in your head! The lyrics are usually the same in every chorus of a song.
<b>Bridge</b>	A linking section normally used between a verse and chorus section.
<b>Middle 8</b>	8 bars in the middle of a song that sounds completely different to the rest of the song.
<b>Intro/Outro</b>	The beginning/ending section of a song.
<b>Solo</b>	A section of the song where the main melody isn't provided by the voice. This is usually played by an electric guitar.

Chord	Keyboard	Ukulele	Notes
<b>C</b>			<b>C E G</b>
<b>F</b>			<b>F A C</b>
<b>G</b>			<b>G B D</b>
<b>Am</b>			<b>A C E</b>

Try listening to some pop music whilst doing your homework!