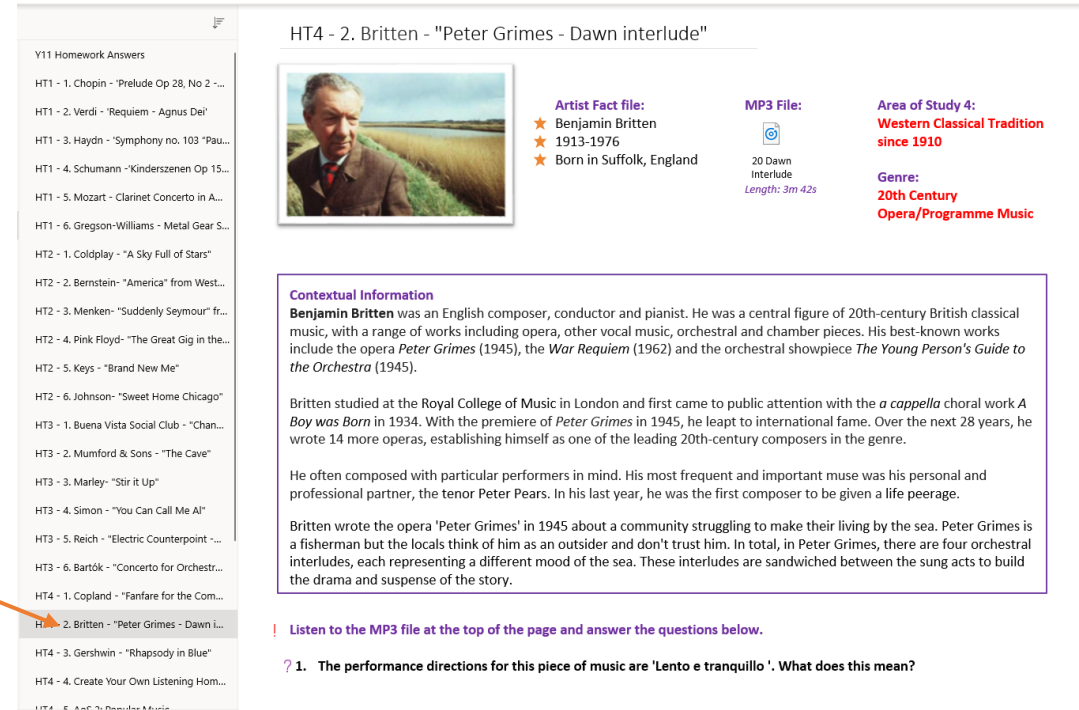


Year 11 GCSE Music Home Learning – HT4, Lesson 2

- Go to your class notebook (if you don't know how to access it from home, watch this short screencastify: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OqIYaH1vstneTc1_aJJYaWK1WS6SHzrC/view)
- Click on your name – home learning
- Complete task “HT4 - 2. Britten - "Peter Grimes - Dawn interlude””



The screenshot shows a music resource page for Benjamin Britten's "Peter Grimes - Dawn interlude". On the left is a sidebar with a list of homework answers, where "HT4 - 2. Britten - 'Peter Grimes - Dawn interlude'" is highlighted. The main content area includes a portrait of Britten, an "Artist Fact file" (1913-1976, born in Suffolk, England), an "MP3 File" (20 Dawn Interlude, 3m 42s), and "Area of Study 4: Western Classical Tradition since 1910" and "Genre: 20th Century Opera/Programme Music". A "Contextual Information" box provides background on Britten's life and the opera. At the bottom, there are instructions to listen to the MP3 file and answer questions.

HT4 - 2. Britten - "Peter Grimes - Dawn interlude"

Artist Fact file:

- ★ Benjamin Britten
- ★ 1913-1976
- ★ Born in Suffolk, England

MP3 File:

20 Dawn Interlude
Length: 3m 42s

Area of Study 4:
Western Classical Tradition since 1910

Genre:
20th Century
Opera/Programme Music

Contextual Information

Benjamin Britten was an English composer, conductor and pianist. He was a central figure of 20th-century British classical music, with a range of works including opera, other vocal music, orchestral and chamber pieces. His best-known works include the opera *Peter Grimes* (1945), the *War Requiem* (1962) and the orchestral showpiece *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* (1945).

Britten studied at the Royal College of Music in London and first came to public attention with the *a cappella* choral work *A Boy was Born* in 1934. With the premiere of *Peter Grimes* in 1945, he leapt to international fame. Over the next 28 years, he wrote 14 more operas, establishing himself as one of the leading 20th-century composers in the genre.

He often composed with particular performers in mind. His most frequent and important muse was his personal and professional partner, the tenor Peter Pears. In his last year, he was the first composer to be given a life peerage.

Britten wrote the opera 'Peter Grimes' in 1945 about a community struggling to make their living by the sea. Peter Grimes is a fisherman but the locals think of him as an outsider and don't trust him. In total, in Peter Grimes, there are four orchestral interludes, each representing a different mood of the sea. These interludes are sandwiched between the sung acts to build the drama and suspense of the story.

! Listen to the MP3 file at the top of the page and answer the questions below.

? 1. The performance directions for this piece of music are 'Lento e tranquillo'. What does this mean?