

Junior Listening Diary

Name of the piece (if known): _____

Name of the performer or composer: _____

What style of music do you think it is: _____

What instruments can you hear?

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What do you think are the interesting features of this piece?

What was your favourite thing about this piece?

Write your review of this piece:

Rating: _____



Big Ears



Listening to the great players on your instrument is one of the best things you can do as a musician and one of the fastest ways to improve your playing. Back in the day, jazz musicians listened and talked about music and musicians almost all the time. Many jazz musicians are renowned for name dropping. This is because they listen to the great players and attempt to copy them. These days very few musicians spend much time listening to others who play their instrument.

Guitarists do! They have their favorite guitar hero (person, not the game) and they listen to them play. They also sit on the bed with the stereo playing loudly and copy their heroes' solos. They even know their guitar and amp settings as well.

Listening to the best of the best on your instrument is the very best way to improve your playing. The aim is not that you end up sounding like another player, but taking the best of what that player can do, mixing it with the best of what some other players can do and hopefully ending up better than all of them! The best way to learn what these experts know is not to read a book or even go to a lecture. It is to copy their technique and style.

Tasks:

1) List 3 top players on your instrument and say why you chose them. You may need to talk to your teacher or do some research. Try and cover a range of styles.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2) Listen to a piece from each of the above and write a detailed review on a separate piece of paper.

3) For each of your 3 great players, name one skill on your instrument that they can do better than you and how you could practise that skill.

A) _____

b) _____

c) _____
