

Musical style: Ballads

Ballads are songs which tell a story. They can be in many styles, such as pop and musical theatre and were used in ancient times to carry news and legends across countries.



Vocabulary

Ballad	A song which tells a story - similar to a poem.
Compose	To create an original piece of music.
Stanza	A short section of text, sometimes known as a verse in a song or poem.
Solo	Performing alone.
Ensemble	A small group of musicians who perform together.
Expression	Making your thoughts or feelings known when reading, singing or performing.
Lyrics	The words in a song.
Chorus	Repeated section of music with the same tune and lyrics.
Nonsense words	Words which have no meaning and are often used for filling time in songs - e.g. 'la', 'do', 'oooh'.

What else do I know?

Story mountain

Ballads tell a story and usually have a similar structure to stories.



OPENING - Describes the setting, introduces the characters.

BUILD UP - Excitement and tension grows, gives emotion.

CLIMAX - Major dilemma.

RESOLUTION - Characters find a route through their difficulties.

ENDING - Happily ever after.