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| **Lesson Title:** improvisation basics | **Lesson no:** 1/5 |
| **Organisation of learning:**  Large screen, PC for playing video, instruments for students (including at least one chordal instrument e.g. keyboard or guitar) | |
| **Learning objectives**   * Introduce the idea of improvising using notes that either harmonise or clash with an accompaniment * Introduce the idea of playing rhythmically over the accompaniment, grouping notes into either 3s or 4s | **Intended learning outcomes**   * The ability to play a basic arpeggiated pattern over a chord (e.g. arpeggio of C major over the chord of C major) in steady rhythm * The ability to introduce some clashing notes into the above pattern and decide whether said additions are musically appropriate |
| **Introduction**   * Teacher asks class “what is improvisation”? * Teacher asks class to name some examples of musical situations that involve improvisation. Optional – teacher can show some video/audio examples of improvisation e.g. a personal favourite solo from a jazz or rock performance * Watch Stage 1 video up to 3:43   **Development part 1**   * Teacher demonstrates the idea of playing the notes C, E and G over a chord of C major. Can be done on a keyboard either alone or with a more competent student assisting the demonstration on their own instrument. * Students come up with two patterns over a chord of C major; one in groups of 3 and one in groups of 4. Can choose from the notes C, E and G in one *or multiple* octaves. Emphasis on reliable, confident rhythm.   Can either be done alone on a keyboard or with students pairing up (one playing chords on keyboard/guitar and the other soloing) and switching roles halfway through the exercise.  **Development part 2**   * Watch Stage 1 video from 3:43 to end. * Students adapt their patterns to include at least one note outside of the C major arpeggio. | |
| **Extension**  More advanced students can try this over an entire chord progression e.g. the one shown in the video, or a 12 bar blues pattern. | |
| **Assessment**  Confident students can demonstrate their pattern to the rest of the class, either alone or accompanied by a classmate or the teacher. | |
| **Homework**  Find simple backing tracks on YouTube or elsewhere to improvise over, using the techniques outlined in this lesson. | |