Hello etc. IH Rome, other seminars later in year and 50th birthday. Please don’t worry too much about talking notes as there are handouts. All material will be on the school wikispace address at the end.

According to experts people have a real need to listen to music for three reasons. First - It helps us remember important moments in the past. Secondly – Music helps us if we need to change into a different task, e.g. getting ready to go out, do the ironing etc. Third – Music helps us intensify our feelings, if we are happy we’ll listen to ‘happy music, sad, we listen to music that makes us sadder.

Personally I have been teaching using classical music for years – Little Silvia hyperactive child story

Lucky to be born in 50s when music wasn’t so divided and sectioned like today. We are surrounded by classical music even though we may not know it, TV ads, films etc. Do you know the answer to this question? The Naxos site is great for finding out about classical music and buying/downloading it.

You’ll have examples in your handouts. Using classical music you can build lessons over a long period of time. Introduce lots of other elements such as nationalities, historical periods, the politics of music etc.
Listen to this piece of music

- What’s it called?
- Who wrote it?
- Which country is he from?
- What do you know about him?
- What does the music make you think of?
- Do you like it? Why / why not?

Italians are lucky as they have a cultural heritage of classical music.
One way to get SS involved is to do the usually Q & A but lift the challenge a little by having different questions they can ask and get them to invent the questions first.

Listen to this piece of music

- What’s it called? Le Quattro Stagione
- Who wrote it? Vivaldi
- Which country is he from? Italy
- What do you know about him? ??
- What does the music make you think of?
- Do you like it? Why / why not? ??

Were you right?
What is his first name?
Where exactly was he from? Venice!
March 4th 1678
www.ask.com
Let’s see how much you already know about non-Italian composers.

What’s in a name?

Match the composers & their first names?

- Wolfgang Amadeus
- Johann Sebastian
- Richard
- Georg Friedrich
- Aaron
- Gaetano
- Ralph Vaughan
- Jean
- Ludwig Van

- Bach
- Donizetti
- Williams
- Strauss
- Beethoven
- Sibelius
- Mozart
- Copland
- Handel

Where are they from?
When were they born?
Do you know them all?
Who might you like to find out more about?
Where are they from?

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart          Austria
Johann Sebastian Bach             Germany
Aaron Copland                    The USA
Richard Strauss                   Germany
Gaetano Donizetti                 Italy
Ralph Vaughan Williams            The UK
Georg Friedrich Handel            Germany
Jean Sibelius                     Finland
Ludwig Van Beethoven              Germany

How many are women? NONE!!!
Maybe our classical music lessons could right that wrong.

Often in course books you find activities which ask you to listen to pieces of music and say I like that, I don’t like that but they don’t often give you words to help say why.
Let’s look at the next task.

Which of the following words do you know for describing music?

tr.c...s f.nt.st.c j.rr.ng
w.ok.d m.i.d.c h.rm.n.c
w.s.m. d.ghtf.i m.v.ng
h.v.nly d.sc.rd.nt tr.shy
r.i.x.ng c.c.ph.n..s c.i
m.nd bl.w.ng s..th.ng h.rsh

Which ones might not be suitable when talking about classical music?

These are all adjectives to describe what you might say about a piece of music. The vowels are missing. Can you do the first six?
Which ones might not be good for talking about classical music?
It depends how old you are!!!

Check your spelling!

atrocious    fantastic    jarring
wicked       melodic      harmonic
awesome       delightful   moving
heavenly      discordant  trashy
relaxing      cacaphonous cool
mind blowing  soothing    harsh

Were you right?

These words can be used as parts of language chunks
What other kind of chunks can you use to talk about music when you listen to it??

We can use these words with expressions like:
It was (so)… That was … I found it really …
What kind of language ‘chunks’ do we use to talk about music?

- I felt like I was …ing near/by a ………
- It reminded me of ……….. 
- I really like the bit where it ………….. 
- I got such a shock when it……….. 
- It didn’t really do anything for me.
- It was a bit of a surprise, especially when...
- Didn’t it make you think of ……..?

These are other chunks that can help you talk about what you listen to.
So now enough talk, let’s do some listening.

Do you know this composer?
Aaron Copland

Who is this composer?
In which period did he write?
Let’s listen to some of his music as you do try to guess where he’s from.
Can you use the new words and language chunks as you listen?
What does the music remind you of?
What would you call the piece?

Copland was called an American hero, read and find out why?

Fill in the timeline about his life

[Fill in the timeline]

Look at his biography and answer the first question.
Then with a partner fill in either the numbers in the top row or bottom row.
What do you think the music is called?
Appalachian Spring

- The music was originally written for a ballet.
- It was written in 1945.
- Copland originally called it 'The bridge'.
- It is about the season of spring in the hills.
- Copland 'borrowed' other music into it.
- It is divided into nine sections.
- The original piece had fourteen parts.

Use the info to fill in the second text.
Let the students listen as they do this.

Thanks for participating

Thank you. I hope you enjoyed the session and that you will keep in touch. Ask Silvia and Gaby about the next seminar and please come to our conference after the summer.