

Sticky Knowledge

- ✓ Edward Benjamin Britten was born on 22nd November 1913 and died on 4th December 1976.
- ✓ He was a British composer, conductor and pianist.
- ✓ Britten was a leading British composer in the mid 20th century.
- ✓ He learned to compose as a child. Later he worked as a composer for the radio, theatre and cinema.
- ✓ He wrote an opera called 'Gloriana' in 1953 to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

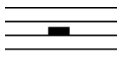
Important facts to know about Britten:

- ✓ Britten's operas were considered the finest English operas since those of Henry Purcell in the 17th Century.
- ✓ He was very sensitive to criticism and often disowned former friends who offended him.
- ✓ Britten lived with another musician called Peter Pears who inspired much of his music.

Notation



Semibreve rest = no sound for 4 beats



Minim rest = no sound for 2 beats



Quaver rest = no sound for $\frac{1}{4}$ beat

Big Idea

Britten was a leading composer in the mid 20th century. He composed *War Requiem*



Vocabulary

syncopation: play rhythms that emphasise the off-beats

Pentatonic scale: a five note musical scale

octave: a range of 8 notes
C D E F G A B C

rounds: a short piece of music where multiple voice sing the same melody but start at different times

The History of Music timeline

