**Lesson Plan Notes**

**Objective:**

Have students collaborate on a short, simple composition assignment in teams of two, where one composes the melody and the other works on the lyrics. This is a great starter assignment if your students are still getting to know Noteflight; it encourages teamwork and gives a bit of framework so that the burden of creating from scratch isn't an issue.

If you want your students to explore formatting options for score layout and adjust the size of their lyrics, title, or names, you can watch this video for tips on how to adjust your text layout settings: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKmSSzONGJQ>.

**Date:**

Great first lesson to use after initial Noteflight Learn login is completed.

**Preparation:**

Complete Noteflight Learn setup. Copy the score titled “‘Mock Band’ - Composing in Teams” to Noteflight Learn site. Access the Connect Panel and save as an activity template that I share with the class with whom I wish to complete the activity.

**Breakdown:**

In Class - Break students into teams of pairs at the end of a class period. Have students begin working on this assignment in the last 5-10 minutes of a class period. Have one student open the score in their Noteflight Learn account, have them change their names from “Student 1” and “Student 2” to their names at the top. Instruct students to listen to the rhythm in the first four measures and start developing ideas of how to adjust the notes to create a melody that they like. Also encourage them to clap rhythms, talk about their favorite lyrics from other songs, or subjects they think would be good for lyrics. Before they leave class, they should decide which student will write the lyrics, and which will write the melody. They should also decide who should do their part FIRST, and who will create their part SECOND.

At Home - One student should adjust the notes to create a unique melody, and the other student should replace the placeholder lyrics with actual lyrics.

Possible extra credit:

1. Change the instrument that will be used for playback from the standard piano.
2. Record themselves singing or playing the melody and lyrics directly in the score.
3. Continue composing beyond the first four measures without a rhythm guide.

In Class - Students present their composition to the class, discuss their process, talk about what worked well and what didn’t, and what they’d like to do next!