**Name:**

**Do now activity**

Answer the following question:

**Recalling your knowledge from last term, can you name two production techniques?**

**1)**

**2)**

**Learning Objectives**

**To know** what tempo means

**To understand** the importance of tempo in a song

**To be able to** discuss tempo in relation to contrasting pieces of music

**Key words**

Musical Elements

Tempo

Speed

BPM

**What is Tempo?**

**Tempo is the speed at which a piece of music is performed**. It is usually measured in beats per minute (bpm) e.g. If a piece of music was 60 bpm, it would have one beat per second.

Tempo is indicated by an Italian term e.g. lento (slowly, 45-60 bpm), andante (walking pace, 76-108 bpm), allegro (fast, quickly, 102-110 bpm).

**Starter Activity**

Before you do any writing, **listen to both of your songs** again.

**Main activity**

You now need to discuss the tempo of your chosen songs. You need to write approximately 150 words (75 words each song).

* What tempo is your song/piece of music (Find out the beats per minute of your music)

e.g. The country song ‘Jolene’ has a tempo of 111 bpm. In Italian terms this would be classified as ‘moderato’ (medium speed).

* Can you name another piece of music/song from this genre with a similar tempo?

(If you have chosen a country song, can you find another country song with a similar BPM?)

e.g. Jolene has a similar tempo to the modern country song ‘A Thousand Hallelujahs’ by The Shires, which has a tempo of 109 bpm.

* What ‘feel’ does the tempo give the song and how would this change if the song was faster/slower? Does the tempo suit the overall message of the song?

e.g. The upbeat tempo of Jolene gives it a feeling of urgency. The writer, Dolly Parton, was trying to send a warning message to another woman, so this seems fitting with the pace of the song. Had the song been played at a slower, more laid-back tempo, it may have lost that feeling of importance.

* How does the tempo differ to that of a contrasting genre (style) of music? (e.g. blues or dance music) Can you find an example of a song from one of those genres?

Song 1:

Song 2: