

### Step 4: creating musical ideas

You are now ready to start working on your musical ideas. Away from a musical instrument, visualise each cue in your head and the feelings of the people involved in it and then try to think of an appropriate musical idea. Describe this in words, for example 'slow, descending string melody accompanied by minor chords'. Whatever you think of in your head, be it the first notes of a melody, an idea texture or just a particular instrumental colour, will serve as a useful starting point.

Cue no.	Musical ideas

### The first cue

Let's look at how we might approach the travellers' theme. Try to visualise as much about the scene as you can. What does the landscape look like? What is the weather like? How many travellers are there, and what is the make-up of the group? How well do they look? How fast are they moving? What are they carrying? What are they thinking?

Here is a possible idea to open this scene:

This solo phrase, with its slow tempo, descending shape and mournful sound of the oboe, could convey a sense of loneliness and despair. Does it have to be an oboe? Using software, compare this sound with that of a recorder, a piano, a trumpet and an electric guitar. How do the different sounds affect the mood?

