

Musithink 104 Frère Jacques Working out the pitch of the last pattern

You'll learn how the pitch numbering works below note 1

You need a pen or pencil.

This activity requires an understanding of the concept of an octave. If that's not clear to you, work through Musiknowledge 101 first.

1. Answers to the questions in Musithink 103:

The note for "dor" is the same as the note for "Jac".

The notes for "dormez vous" go up by step.

You've used 5 different pitches so far.

The note for "son" is the same as the note for "vous".

The notes for "sonnez les matines" go up then down by step and finish with a jump – the same as the jump for "Jac-ques".

You've used 6 different pitches so far.

1	2	3	1	3	4	5	5	6	5	4	3	1
Frè - re	Jac - ques	dor - mez	vous	son - nez	les	ma - ti - nes						

2. Now it's time to work out the pitches for the last pattern: "ding, dang, dong"

Which number note does the pattern begin on?

Which number note does the pattern end on?

Does the middle note go up or down, by step or by jump?

3. You'll notice the ladder has got more rungs now. That's to allow you to sort out the note for "dang". Number the top rung 8, and work your way down to 1. You've some spare rungs underneath.

4. The middle note, for "dang" jumps below note 1. Sing down the scale from note no.1. How many extra rungs do you need to get to the note for "dang"?

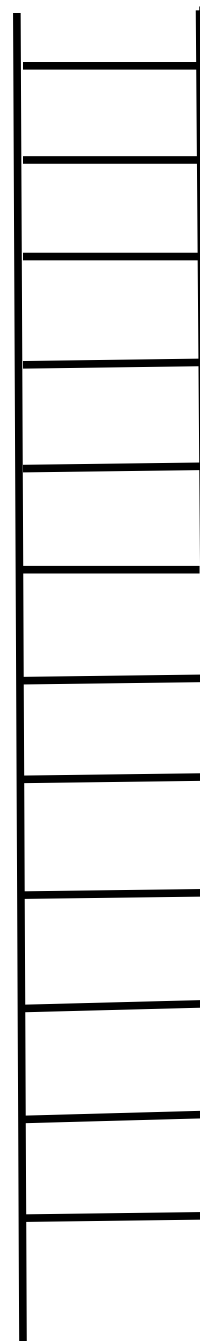
5. In music you only need to count up a scale as far as 8. If you're going to carry on up, you actually only need to count as far as 7, because note 8 is the same as note 1 an octave higher.

6. This means the rung underneath no.1 is 7 and the one under that is 6 and so on. Label the lower rungs.

The note for "dang" is on the low rung you've labelled 5. If you don't agree with this, check your numbering (from bottom to top it should be 4, 5, 6, 7, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8/1). If your numbering is correct, check again the jump between "ding" and "dang" by counting the rungs between them.

7. The pitch numbers for the whole tune are:

1	2	3	1	3	4	5	5	6	5	4	3	1	1	low	5	1
Frè-re	Jac-ques	dor-mez	vous	son-nez	les	ma-ti-nes	ding	dang	dong							



Well done, you've worked out the pitch pattern for the whole tune!