

Checklist for Microcomputer Courseware

Program Name: Fling the Teacher

Vendor/Author: Ms. K. Garrett

Subject Area: Music Theory

Grade Level: 6th – 12th

Instructional Integrity

- | | Yes | No |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Is the content relevant to the instructional needs of the students? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 2. Is the program organized and presented in a sequential manner and in appropriate developmental steps? | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |
| 3. Is the content presented clearly? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 4. Are the use of graphics, sound, and color appropriate? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 5. Does the program provide meaningful interaction for the students? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 6. Does the program provide for used self-pacing? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 7. Does the material require the purchase of accompanying printed material, or is it self-sufficient?.... | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |
| 8. Does the material provide direct instruction? | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |
| 9. Does the material provide immediate feedback? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 10. Does the material provide a variety of built-in reinforcements? | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |

Technical Adequacy and Utility

- | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Are the teacher's instructions well organized, useful, and easy to understand? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 2. Does material require extensive preparation or training on the teacher's part? | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |
| 3. Is the material of high quality? | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |
| 4. Is the size of the print clear and well spaced?..... | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 5. Does the speed of presentation match individual learning styles? | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 6. Does the student need typing skills to use the program? | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |
| 7. Is it "kid-proof?" | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 8. Can a student use the program without supervision?..... | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |
| 9. Is a printout of student performance available, if desired? | <u> </u> | <u>X</u> |
| 10. Can the program be used in a regular classroom, resource room, media center, agency, or institution?..... | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> |

Date 09/15/2010

Evaluator Benjamin Mattson

Open-ended Courseware Evaluation

Program Name: Garageband

Vendor/Author: Apple

Subject Area: Music Technology/Production

Grade Level: 6-12, Higher Ed.

1. How appropriate is computer use for this activity?

Very appropriate. Program is designed to utilize the computer for music recording and production.

2. Are the goals of the program clear? (What are they?)

The main goal of the program is provide a simple, streamlined, interface for audio production. The software is very flexible and is suitable for various academic applications.

3. Does the activity in the program focus on these goals?

Yes. All activities performed within the program are focused on the goal of audio production.

4. Are the instructions clear? (If not, why?)

Video tutorials provided by Apple provide quick references to some of the more complex operations in Garageband. The instructions are simple and the video guides make it easy to dive into the program with little previous experience. More detailed instructions provided in the Garageband help menu provide quick access to more complex issues.

5. Is content relevant to instructional needs of students Why or why not?

When used as supplemental material Garageband provides relevant content. Topics covered in a music class can be practiced and applied within the software.

6. How well is the program organized and presented in a sequential manner and in appropriate developmental steps?

The program has an open ended design. Students at different stages of ability can use the software at satisfactory levels.

7. How does the program respond to input mistakes?

Set procedures must be followed to ready the software for student input. If the procedures aren't followed correctly the student will be unable to use the software properly.

8. How appropriately is reinforcement used?

Students receive immediate feedback on their performance.

9. Does the program provide for user self-pacing? Yes X No

10. Is a printout of student performance available if desired? Yes No X

11. What is your overall evaluation of program?

As a music educator I can see the potential for this technology in the classroom. It's easy-to-use design makes it a viable technology, appropriate for students in middle school, high school, and higher education. The program's flexibility allows it to be used in various situations that will reinforce concepts, provide feedback, and measure student progress.

Date 09/25/2010 Evaluator Benjamin Mattson

Package Title: Masterwriter 2.0
Evaluator Name: Benjamin Mattson

Producer: Barry DeVorzon
Organization: Masterwriter Inc.

Evaluator's Level and Subject Taught: K-12 Music Educator

Date: 10/01/10 Was your evaluation based in part on student use? Yes No

Reviewer Statement of Non-Violation of Copyright

The producer's copyright was respected during this evaluation, and I did not copy any portion of this package. Signature: Benjamin Mattson Date: 10/01/10

SA=Strongly Agree; A=Agree; D= Disagree; SD=Strongly Disagree; NA=Not Applicable

Please include comments on individual items on the reverse page

Content Characteristics (indicate with an x after your selection)

1. SA_ D_ SD_ NA The content is accurate.
2. SA_ D_ SD_ NA The content has educational value.
3. SA A_ D_ SD_ NA The content is free of racial, ethnic, sexual and other stereotypes.

Instructional Characteristics

4. SA A_ D_ SD_ NA The purpose of the package is well-defined.
5. SA A_ D_ SD_ NA The package achieves its defined purpose.
6. SA_ A D_ SD_ NA Presentation of content is clear and logical.
7. SA_ A D_ SD_ NA The level of difficulty is appropriate for the target audience.
8. SA_ A D_ SD_ NA Graphics/color/sound are used for appropriate instructional reasons.
9. SA_ A D_ SD_ NA Use of the package is motivational.
10. SA_ A D_ SD_ NA The package effectively stimulates student creativity.
11. SA_ A_ D SD_ NA Feedback on student responses is effectively employed.
12. SA_ A D_ SD_ NA The learner controls the rate and sequence of presentation and review.
13. SA_ A_ D SD_ NA Instruction is integrated with previous student experience.
14. SA_ A_ D SD_ NA Learning can be generalized to an appropriate range of situations.

Technical Characteristics

15. SA_ A~~x~~ D_ SD_ NA The user support materials are comprehensive.
16. SA_ A~~x~~ D_ SD_ NA The user support materials are effective.
17. SA_ A_ D~~x~~ SD_ NA Information displays are effective.
18. SA_ A~~x~~ D_ SD_ NA Intended users can easily and independently operate the program.
19. SA_ A_ D~~x~~ SD_ NA Teachers can easily employ the package.
20. SA_ A~~x~~ D_ SD_ NA The program appropriately uses relevant computer capabilities.
21. SA_ A~~x~~ D_ SD_ NA The program is reliable in normal use.

Quality

Write a number from 1 (low) to 5 (high) which represents your judgment of the quality of the package in each division:

- _3_ Content Characteristics
2 Instructional Characteristics
3 Technical Characteristics

Recommendations

- _3_ I highly recommend use of this package
4 I would use or recommend use of this package with little or no change (Note suggestions for effective use below)
1 I would use or recommend use of this package only if certain changes are made (Note under Weaknesses or Other Comments)
1 I would not use or recommend this package (Note reasons under weaknesses)

Describe the potential use of this package in classroom settings:

Masterwriter is a creative/inspirational program to aid musicians in the process of song writing. Potentially this software could be used in a Music Theory or Creative Writing type of course.

Estimate the amount of time a student would need to work with the package in order to achieve the objectives: (Can be total time, time per day, time range or other indicator.)

This software is an open ended supplemental aid. Amount of time needed depends on the type of project the student is working on.

Strengths:

Flexibility combined with powerful songwriting tools.

Weaknesses:

A clunky interface which seems temperamental at times.

Other Comments: