

## Ingredients

**Scale** Arabian scale: C D<sup>b</sup> E F G A<sup>b</sup> B C.

**Tempo** Any speed, but often fast (*Allegro* or *Presto*).

**Note values** These should be short – mostly one-beat (crotchet), half-beat (quaver) and quarter-beat (semiquaver) notes. Use half-beat and quarter-beat notes in groups adding up to a whole beat. Use two-beat notes (minims) to end each part of your tune (bars 4 and 8). You may use triplets (three notes played in the time of one beat). To indicate three notes are a triplet, underline them and write a '3' above.

**Pitch** Middle to high range for the tune.

**Parts** Tune, drone, *ostinato* percussion.

**Sounds** Use the oboe for the tune (an Arabic instrument called a shawm is very like our oboe). A shakuhachi also sounds very good. The rhythm should be played by tambourine and/or claves. The drone can be played low in the bass, eg on the bassoon.

**Triads**

CEG	D <sup>b</sup> FA <sup>b</sup>	EGB	FA <sup>b</sup> C	GBD <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup> CE
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**Special** *Drone* – A drone is two notes (usually the first and fifth notes of the scale) held together. The drone is a special feature of Arabian music.

*Upper auxiliary note* – Arabian music often includes an upper auxiliary note (or 'wiggle!') This consists of the note itself, the note above, and a return to the first note, for example CD<sup>b</sup>C (played as a triplet, ie three notes in one beat).

*Percussion* – A rhythm should be repeated throughout the music (*ostinato*).

## Method

**1** **Triads** – Write eight bars of triads on your grid, based on the Arabian scale (see above). Start and end on **CEG**.

**2** **Start notes** – Choose a start note for each bar, from the triads you have written. Remember to use the flat notes where you need to.

**3** **Links** – Link the notes together using steps, jumps or the same note. Remember to include triplets and upper auxiliary notes where you can.

**4** **Rhythm** – Make sure each bar adds up to the correct number of beats.

**5** **Drone** – When you have finished the tune, listen to what it sounds like without the triads. Instead of the triads, use a drone. To write a drone, choose the first and fifth notes (C and G) as held notes through out the piece.

**6** **Percussion** – Write one or two bars of rhythm and repeat it all the way through the music.