



Sample Slide

In the churchyard the winter wind blows and the night is gloomy.



Sample Slide

The clock in the church bell tower begins to strike midnight.



Suddenly a tune can be heard. It's a violin.

Sample Slide



Mysterious moans come from the trees.

Sample Slide



After so long resting something begins to stir.

Sample Slide



Slowly the skeletons wake and stretch their stiff old bones.



They fly through the shadows leaping in and out and all around.



Each gives a tremor and their bones rattle after so long asleep. They dance.



But hush! There's another sound.

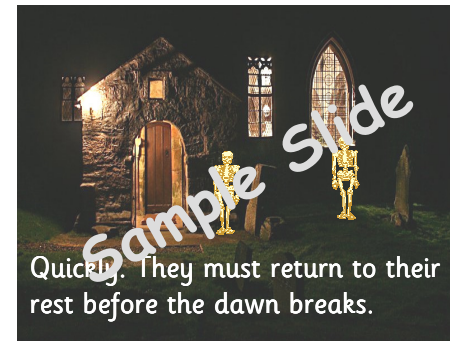
Sample Slide



Suddenly they hear it. They are still.



The rooster crows to mark the dawn.



Quickly. They must return to their rest before the dawn breaks.



Sample Slide

There they will lie for another year.



Sample Slide

All is quiet once more in the churchyard.

**The Music**

Listen for

[Copied directly from Link](#)

Which instrument do you think plays the first notes of the piece?

Raise your hand when you first hear the instrument which represents "Death"? Which instrument represents this character?

At several points, the skeletons who are dancing are represented by an unusual choice of instrument. Which instrument do you think it is? (Hint: It belongs to the percussion family)

A soft, gentle version of the melody is played about halfway through the work. Which of the following characters do you think is dancing, skeletons, ghosts, or Death? Think about the kind of movement and corresponding music for each character.

Sunrise signals the end of the dance, when the dead must return to their graves. One instrument (and usually a particular animal) signals the break of day – which instrument do you think plays that? And which animal is represented by that instrument?

The harp plays the notes for the clock striking midnight.

Death tunes his violin

The flute plays as the dance begins (skeletons listen)

Violin plays as they wake up and stretch then dance.

Xylophones play as their bones rattle.

The oboe is the cockerel signalling the dawn. Skeletons scuttle back.

[Skeleton Interactive Link](#)



Display Y2 Bridlington circa 1997

To hear either the short version or the long version of the music (7 minutes) click on the icons in the folder.