Gannon Leech

Relaxing Music Brainstorm Notes

**Songs that I listen to while Studying**

1. Calm Skies – Edu Lahmar

This song is soft piano, which has a very light and airy melody. The bass line is very repetitive, which provides a calming sequence to fall back on as I’m studying. The melody also repeats throughout the time, but in different keys each time, which provides a level of familiarity while not being too repetitive that it completely falls in the background. I like this music for studying because I like that it does not fall too much in the background while I am working but is not too distracting either.

1. Carousel – Rich Mortimer

This soft piano song has a calm and relaxing melody. While it is not as repetitive as the other songs, the pattern is predictable, which allows my mind to recognize it without it being too distracting. The song feels playful, but not so much so that it is obtrusive while working. There is also a mixture of relatively fast and slow sequences of the song, which helps to provide some variety. However, the overall tempo of the song is slow which makes it a good study song.

1. Sweet Redolence – Cedric Armfeldt

Similar to the other songs, this is a piano only song. One aspect of this song that makes it good for studying is that it remains in the middle range of notes, not getting too high, which could distract me while I’m studying. Like the other songs, it has a very simple and repetitive bass line which is the backbone of the song, and then a melody that repeats during the song. Halfway through, the melody changes, and then towards the end the song slows down greatly, which I think is nice because the second melody was still similar to the first, but had subtle changes.

**Musical Motif**

Two aspects that came to my head that I want to make sure to include in this song are incorporating relaxing nature songs and adding repetition with slight changes. I always enjoy the calm sounds of rain, so I want to try to mimic that in my song through sonic pi. I also really enjoy hearing arpeggios, both from top to bottom and bottom to top. I want to incorporate this musical idea into my song by having periods of building, where the arpeggios are normal, and finishing with the descending arpeggios. By doing this, I think it will create a sense of calm by the end of the song, all with the backdrop of rain drops.