

The Hare and the Tortoise

Brief : To write a piece of programme music

The story

A hare boasted loudly to a tortoise of its speed in running, at the same time insulting the tortoise because of its slowness.

'Let us have a race' said the tortoise. 'For five pounds I will race you for five miles, and we will see who gets there first.'

The hare, with a scornful smile, agreed, and away they started together.

Soon the hare left the tortoise far behind, and, feeling a little tired, lay down on a tuft of grass that grew by the way. 'If that slow-coach passes, I shall see him and easily catch him up again'. the hare said to itself, and fell asleep.

In the meantime, the tortoise plodded on, slowly but surely. After a time it passed the hare, who, sure of reaching the goal first, still slept, and awoke on to find that the tortoise had won the race.

The music

Story	Music
Introduction	Pastoral scene setting. Quiet and peaceful
Introduce main characters	Theme for tortoise and for hare.
Hare meets tortoise and starts boasting	Superimpose tortoise and hare themes.
Race starts and tortoise gets left behind	Hare theme fore animated. Tortoise theme half speed then drops out.
Hare lies down and goes to sleep	Hare theme slows down while falling in pitch
Tortoise catches up, overtakes Hare and wins race.	Tortoise theme returns and grows in weight and volume, then stops
Hare wakes up	Hare theme returns briefly (agitated) then stops
Conclusion	Scene setting music