

## Blow Pluck Hit

**Approach:** Station

**Level:** Year 4 and year 8

**Focus:** Identifying, by listening to musical performances, whether the sole instrument was played by blowing, plucking, or hitting.

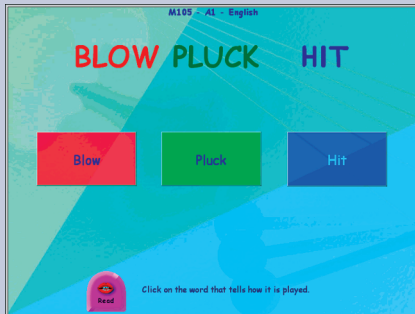
**Resources:** Computer program on a laptop computer.

### Questions/instructions:

1. Click on the button that says **Blow Pluck Hit** to begin the task.

The computer will then tell you what to do.  
If it doesn't, tell the teacher.

*Students were asked to listen to a piece of music being played on a instrument or cluster of related instruments. In each case, they were to indicate whether the instrument was played by blowing, plucking, or hitting. They clicked on their chosen option.*



|                                    |       | % responses |    |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------------|----|
|                                    |       | y4          | y8 |
| 1. Qin - China                     | pluck | 92          | 98 |
| 2. Gamelon gongs - Phillipines     | hit   | 92          | 99 |
| 3. Aruding - Phillipines           | pluck | 77          | 76 |
| 4. Shakuhachi - Japan              | blow  | 91          | 99 |
| 5. Steel band - Trinidad           | hit   | 76          | 90 |
| 6. Rihe panpipes - Soloman Islands | blow  | 93          | 98 |
| <b>Total score:</b> 6              |       | 56          | 67 |
|                                    |       | 5           | 26 |
|                                    |       | 28          | 28 |
|                                    |       | 14          | 4  |
|                                    |       | 4           | 1  |

### Commentary:

At least 90 percent of year 8 students succeeded with five of the six examples. The only exception was the Aruding, which only 76 percent correctly identified as plucked. Year 4 students also performed well, with only 10 percent fewer getting all six examples correct.