

<p>Accompaniment The underlying sounds used to support a melody line</p> <p>Acoustic See Playing methods</p> <p>Aerophone An instrument which produces sound using air vibrations, without using strings or membranes</p> <p>Arrangement A new version of an existing piece of music</p> <p>Arrhythmic See Free</p> <p>Backing vocal An additional voice part that complements but is less important than the lead vocal (the main voice part)</p> <p>Beat/pulse Beat and pulse are used synonymously to refer to the regular heartbeat of the music – the 'steady beat'</p> <p>Beatbox Using your voice, mouth, lips and tongue to produce sounds to imitate the sounds of different instruments, such as the drum kit</p> <p>Binary A two-part structure in music is described as binary form: AB. The A and B sections are musically different from each other</p> <p>Body percussion Sounds which can be made using parts of the body, eg clapping, tapping knees, etc.</p> <p>Break An instrumental or percussion section or interlude in a song</p> <p>Bridge A passage of music that links two sections of music together</p> <p>Call and response A style of music in which a leader sings or plays a short melody (the call) and a chorus of singers/players respond with an answering short melody (the response)</p> <p>Canon When two or more voices or instruments play the same music, starting at different times (also called a 'round')</p> <p>Chord Two or more notes played at the same time</p> <p>Chordophone An instrument which produces sound using strings that vibrate</p> <p>Chorus</p>	<p>Conductor The person elected to lead a group of singers or instrumentalists</p> <p>Crescendo Getting louder</p> <p>Crotchet A note that has a duration of one beat</p> <p>Cumulative A musical structure in which individual parts join in one by one. It can apply both to the structure of the music itself (as in a cumulative song such as The Twelve Days of Christmas), or to the voices/instruments playing (as in the gradual addition of instruments playing the music of Boléro)</p> <p>Dimensions/elements The inter-related building blocks of music (formerly referred to in the English National Curriculum as elements): duration, dynamics, pitch, structure, tempo, texture, and timbre (see definitions)</p> <p>Diminuendo Getting quieter</p> <p>Dot notation A simple form of Western staff notation. Dots are placed in height and distance relation to each other to indicate pitch and duration</p> <p>Drone A sound or sounds played constantly throughout all or part of a piece of music as an accompaniment</p> <p>Duet A song or piece of music for two parts of equal importance</p> <p>Duration The word used in music to refer to the length of a sound or silence</p> <p>Dynamics/volume The loudness of the music, usually described in terms of loud/quiet</p> <p>Echo When a musical phrase is repeated after itself, like an echo</p> <p>Elements See Dimensions</p> <p>Expression The emotion in music</p> <p>Fanfare A short piece of music usually played on brass instruments to announce a special event or occasion</p> <p>Flash mob A group of people who collect together in a public space and suddenly perform music or dance</p>	<p>Harmony The relation of two or more notes that are played at the same time</p> <p>Hocket One single melody shared between one or more voices or instruments</p> <p>Idiophone An instrument which produces sound using the instrument's vibration, without using strings or membranes</p> <p>Improvisation A piece of music which is created spontaneously</p> <p>Improvise To invent music as you go along</p> <p>Interlude An instrumental or percussion section or 'break' in a song</p> <p>Introduction The beginning section of a piece of music</p> <p>Key The 'key' of a piece of music refers to the scale on which the music is based and around which related harmonies are built. For instance a piece may be in the key of C major, meaning that its tonic, or home note, is the note C and the notes of its scale are C D E F G A B C</p> <p>Layers Individual lines of music performed together to create the texture</p> <p>Lead vocal The main voice part in a song – usually sings the melody</p> <p>Leap The space between two musical notes which is greater than a step (see Step movement)</p> <p>Lyrics The words of a song</p> <p>Major One of the most common types of eight-note musical scale. Often described as having a happy sound (see also Minor)</p> <p>Melodic phrase/phrase A small unit of a melody, often corresponding to a line of a song</p> <p>Melody A tune</p> <p>Membranophone</p>	<p>Minor One of the most common types of eight-note musical scale. Often described as having a sad sound (see also Major)</p> <p>Modulation The changing of music into a different key</p> <p>Notations Ways of writing music down – examples include graphic notation and staff notation</p> <p>Off-beat See Syncopation</p> <p>Ostinato (plural ostinatos/ostinati) A short rhythmic or melodic pattern which is repeated over and over</p> <p>Pentatonic A five-note scale, of which there are many types. One of the most common can be played using only the black notes on a piano</p> <p>Phrase See Melodic phrase</p> <p>Pictorial symbols A simple form of notation in which a picture is used to represent a sound, eg car picture = motor sounds</p> <p>Pitch movement The steps and leaps by which a melody moves up and down in pitch</p> <p>Pitch Refers to the complete range of sounds in a piece of music from the lowest to the highest</p> <p>Pizzicato The technique of playing a string instrument, eg violin, by plucking the strings rather than playing them with the bow</p> <p>Playing methods Acoustic (non-electronic) sounds are made by shaking, scraping, tapping, or blowing a soundmaker</p> <p>Pulse See Beat</p> <p>Quaver A note that has a duration of half a beat</p> <p>Rest A silence</p> <p>Rhythm pattern A short section of rhythm</p> <p>Rhythm Patterns of long and short sounds played within a steady beat</p> <p>Rhythmical Music which is underpinned by a steady beat</p> <p>Riff</p>	<p>Solo A piece of music for one singer or instrumentalist</p> <p>Song cycle A structure of music in which a group of songs is performed in a defined sequence</p> <p>Soundmaker Any sound source used as a musical instrument</p> <p>Soundscape A picture in sound</p> <p>Spiritual Songs created by enslaved African people in the United States. They are generally expressions of religious (often Christian) faith.</p> <p>Staff The set of five parallel lines on which notes are placed to denote pitch and rhythm</p> <p>Step movement Notes of a melody which move stepwise up or down</p> <p>Structure Most music is underpinned by a structure which may be as simple as beginning, middle and end</p> <p>Symbol Any written representation of a sound</p> <p>Syncopation Often used synonymously with 'off-beat'. Both refer to a rhythm that emphasises normally weak beats</p> <p>Tempo (plural tempi) The speed at which music is performed, usually described in terms of fast/slow</p> <p>Ternary A structure of music which has three sections, in which the first is repeated: A B A</p> <p>Texture Layers of sound, such as those created by a melody accompanied by a drum beat</p> <p>Timbre All instruments, including voices, have a particular sound quality which is referred to as timbre, eg squeaky</p> <p>Tremolo The rapid repetition of notes, producing a quavering effect. It can either be on one note or between two notes</p> <p>Trill The rapid alternation of two adjacent notes, producing a trembling effect</p> <p>Tuned percussion</p>
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<p>The part of a song which repeats between the verses</p> <p>Chromatic A chromatic instrument is one which is capable of playing every note of the chromatic scale, which is a scale of twelve notes, each a semitone apart, the smallest interval in most Western music. The chromatic scale is: A, A# (Bb), B, C, C# (Db), D, D# (Eb), E, F, F# (Gb), G, G# (Ab)</p> <p>Cluster A group of notes that are close in pitch and sounded together</p> <p>Coda The end section of a piece of music</p>	<p>Free/arrhythmic Music which has no discernible steady beat</p> <p>Glissando A slide up or down from one musical note to another, in the manner of a rapid, sliding scale</p> <p>Graphic notation A form of notation in which the composer freely invents symbols which give an impression of sound</p> <p>Graphic score A score in which musical intention is recorded by means of graphic symbols</p> <p>Groove A short section of rhythmic layers, repeated over and over again</p>	<p>An instrument which produces sound using a stretched membrane that vibrates</p> <p>Metre The grouping of beats into twos, threes, fours, etc, for instance in waltz music the beats are grouped in threes, whereas in march music they are grouped in twos or fours</p> <p>Mickey mousing A movie technique where music correlates with the action depicted on screen</p> <p>Middle eight A type of musical bridge – it is a short eight-bar passage in the middle of a song that links two sections</p> <p>Minimalism A style of composition based on the idea of simplicity that uses repetition and short and simple melodies</p>	<p>A short rhythmic or melodic pattern that is repeated over and over (also called an 'ostinato')</p> <p>Rondo A structure that has a recurring theme (A) alternating with contrasting sections: A B A C A D A</p> <p>Round When two or more voices or instruments play the same music, starting at different times (also called 'canon')</p> <p>Scale A group of notes notated or played in order of pitch</p> <p>Scat singing A style of vocal improvisation which uses nonsense sounds (instead of words) to imitate the sound of an instrument</p> <p>Score A written representation of music designed to record a composer's intention</p> <p>Sequence Musical phrases or parts played individually one after the other</p>	<p>Percussion instruments which make sounds with a defined pitch, eg glockenspiel</p> <p>Unison When two or more voices/instruments sing or play the same melody at the same time</p> <p>Untuned percussion Percussion instruments which make sounds of indefinite pitch, eg hand drum</p> <p>Verse The section of a song which generally 'tells the story'</p> <p>Volume See Dynamics</p> <p>Waltz A piece of dance music in 3/4-time where the first beat is emphasised</p>
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