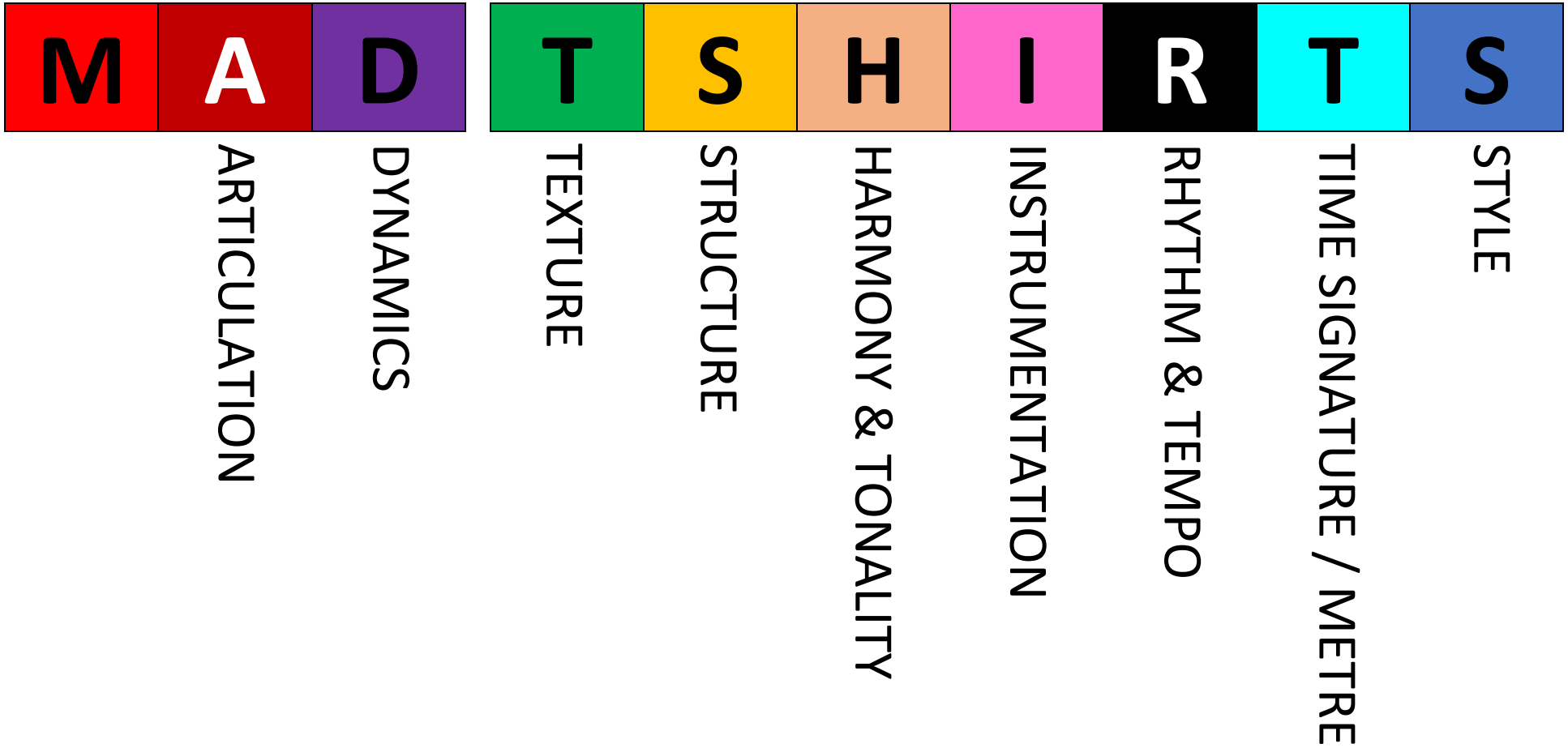


GCSE MUSIC



LISTENING & APPRAISING

MELODY

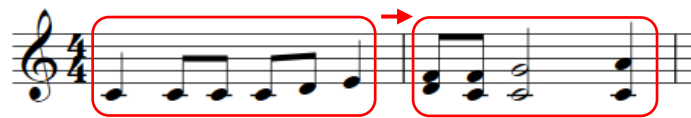
1. **Direction** Rising Falling



2. **Repetition** Doing the same thing again, without any changes.



3. **Contrast** Doing something completely different.



4. **Imitation** Doing the same thing again, with some changes (similar).



5. **Ostinato** A short repeated idea.



6. **Chromatic** The melody uses notes that aren't in the scale / key of the piece.



7. **Range**

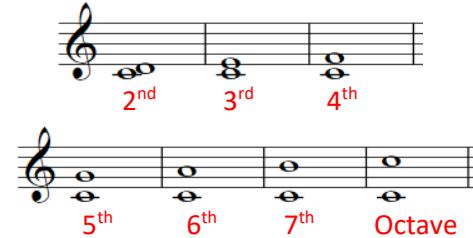
High or low.



Big or Small.



8. **Interval** The distance between two notes



*Count the start note & end note

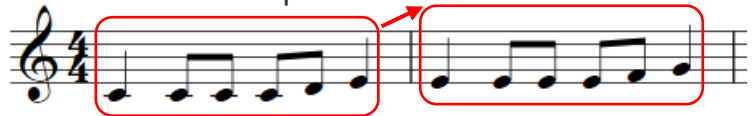
1 cont. **Conjunct** (Moving In Step)



Disjunct (Moving In Leaps)



11. **Sequence** Doing the same shape idea but at a different pitch.



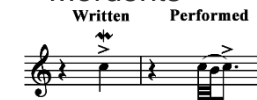
12. **Triadic** The tune is based on notes from the chords / triads.



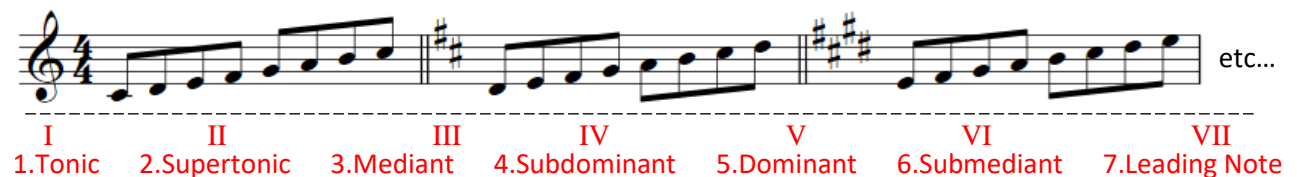
9. **Ornaments** Trills



Mordents



10 **Scale** The series of notes in a key that are used to make the melody



ARTICULATION

(How the notes are played)

1. Not Dynamics...

Articulation is **the way** the performer plays / sings the note, not how loud they do it. That would be Dynamics instead.

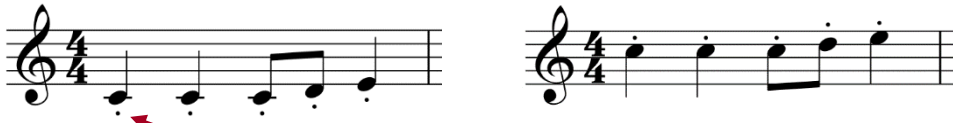
4. More Than One...

You can write more than one type of articulation for the same note. For example:



2. Staccato

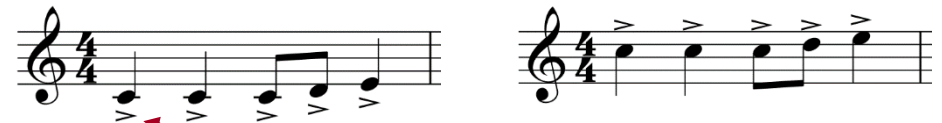
Staccato means short and detached /seperated. **You will likely hear a gap between each note.*



Shown by writing a **dot** just above/below the head of the note.

5. Accented

Give extra emphasis or force to the marked notes.



Shown by writing an **accent** above/below the head of the note.

3. Legato

To play the music smoothly, without breaks between notes.

Slurred

Playing the notes in a legato style, without breaks between notes.



Shown with a **slur** on the score.

How? Some examples:

String Instruments - Play the notes without changing the direction of the bow.



Brass & Wind Instruments - Only tongue the first note, not the others.

6. Glissando

**You can glissando upwards or downwards*

A slide between two notes.

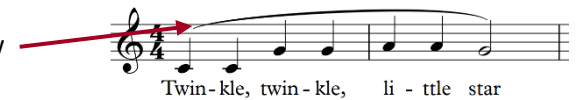
Marked with a **glissando** on the score.



7. Some Associated Markings On Vocal Music...

Phrase markings

Slurs drawn onto the score to show singers what to sing in one breath.



Syllabic

Where the music is written with one note per syllable.



Melismatic

Where the music is written with more than one note per syllable.



**A slur is used to show the notes on one syllable*

DYNAMICS

(The volume of the music)

4. Dynamic markings

Marking	Italian Term	Meaning
pp	Pianissimo	Very Quiet
p	Piano	Quiet
mp	Mezzo Piano	Moderately Quiet
mf	Mezzo Forte	Moderately Loud
f	Forte	Loud
ff	Fortissimo	Very Loud
	Crescendo	Getting Louder
	Diminuendo	Getting Quieter
sfz	Sforzando	Sudden Accent

Shh

!!!

Change gradually

1. Describing What You Hear

Comment on any changes - don't sum up the whole example with one word (unless it doesn't change!)

The music starts... then... the music ends...

2. On The Score

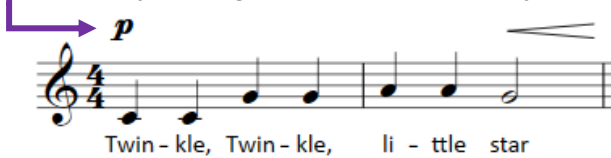
Dynamics are marked underneath the music, to show the instrument how loudly it should play:



If it is a piano, the dynamics usually go in-between the two staves:



For singers, dynamics usually go above the staff, so that they don't get mixed up with the lyrics:



Baroque Period: Dynamics were rarely used (no crescendos and diminuendos). Use of Terraced Dynamics.

Classical Period: Some dynamics, to add contrast.

Romantic Period: Lots of crescendos & diminuendos and a large range of dynamics to add expression.

3. Writing Dynamics

Dynamics can create contrast in music.

Dynamics can add expression to the music.

Dynamics can allow the listener to hear the most important lines in the music.

5. Writing Your Own Dynamics

If using crescendos and diminuendos, make sure you say how loud/quiet you want the music to get. This will clearly show what you want.



TEXTURE

1. Monophonic

Music with only one part (one note at a time).



*You can have as many players or singers as you want on the same part so long as it is the only part. No chords!

9. Antiphonal

Two groups of musicians play/respond to each other from two different performing positions.



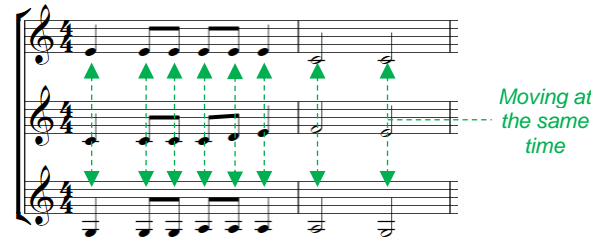
2. Melody & Accompaniment

A melody (tune) plus some accompanying chords or ideas.



5. Homophonic

All parts move in chords at the same time.



*Homo-phonic = same-sound... they have the same rhythm

10. Polyphonic

Several (2 or more) independent lines of music.



*Poly-phonic = many-sounds... several (two or more) different tunes.

3. Call And Response

One idea played/sung and then another performer(s) responding.



6. Octaves

When parts move together, an octave apart.



*Same note name but different pitch.

11. What Is The Instrument's Role

Melody – The tune.

Accompaniment – The parts supporting the tune.

Counter melody – A second melody that fits with the main tune.

Bass Line – The lowest sounding part.

4. Alberti Bass

Accompaniment found mainly in the left hand part of piano music.

Don't play all three notes of the triad together; break them up into four equal notes. Usually lowest, highest, middle, highest.



Why doesn't Mr Edwards like playing an Alberti Bass? It gives him the EBGBs.

7. Pedal

A long or repeated note – usually in the bass.



8. Drone

Long or repeated notes – usually a 5th apart.



12. Basso Continuo

The part given to instruments in The Baroque Period that played the bass line and chords, accompanying the melody, using **figured bass**.

*Harpichord, bass viol, organ, lute...



1. Structure – The order that things happen in.
First... then... this is followed by... at the end.

2. Binary Form - Music in two parts
 Section A and Section B.



Section B contrasts Section A in some way. Usually both sections are repeated.

3. Rondo Form – The opening section keeps returning, with contrasting sections in between.

Section A, Section B, Section A, Section C, Section A.



* The contrasting sections are called 'episodes'.

STRUCTURE

6. Song Form

Intro Verse Chorus Middle 8 Bridge Outro

4. Ternary Form - Music in three parts
 Section A, Section B, Section A.



The 2nd Section A can be an exact repeat of the 1st Section A, or a slightly altered version.

7. Strophic Form - Same music repeated each section.

Section A, Section A, Section A.



All verses have the same music.

5. Minuet & Trio – Dance founded in 17th-18th Century Europe. In Triple time and moderato. Both are in binary form. Trio is like a second Minuet but contrasting in some way.

Minuet		Trio		Minuet	
Section A (Repeated)	Section B (Repeated)	Section A (Repeated)	Section B (Repeated)	Section A (No Repeat)	Section B (No Repeat)
In tonic key. Ends with key change.		More contrast – new key or change of instruments. Ends with key change.		Keys are same as first time playing Minuet.	
		In related key. Ends with change back to tonic key.			
		In related key. Ends with key change back to starting key of trio.			

8. Variation Form – A theme / section is then followed by other sections (variations), changing and developing the first theme / section in different and imaginative ways.

Theme	Variation 1	Variation 2	Variation 3
The original idea / section	There are many ways you can transform the theme: Change the instrumentation, tempo, key, harmony, metre, rhythm... Use imitation, inversion, sequence, diminution, augmentation... Developing harmonies without the tune... Introducing new tunes... Varying the style...		

HARMONY & TONALITY

(The chords and keys used in the music)

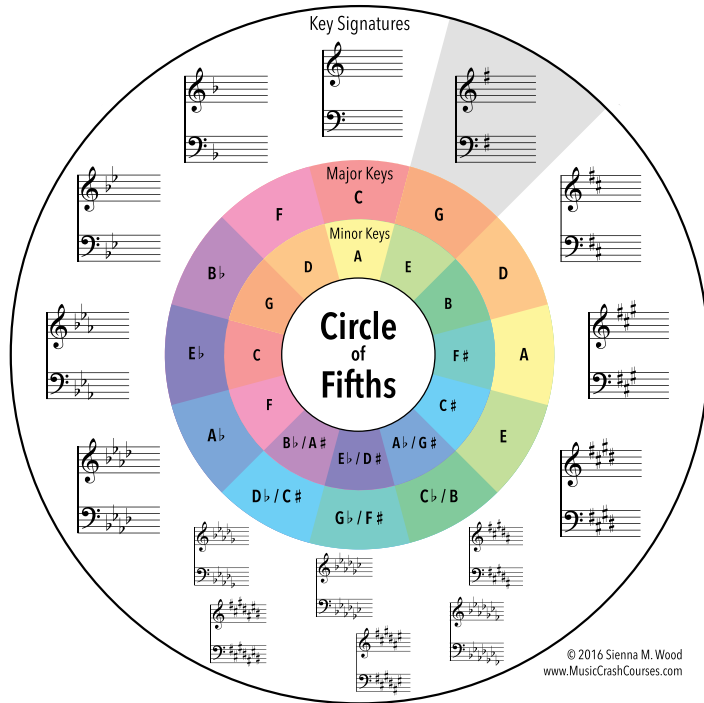
1. Key Signature

The sharps or flats at the start of a piece of music, showing what key the music is in.

6. Modulation

Musical word for key change. Most common changes: to **Dominant** or **relative Major/Minor**.

2. Major and Minor Key Signatures



*When you write music in a minor key you also need to raise the 7th note (leading note) up one small step - e.g. A minor uses G#, not Gs.

3. Identifying The Tonality...

- Tonal** - In a major or Minor Key
- Atonal** - There is no sense of key
- Modal** - Uses 'old-fashioned' scales called modes
- Pentatonic** - The music only uses 5 notes

4. Chords

- Triad** - A chord with three notes (See below)
- Power Chord** - Only playing the Root and Fifth of a triad (used in Rock music)
- Dissonance** - Clashing notes played together
- Consonance** - Notes that fit / sound nice together
- Primary Chords** - The three most commonly used chords used in music: I, IV, V
- Secondary Chords** - The other chords: II, III, VI, VII
- Chord Sequence** - The order the chords in a piece of music follow (containing cadences at the ends of phrases)

7. Cadences

The last two chords in a phrase. Only sounds 'complete' if ends on chord I.

Sounds Complete		
Perfect Cadence	V <i>Dominant</i>	I <i>Tonic</i>
Plagal Cadence	IV <i>Subdominant</i>	I <i>Tonic</i>
Sounds Incomplete		
Imperfect Cadence	I <i>Tonic</i>	V <i>Dominant</i>
Interrupted Cadence	V <i>Dominant</i>	<i>*Not chord I</i> Minor Chord

*Sometimes the final cadence of a piece in a minor key ends with a major chord instead of the expected minor chord. This effect is known as a **Tierce de Picardie**.

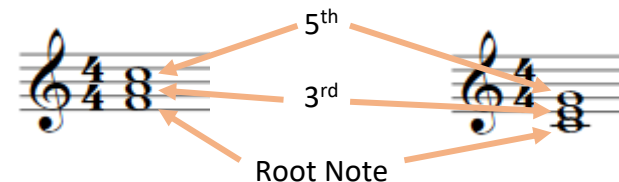
Diatonic

Music only uses notes that are found in the key signature of the piece

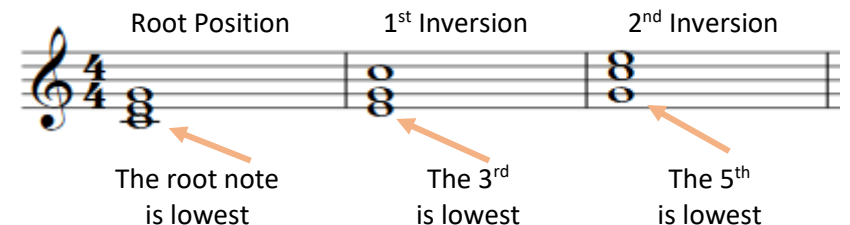
Chromatic

Music uses the notes found in the key of the piece but also adds in extra accidentals (# / b)

5. Triad A Chord with three notes:



8. Inversions Changing which note of a chord is the lowest sounding:



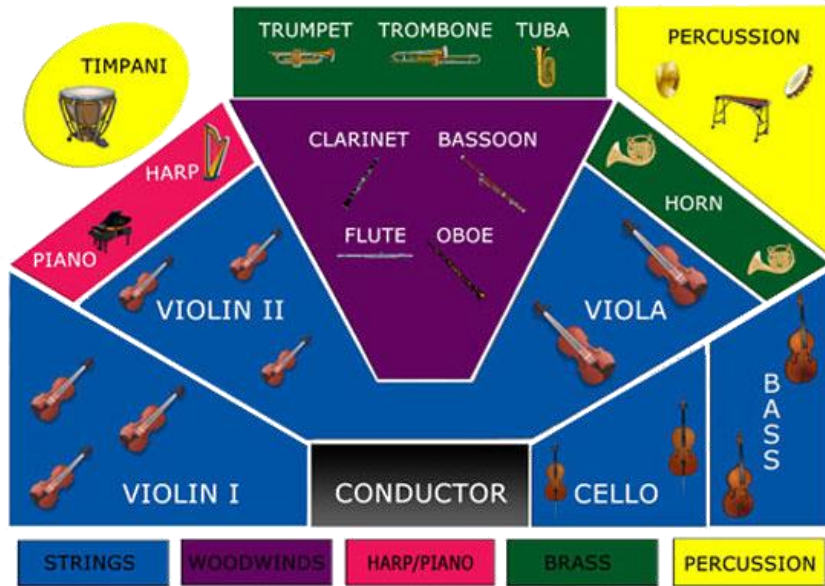
INSTRUMENTATION

(The instruments you can hear and what they are doing – sometimes called ‘orchestration’)

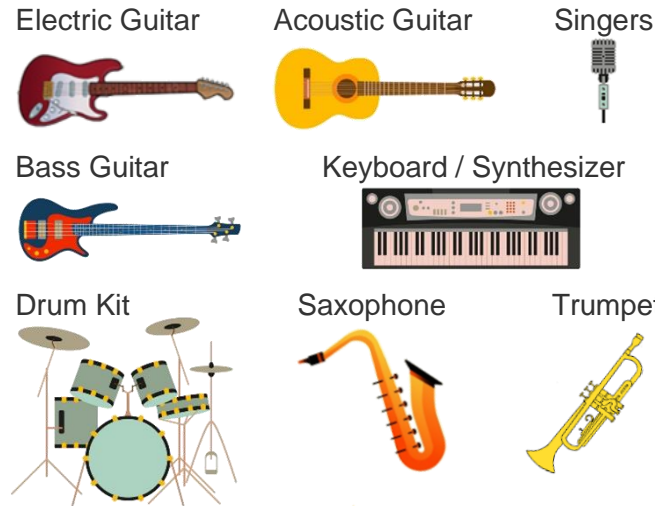
1. Instrumental Ensembles

- Solo - 1 performer
- Duet - 2 performers
- Trio - 3 performers
- Quartet - 4 performers

2. Instruments Of The Orchestra



3. Rock & Pop Instruments



*Lead instrument = Often an electric guitar ('lead guitar'). Plays melody or harmonises with the singer & often has a solo.

4. Types Of Voices

Soprano	(Female)	HIGH
Treble	(Boy)	
Alto	(Female)	
Countertenor	(Male Alto)	
Tenor	(Male)	
Bass	(Male)	LOW

*SATB Choir: Soprano, Alto, Tenor & Bass

5. Jazz Instruments

Rhythm Section

Backup / Accompaniment for the melody. Sometimes still improvise and get solos.

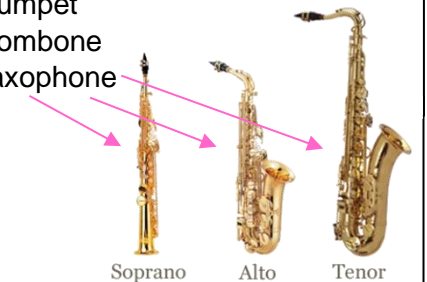
- *The Groove: Double Bass
- *The Beat: Drum Kit
- *The Chords: Piano (Sometimes Guitar)



Front Line Instruments

Instruments that play melodies / improvise. Stand in front of the rhythm section.

- *Trumpet
- *Trombone
- *Saxophone



6. Musical Periods

Baroque Period (1600-1750)

- *Small orchestra - Mostly Strings + Basso Continuo
- *Basso Continuo - The part given to instruments playing the bass line & chords accompanying the melody. (Harpichord, bass viol, organ, lute...)

Classical Period (1750-1810)

- *Basso Continuo gradually stopped being used
- *Pianoforte introduced & Clarinet invented
- *String Quartet very popular (Violin x2, Viola, Cello)

Romantic Period (1810-1910)

- *Piano music very popular (Instrument further improved)
- *Large Orchestra
- *Tone / construction of instruments improved

7. Instrumental Techniques - The way you play / use an instrument.

String Instruments

- *Pizzicato (Pizz.) - Plucking the strings
- *Arco / Bowed - Using a bow on the strings
- *Double Stopping - Playing two strings at the same time

String & Brass Instruments

- *Con Sordino (Con Sord.) - Playing with a mute (changes the sound produced)
- *Tremolo - Quickly repeating the same note ('trembling')

Voices

- *Falsetto - A technique used by men to sing at a much higher pitch

Voices, Brass, Woodwind and String Instruments

- *Vibrato - Make the note waver up and down to add expression

Some Examples

8. Other Vocal Terms

Acapella

Singing without any accompanying instruments.

Chorus

Music written for a choir.

Backing Vocals

Sing harmonies / support the lead singer.

1. Reading Rhythms

You need to be able to read all the different note lengths if you want to pass GCSE music. If you keep forgetting, look over them again!

RHYTHM & TEMPO

(The Patterns Of Note Lengths & Silences)

(The Speed Of The Music)

8. Working Out The Tempo

Tap your toe to the pulse of the music and think, 'how fast am I tapping'.

**If you tap your whole foot you might put off other pupils.*

2. Durations

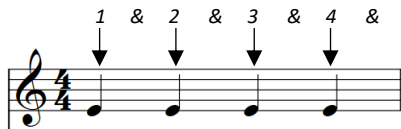
Beats	Note	Rest	Name
4			Semibreve
2			Minim
1			Crotchet
1/2			Quaver
1/4			Semiquaver

3. Syncopation

Playing off (or in-between) the beat / pulse

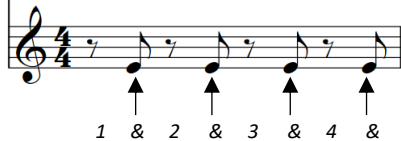
On The Beat

Playing on one of the beats that you would 'tap your toe' to



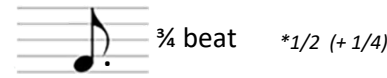
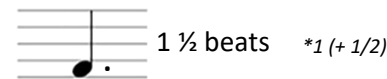
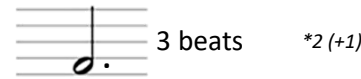
Off-beat

Playing in-between the beats you would 'tap your toe' to



4. Dotted Notes

If a dot is added to a note (or rest), add on half of what the note is already worth:



5. Pause

If this symbol is written, stop the pulse of the music & pause on the note.



6. Triplet

Three notes played evenly in the space of two notes:



7. Swung Rhythms

**A main feature of Jazz*

Written rhythms are played differently to give a swing feeling.



9. Tempo Markings

Marking	Meaning
Allegro / Vivace	Fast or Lively
Allegretto	Quite Fast (Not as fast as Allegro)
Moderato / Andante	Moderate / A Walking Pace
Adagio / Lento	Slowly
Accelerando	Gradually Speed Up
Ritardando / Rallentando rit. rall.	Gradually Slow Down
= 60	60 beats per minute <i>(One every second)</i>
= 120	120 beats per minute <i>(Two every second)</i>

10. Rubato

**Translates as 'to steal time'*

Not sticking strictly to the tempo - to add feeling (*Romantic Period!*)

1. Common Time

4/4 is also known as common time. Instead of 4/4 you can write:



TIME SIGNATURE / METRE

(How the pulse is grouped into bars)

2. Cut Common Time

2/4 is also known as cut-common time. Instead of 2/4 You can write:



3. Time Signatures

Written at the start of the music (and anywhere it changes) to show how many beats there are per bar, plus what type of beat

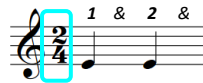
Simple Time Signatures **Each beat can be divided into two equal halves*



4 crotchet beats per bar



3 crotchet beats per bar



2 crotchet beats per bar

Compound Time Signatures **Each beat is dotted and can't be divided into two equal halves*



4 dotted crotchet beats per bar (12 quavers)



3 dotted crotchet beats per bar (9 quavers)



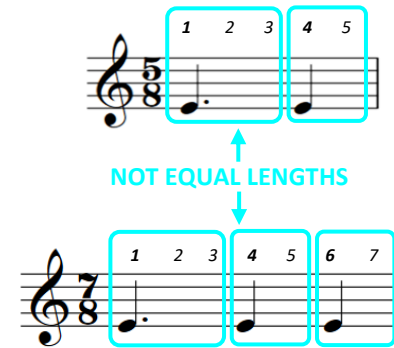
2 dotted crotchet beats per bar (6 quavers)

5. Listening Examples Go to Youtube to hear some examples of different metres:

2/4	Slaidburn March	<i>*A march is usually in 2/4 (Left, Right, Left, Right... = 1, 2, 1, 2...)</i>
3/4	Shostakovich's Waltz No.2	<i>*A waltz is a dance, usually in 3/4</i>
4/4	All That Jazz (from Chicago)	<i>*Chicago is a Musical</i>
5/4	Take Five (By Dave Brubeck)	<i>*Listen out for the jazz style</i>
7/4	The start of Money (By Pink Floyd)	<i>*Listen out for the opening bass riff</i>
6/8	We Are The Champions (By Queen)	<i>*Queen are a famous British Rock Band</i>
12/8	The Way You Make Me Feel (By Michael Jackson)	<i>*Count 1&a 2&a 3&a 4&a</i>

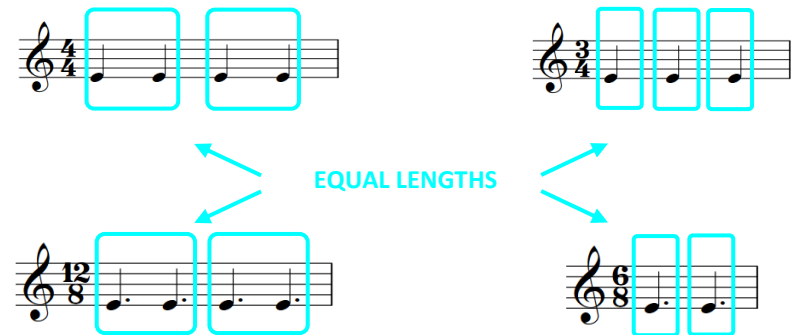
4. Irregular Time Signatures

Time signatures that can't be divided into equal groups of 2 or 3.



Regular Time Signatures

Time signatures that can be divided into equal groups of 2 or 3.



6. Writing Your Own Music

You must make sure every bar adds up to the correct number of beats. Changing metre is a good way to create contrast in your work.

1. Western Classical Music

Baroque Period 1600-1750	Classical Period 1750-1810	Romantic Period 1810-1910
Bach, Vivaldi, Handel	Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven	Chopin, Schubert, Wagner
Ornaments	Balanced, regular phrases	Use of the leitmotif
Terraced Dynamics	Alberti Bass	Music more expressive
Major & Minor Keys	Wider range of dynamics	Huge range of dynamics
Harpischord	Pianoforte introduced	Use of chromatic chords
Small Orchestra (Mostly Strings)	Wider range of mood	Unusual Key Changes
Basso Continuo	Orchestra got bigger	Large Orchestra
	Elegant/Graceful style	Use of Rubato

STYLE

2. Minimalism

- *Started in 20th Century
- *Composers - Philip Glass...
- *Based upon **Repetition**
- *Uses small motifs that **gradually change**
- ***Slow changing harmony**

3. Jazz & Blues

*The 12 Bar Blues

I	I	I	I
IV	IV	I	I
V	IV	I	I/V

- ***Swung rhythms**
- ***Extended chords:** 7th, 9th...
- ***Blue notes** – ‘bending’ some notes by a semitone
- ***Improvisation** - Performers make up music in the performance
- ***Rhythm Section** - Drums, Double Bass, Piano/Guitar
- ***Front Line Instruments** - Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones
- ***Walking Bass** - The bass plays a steady rhythm & walks up/down the notes of the chord or scale.



4. Fusion - Mixing more than one style of music together

For example...

Bhangra - Came to UK in 1980s. Mixing traditional Indian music & pop music.

Tempo	Structure	Melody
Lively and Upbeat	Verse / Chorus structure	Quite repetitive. Simple. Decorated.
Rhythm	Instruments	Technology
Syncopation. 4 beats per bar.	Indian instruments (e.g. Dhol, Tabla, Sitar) & Pop Instruments	Drum machines. Synths. Scratching.

5. Pop & Rock Music

- ***Pop** - Commercial music which appeals to lots of people
- ***Rock** - Generally ‘more aggressive’ but also includes rock-ballads.
- ***Instruments** - (See instruments sheet!)

Intro	The beginning. Sets the mood & style. Usually just instruments.
Verse	Tells the story. Lyrics change each time but tune stays the same.
Chorus	The main message of the song. Same words and tune each time.
Bridge	A section that links two other sections.
Middle 8	A contrasting section of new ideas – usually 8 bars long.
Outro	Extra bit of music to finish off the song.

***Riff** - A repeated pattern. Can help make the song memorable.

*Examples:

The Who Jimmy Hendrix The Beatles

Pink Floyd The Sex Pistols The Clash

AC/DC David Bowie Queen

6. Film Music

***Genre** - Action, Adventure, Horror, Romance, War, Sci-fi, Western...

*Composers - John Williams, James Horner, Jerry Goldsmith

*Think, how do the **musical features represent what is happening on-screen?**

e.g.

Car Chase: Fast tempo, loud dynamics, sudden changes in melody direction...

WWII Film: Military instruments, fanfare, monophonic to represent isolation...

Large Theme Park Scene: Big Orchestra, Loud Dynamics, Fast/exciting rhythms...

Horror Scene: Dissonant chords and use of repeated pattern to build tension...

***Leitmotif** - A short musical idea linked to a specific character / thing



7. Musical Theatre

*A theatrical story told through music, singing, acting and dance

*Types: Jukebox, Film-to-stage, Sung-through (no speaking), Disney...

*Composers - Andrew Lloyd Webber, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim...

***Overture** - The music played before the musical begins, usually featuring the musical's main themes.

***Solo** - Song for one character

***Duet** - Song for two characters

***Chorus** - Song for usually the whole ‘company’ to sing

***Recitative** - A song which does not have a memorable tune (more speech-like), often used to fill in the story if the show is all sung.

