

Year 7 Music Knowledge Booklet

Autumn Term Elements of Music

Name:

Class:



Introduction

The elements of music can be seen as being the building blocks of music. Without them, music (of any style/age) would not exist because sound itself would not exist!

Think of the elements of music like the crucial elements of a car. A car needs wheels, an engine, brakes, doors, a chassis, a steering wheel, etc.. Without these key elements it will no longer be a car. Without the key musical elements a piece of music will no longer be music.

In this topic, you will learn about each of the elements of music, and how they help to make music as we know it today.

Big Questions

- 1) Why do we learn music?
- 2) How do we read music?
- 3) What makes a good melody?
- 4) How can I use musical language to describe Texture, Tempo and Structure?
- 5) How do I perform using Dynamics?
- 6) ASSESSMENT

The Elements of Music

Rhythm Notes have different lengths, some long, some short. When we combine different note lengths, it creates a pattern, which is a rhythm.

Pitch is a variation of high and low sounds. Pitch ascends and descends by steps of a scale. Scales are major and minor.



Tempo means the speed of the music. Music can change tempo within a piece. We describe Tempo using Italian words.

Dynamics means the volume of the music. Music can change dynamic within a piece. We describe dynamics using Italian words.

Structure Music is divided into sections. The order of these sections creates a structure. Song structure includes Chorus, Verse, Instrumental etc.

Texture Is defined by the different layers in a piece of music. A single melody creates a thin texture. Adding more parts/ layers creates a thicker texture.

Dynamics in Italian.

<i>pp</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>mp</i>	<i>mf</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>ff</i>
<i>Pianissimo</i>	<i>Piano</i>	<i>Mezzo Piano</i>	<i>Mezzo Forte</i>	<i>Forte</i>	<i>Fortissimo</i>
Very Quiet	Quiet	Medium Quiet	Medium Loud	Loud	Very Loud
 Crescendo Gradually getting louder			 Diminuendo Gradually getting quieter		

Tempo in Italian.

<i>Largo</i>	<i>Adagio</i>	<i>Andante</i>	<i>Allegro</i>	<i>Presto</i>
Very Slow	Slow	Walking pace	Fast	Very Fast

				
<i>Semibreve</i>	<i>Minim</i>	<i>Crotchet</i>	<i>Quaver</i>	<i>Semiquaver</i>
4 beats	2 beats	1 beat	1/2 beat	1/4 beat

Rhythm Symbols and Values

Homework Tasks

Homework Task 1&2:

Set on: _____ Due in: _____

Complete the song analysis worksheet. Choose a song that you like listening to and answer the questions about your song choice. Make sure you answer in as much detail as possible. This homework task will form the plenary to each lesson throughout the year. At the end of each lesson, your teacher will select a song at random for the class to discuss. You will talk about the musical features and apply your knowledge from class lessons to the discussion.

Homework Task 3:

Set on: _____ Due in: _____

Practise your part for 'Talking Drums' you will be assessed on this during the final lesson before half term. You will need to perform with your group making sure you play accurate rhythms in time with each other

Sample Assessment

Part 1: Written and listening

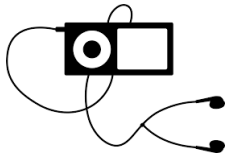
Sample Question:

Which Italian word describes music that is gradually getting louder?

Part 3: Practical group performance.

Group performance of 'Talking Drums'

Further Understanding



Wider listening



- **'The Lark Ascending' - Ralph Vaughan Williams**
- **'Superman' - John Williams**
- **'He Lives in You' - The Lion King**

Wider Watching

- **<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arKMUNfq7pQ&t=95s>**
- Sticks off, Bucket Drum.
- **<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZHfmglb4mc>**
- Montserrat African Music Festival.
- **<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02b5cqq>**
- Connect it, Body Percussion.

Wider Reading

