

Year 9 Music Knowledge Booklet

Autumn Term Baroque Music

Name:

Class:



Year 9 Music

Baroque Music

The Baroque period refers to an era that started around 1600 and ended around 1750, and included composers like Bach, Vivaldi and Handel, who pioneered new styles like the concerto and the sonata.

Non-religious music could now flourish, in particular instrumental music. The idea that instruments should be grouped together in a standard way created the first versions of the modern orchestra.

In lessons we will be studying features of Baroque music and working on group performances of Johann Pachelbel's 'Canon', a famous piece of Baroque music, often used at weddings.

Big Questions

1. What is Baroque music?
2. How do you perform a ground bass?
3. What can I remember about the Baroque period?
4. What is structure?
5. Baroque or not?
6. What does my group need to do to improve our performance?
7. How much do I know about Baroque music?
8. What does my group need to do to improve our performance?
9. Who were Bach and Handel and why were they important?
10. What does quality feedback look like?
11. How well can my group perform Pachelbel's 'Canon'?

Baroque Era - 1600-1750

The Baroque period refers to an era that started around 1600 and ended around 1750, and included composers like Bach, Vivaldi and Handel, who pioneered new styles like the concerto and the sonata. The Baroque period saw an explosion of new musical styles with the introduction of the concerto, the sonata and the opera.

The loosening of the Church's political control of Europe meant that non-religious music could now flourish, in particular instrumental music. The idea that instruments should be grouped together in a standard way created the first versions of the modern orchestra. Composers were employed by the patronage system, where wealthy aristocrats and the Church would become the patron or employer of a composer, deciding what type of music they should write for their entertainment.

An important type of instrumental music in the Baroque era was the **concerto**. A concerto is a large-scale composition for an orchestra plus a soloist or group of soloists. Some of the greatest composers of concertos were Corelli, Bach, Handel and Vivaldi, who wrote over 500!! There were two types of Baroque concerto - the **solo concerto** (for one soloist) and **concerto grosso** (for a group of soloists). A concerto grosso is written for a group of solo instruments (concertino) and a larger ensemble (ripieno). Bach wrote six concerto grosso called the Brandenburg Concertos, named after his patron the Margrave of Brandenburg.

An **opera** is a staged performance of a play which is set to music and performed by a cast of singers with orchestra. Opera encouraged composers to devise ways of illustrating moods in their music; affecting the listener's emotions became a major objective in composition during this period. Opera spread to France and England, and composers such as Rameau, Handel and Purcell began producing great works.

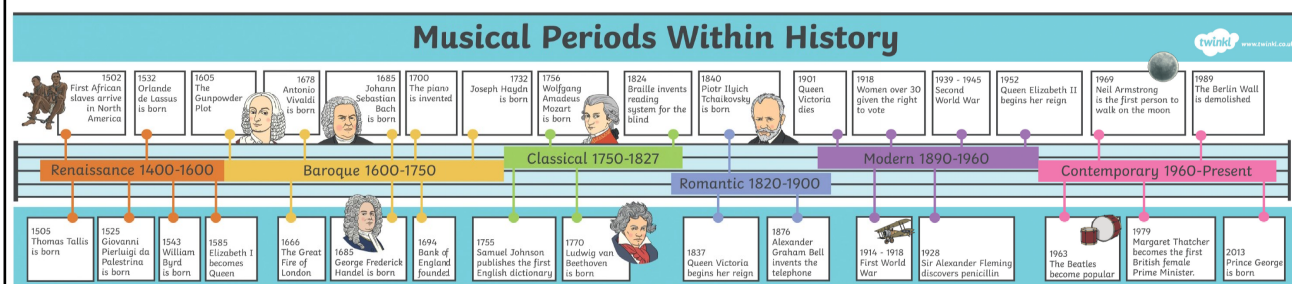
Music was one of the main forms of entertainment during the Baroque era, both to listen and to accompany dancing. The **orchestral suite** is a collection of dances for such events. Handel's Water Music and Music for the Royal Fireworks are suites written to accompany royal festivals.

The first movement of each in an **overture** and this is followed by a number of dances often including:

- ⇒ **Courante** - three beats per bar, moderate speed
- ⇒ **Gavotte** - 2/2 or 4/4 time, often with each phrase beginning halfway through the bar
- ⇒ **Minuet** - 3/4 time, moderate speed
- ⇒ **Gigue** - lively and in compound time (6/8, 9/8 or 12/8)

Most of the dances were in **binary form**. Binary form has two sections - A and B. The music moves to a new key at the end of the A section and returns to the home key in the B section.

Bach is regarded as one of the greatest geniuses in the history of music. He demonstrated a standard approach to harmony that dominated music until the late 19th century.



Knowledge Organiser - Baroque

KEYWORDS

Baroque Musical era from 1600-1750

Ground Bass Repeating bass line with melodies over the top

Harpsichord Keyboard instrument where strings are plucked used in the Baroque era

Strings Family of instruments played by bowing or plucking a string

Texture Musical element describing the different parts or layers in a piece of music

Polyphonic Type of texture with two or more melodies played at the same time

Ornaments Musical decorations like trills, mordents etc

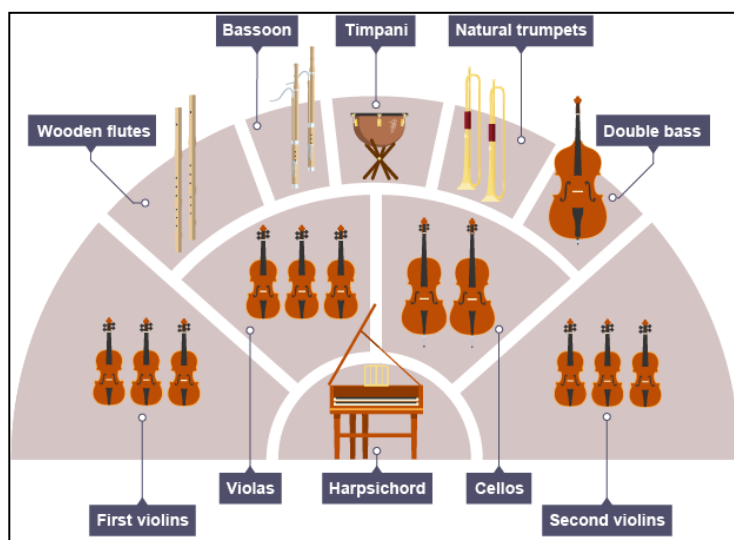
Bass Clef Clef used for low pitched instruments like the cello or bassoon

Composer Someone who writes music

Patron Someone who employs musicians or composers

Tempo Musical element describing speed

STRING FAMILY



Treble Clef Notes

Line Notes: E F G A B C D E F

Space Notes: F A C E

Bass Clef Notes

Line Notes: G B D F A

Space Notes: A C E G

Rhythms into Syllables



Semibreve	Minim	Crotchet	Quaver	Semiquaver
4 beats	2 beats	1 beat	1/2 beat	1/4 beat

Rhythm Symbols and Values

Homework Tasks

1. Knowledge Organiser

Read the Knowledge Organiser pages on Baroque music to prepare for an Engage Task quiz.

Due Date:

2. Listening Log 2

You'll be listening to two tracks and comparing them. One is Baroque and one is a modern remix. You will need to write about tempo and mood in full sentences.

Due Date:

3. Listening Log 3

You'll be listening to one Baroque and one modern piece that use ground bass structure. You will need to pick out musical features and express your opinion using musical reasons.

Due Date:

4. Term 1 Assessment Revision

Use your Knowledge Booklet to revise for your Term 1 assessment, based on all that you have learnt so far in this topic.

Due Date:

5 & 6. Baroque Presentation

With a partner, spend two homeworks working on a presentation or informative display poster about the Baroque period.

Due Date:

[illegible][illegible]

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UConn
 University of Connecticut
 Storrs, CT 06269-3043

Information:
 The music on CDROMs plays well, so you'll need to log onto "Music" from IP address to listen to the 2 pieces of music, which have 2 pages of notes.

11/21: When you click on "Music" the "Music" version is 1488
 11/22: Something's Missing to "Music" version is 1881

Unit 1: LISTEN TO "Something's Missing" When You Listen "Something's Missing"

1. Which of these two patterns represents the first two pattern's phrases?

A

[illegible]

Sample Assessment (Listening)

Baroque Listening Assessment

You will be asked a series of questions about three pieces of music.

You will need to identify musical elements that you can hear and features that place the piece in its historical context.

- 1) *What family of instruments is providing the accompaniment?*
- 2) *What type of female voice is singing?*
- 3) *Which instrument is playing the ground bass line?*
- 4) *How many beats are in each bar?*
- 5) *This song is from a musical drama called _____.*

Sample Assessment (Performing)

Performance Assessment of Pachelbel's Canon

0-5% Little or no contribution

15-35% Playing Ground Bass/Part 1/Part 2

45-55% Part 3

65-75% Part 4

85-95% Part 5

More marks available for accuracy and fluency

Canon Pachelbel

The image shows a musical score for Pachelbel's Canon in D major. It consists of six staves: Part 5 (top), Part 4, Part 3, Part 2, Part 1, and Ground Bass (bottom). Each staff has letter notation above the notes indicating the pitch. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into four measures, each containing a full bar of music. The Ground Bass line is a repeating pattern of eighth notes: C, G, A, E, F, C, F, G.

Performance Task - Pachelbel's Canon

Canon

Pachelbel

GEFGFABCDEF E CDEFGAGFGFGEFG AGF EDEDCDEFGA FAGA BCBABCDEF G

The musical score is written for five parts and a ground bass line, all in 4/4 time. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The parts are labeled Part 5, Part 4, Part 3, Part 2, Part 1, and Ground Bass. The notation includes treble and bass clefs, and various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and repeat signs. The melody for each part is written in a specific clef, and the ground bass line is written in a bass clef. The score is presented in a clear, professional layout with a blue header and a white background.

Part 5

Part 4

Part 3

Part 2

Part 1

Ground Bass

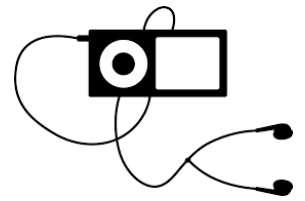
Further Understanding

WIDER LISTENING

'When I am laid in earth' - Henry Purcell

'Concerto for 2 Violins' - J S Bach

'Hallelujah Chorus' - G F Handel



WIDER WATCHING



<https://study.com/academy/lesson/ground-bass-definition-composers-instruments-examples.html>

- Ground Bass: Definition, Composers, Instruments & Examples

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10YQn3aXAF8>

- What is the difference between the piano and harpsichord?

<https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/z2mv34j/revision/1>

- GCSE Bitesize - Baroque orchestral music

