



# **Knowledge Organiser**

## **MUSIC**

# Music



Clefs, notes and Elements	
Question:	Answer:
What is a clef?	A symbol at the start of the music to tell you what pitch the notes are played at.
Draw a Treble Clef Bass Clef Alto clef Tenor Clef	<p>Treble      Bass      Alto      Tenor</p>
What is another name for the Treble clef Bass clef Alto and Tenor Clefs?	Treble – G Clef Bass – F Clef Alto and Tenor – C Clef
What are the five lines called where you write notes on?	Stave
What is the duration of a Semibreve?	4 Beats
What is the duration of a Minim?	2 beats
What is the duration of a Crotchet?	1 beat
What is the duration of a quaver	½ Beat
What is the duration of a Semiquaver	¼ Beat
What are the 8 elements of music?	Structure, Dynamics, Timber, Pitch, Duration, Tempo, Texture and Silence.
What is Structure	The overall plan of a piece of music.
What are Dynamics	How Loud or quiet the music is
What is Timber?	The different types of instruments or sounds used in a piece.
What is Pitch?	How high or low the sounds of notes or music are.
What is Duration?	How long or short a note is played for.
What is Tempo?	How fast or slow a piece is.
What is Texture?	Who thick or thin the piece is (lots of sounds or few sounds).
What is the difference between a Tone and a Semitone?	A Tone is whole step e.g. C-D A Semitone is half a step e.g. C# - D
What do Sharps, Flats and Naturals do to notes?	<p><b>Sharps raise a Note by a semitone</b>      <b>Flats lower a note by a semitone</b>      <b>naturals return a note to its Natural state</b></p>
What does a Dot do to a note?	A dot adds half the value of the note to itself. e.g. Crotchets = 1 beat Dotted crotchet = 1 1/2beat
What does a tie do to a note?	Joins two notes of the same pitch together turning it into one note. Ties usually go over a bar.
What do slurs do to notes?	Notes are played smoothly
What does Staccato mean?	Notes are played short and detached
What does Tenuto mean?	Notes are played for their full length or even slightly longer (broadening them out)
Triplets	When you play 3 notes in the space of 2 e.g. 
What is a Hemiola?	Hemiola is a rhythmic device used to create tension. Written in duple time is temporarily accented to make it feel like its in triple time or vice versa.
What is a cross – rhythm?	Cross-rhythms occurs when the accents are out of sync over a number of bars. (Used to create tension).
What is a glissando?	Sliding between two notes
What is a time Signature? What are the different types of Time Signatures?	Two numbers normally at the start of the piece which tells you how many beats you are counting in and what you are counting in. E.g. 4 = 4 beats 4 = Crotchets 2= Minim, 4= Crotchet, 8 = Quaver, 16 = Semiquaver, 3= Dotted minim  <b>Simple</b> = have 2, 3 or 4 at the top and count in even beats.  <b>Compound</b> = have 6, 9 or 12 on the top and count in dotted notes or uneven beats.  <b>Regular</b> = strong beats make the same pattern, Duple metre – 2 beats per bar Triple metre – 3 beats per bar Quadruple metre – 4 beats per bar  <b>Irregular</b> = could be five beats in a bar grouped in two's and threes, or seven

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	beats in a bar grouped in threes and twos or fours. <b>Free</b> = no particular metre (unusual)
What is a key Signature?	Sharps or Flats at the start of the piece which tells you what key the piece is in

<b>Dynamics, Tempo and Moods</b>	
What does Forte Mean?	Loud or Strong
What does Piano mean?	Quiet or soft
What does Crescendo mean?	Gradually getting louder
What does Diminuendo mean?	Gradually getting quieter
What does mezzoforte mean?	Medium loud
What does mezzopiano mean?	Medium quiet
What does Largo mean?	Broad and Slow 40-60bpm
What doe Larghetto mean?	Still broad, not too slow 60-66bpm
What does Adagio mean?	Bit faster than largo 66-76bpm
What does Andante mean?	Walking speed 76-108bpm
What does Moderato mean?	Moderate speed 108-120bpm
What does Allegro Mean?	Quick and Lively 120-168bpm
What does Vivace mean?	Very lively – quicker than allegro 168-180bpm
What does Presto mean?	Very fast 180-200bpm
Accelerando	Speeding up Accel.
Rallentando	Slowing Down Rall.
Ritenuo	Holding back the pace Rit.
Allagando	Slowing down, getting a bit broader Allarg.
Rubato	Can be flexible with the pace of music Rub.
	Pause -longer than a whole bar
A Tempo	Back to the original pace
Agitato	Agitated
Alla Marcia	In a march style
Amoroso	Loving
Calmato	Calm
Dolce	Sweetly
Energico	Energetic
Giocoso	Playful, humorous
Grandioso	Grandly
Pesante	Heavy
Risoluto	Strong, confident, bold
Sospirando	Singing
Trionfale	Triumphant

<b>Scales, Chords and key signatures</b>	
What are the names of the notes of a scale?	Tonic – 1 Supertonic – 2 Mediant – 3 Subdominant – 4 Dominant – 5 Submediant -6 Leading note – 7 Tonic - 8
What are the types of scales?	Major Harmonic Minor Melodic Minor Natural minor
What is the difference between a melodic minor and a harmonic minor?	Harmonic minor raises the 7th note by a semitone and a melodic minor on the way up raises the 6th and 7th but on the way down they are natural.
What is a pentatonic scale?	A scale which uses a set of 5 notes. Major uses 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6. Minor uses 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7 (Natural)
What is a whole tone or chromatic scale?	Whole tone scale plays every tone. e.g. C, D, E, F#, G#, A# and C Chromatic scale you play every note e.g. C, C#, D, D#, E, F, F#, G, G', A, A#, B, C

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<p>Draw a Circle of 5ths</p>	
<p>What are Modes?</p>	<p>Modes follow a different pattern of Tone and Semitones. For example, you can have a Modes which starts on C – Tone, Tone, Semitone, Tone, Tone, Tone, Semitone (Modes only use white notes)</p>
<p>What types of Intervals can you have and which intervals have them?</p>	<p>Major, Minor, Perfect, Augmented and Diminished 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Major and Minor Unison, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and Octave perfect, Augmented and Diminished</p>
<p>What is the difference between Melodic intervals and harmonic Intervals?</p>	<p>Melodic intervals is when one note moves up or down to another note and harmonic is when two notes are played at the same time.</p>
<p>What is a tritone?</p>	<p>Is an interval of three tones? It is dissonant and many used in 20<sup>th</sup> century music.</p>
<p>Chords and Inversions</p>	
<p>What makes up a chord?</p>	<p>The Root, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> notes of a scale e.g. C, E, G</p>
<p>What types of chords are there?</p>	<p>Major Minor Diminished Augmented 7ths</p>

<p>What are some of the symbols used to show if a chord is major, minor, Diminished, Augmented or with added notes?</p>	<p><b>Majors:</b> C = Major Caug or C+ = augmented C chord C7= C major chord with added minor 7<sup>th</sup> note Cmaj7 = C major chord with added major 7<sup>th</sup> note</p> <p><b>Minors:</b> Cm = C minor Cdim or C- or Co = diminished C chord Cm7 = C minor with added minor 7<sup>th</sup> note Cm maj7 = C minor with added major 7<sup>th</sup> note</p>								
<p>How do you make a root position chord into a 1<sup>st</sup> inversion chord?</p>	<p>Root position is where the root is at the bottom of the chord and 1<sup>st</sup> position is where the 3<sup>rd</sup> is on the bottom e.g.</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>G</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>E</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Root (1a)                      1<sup>st</sup> Inversion (1b)</p>	G	C	E	G	C	E		
G	C								
E	G								
C	E								
<p>How do you make a root position chord into a 2<sup>nd</sup> inversion chord?</p>	<p>Root position is where the root is at the bottom of the chord and the 2<sup>nd</sup> inversion is where the 5<sup>th</sup> of the chord is on the bottom e.g.</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>G</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Root (1a)                      2nd Inversion (1c)</p>	G	E	E	C	C	G		
G	E								
E	C								
C	G								
<p>How do you make a root position chord into a 3rd inversion chord?</p>	<p>Root position is where the root is at the bottom of the chord and the 3rd inversion is where the 7<sup>th</sup> of the chord is on the bottom e.g.</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>B Flat</td> <td>G</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>B Flat</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Root (1a)                      3rd Inversion (1d)</p>	B Flat	G	G	E	E	C	C	B Flat
B Flat	G								
G	E								
E	C								
C	B Flat								
<p>What are 3 different ways of playing chords?</p>	<p><b>Block Chords</b> – playing all the notes of the chord together at once. <b>Rhythmic chords</b> – block chords played in rhythms <b>Broken and or arpeggiated chords</b> – playing the notes of the chord</p>								
<p>What are some of the decorations used in vary the harmony?</p>	<p><b>Auxiliary notes</b> – is either a semitone or tone above or below the notes either side. <b>Passing notes</b> – links the notes before and after. They either belong to the same chord or link chord with another. Usually put on weak beats. When they are put on strong beats they are called 'Accented passing notes' <b>Appoggiaturas</b> - written as a little note tied to the note of the chord and takes half the value of the note its tied to. e.g.</p>								

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	 <p><b>Suspensions</b> – a series of three notes called <b>Preparation, Suspension and Resolution</b>.  <b>Preparation</b> – note which belongs to the accompanying chord usually on weak beat.  <b>Suspension</b> – is the same pitch as preparation note played at the same time the chord changes. (does not go with the new chord)  <b>Resolution</b> – note moves up or down (usually down) from suspension to note in the accompanying chord.  e.g.</p>
What are Ornaments and can you name them?	Short extra notes which add decoration to the music or main melody. Trill Appoggiatura Acciacatura Mordants upper and lower Turns
What does modulation mean?	When the music changes key within the music.
What are two ways to modulate?	Pivot chord – chord in the home key and the key the music modulates to. e.g. Chord V (G major) in C – Chord I in G major. Abrupt – no pivot chord and no other preparation.

<b>Cadences</b>	
What are the 5 types of cadences?	Perfect – V-I Plagal – IV – I Imperfect I, II or IV Interrupted V anything but I or IV Tierce de Picardie – when a piece is in a minor key and finishes in a Major Key
What chords make up a perfect cadence?	V-I
What chords make up an imperfect cadence?	IV- I
What chords make up a Plagal cadence?	IV-I
What chords make up an Interrupted cadence?	V to anything but I or IV
What make up a Tierce de Picardie cadence?	When a piece in a minor key ends in a major key

<b>Textures</b>	
What are the 4 main textures?	<b>Monophonic</b> – a single melodic line with no harmony or accompaniment. <b>Polyphonic or contrapuntal</b> – more than 1 tune being played at the same time, parts moving in contrary motion. <b>Homophonic</b> (Melody and accompaniment) – music moves at the same time, parallel motion. <b>Heterophonic</b> – one tune which all the instruments play but with variations and often at different times.
What is homophonic texture?	Parts move together or chordal music. Or where melody is top line and the other parts provide the harmony beneath but in the same or virtually the same rhythm.
What is Heterophonic texture?	One tune which is played by all instruments but with variations and often at different times.
What is Monophonic texture?	A single line melody. Might apply to the whole piece of music or just for a few bars.
What is Polyphonic or Contrapuntal texture?	Two or more lines move independently of each other.
What is melody and accompaniment texture?	Main melody with accompanying parts moving in an independent, though related rhythm.
What is Imitation texture?	A phrase which is repeated with slight changes each time.
What is Canon texture?	Each part plays the same melody but they come in separately and at regular intervals.

<b>Melodic devices, Forms and Structures</b>	
What is the difference between Disjunct and Conjunct melodies?	Conjunct Melody – uses stepwise by a tone or semitone. Disjunct – uses jumps notes that are more than a major 2 <sup>nd</sup> or a tone apart.
What is meant by a triadic melody?	Melodies which move between the notes of the triad.
What is Arch shape?	A melody which finishes in the same way it starts.
What is strophic form?	The same section of music is repeated over and over again with virtually no changes.
What is meant by through composed?	Opposite of strophic form the music changes in every verse.
What is ternary form?	Section A repeated Section B repeated ABA or ABBAA
What is Binary form?	Binary mean in two parts, and is used for Baroque dances. AABB
What is theme and variation?	Where a main theme usually memorable if first played then there is a short pause followed by the 1st variation. Each variation is self contained.
What is a prelude?	In the Baroque period was a short relatively simple piece of music usually serving as an introduction to a longer piece or to a number of pieces.
What is cyclic form?	Has common theme in all its movements linking the movements together.
What is a Cadenza?	Cadenza is a bit of music played by a soloist usually in the middle of a concerto.

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What is a Rift?	A short section of music that is repeated over and over again.
What is a Ballad?	Are songs that tell a story. Each verse usually has the same rhythm and same tune.
What is a 32 bar song form?	Breaks down into four - 8 bar sections. Sections 1, 2 and 4 all have the same melody but may have different lyrics. Section 3 has a contrasting melody making an AABA structure.
What is Melodic inversion?	Turning the tune upside down
What is Retrograde?	Playing a tune backwards
What is sequencing?	A repeated pattern varying in pitch.
What is imitation?	A repeated phrase with slight changes.
What is an Ostinato?	A repeated melody or rhythm.
What is a concerto?	A piece of music for soloist and orchestra
What is a symphony?	A massive piece of music written for orchestra can last up to 1hr
What is A requiem?	is a mass for the dead.
What is a Mass	A type of Sacred music
What is an overture?	One movement piece written for orchestra
What is a Sonata?	Mostly written for 1 instrument but can be written for 2.
What is Sonata Form?	Exposition Development Recapitulation
What is Minuet and Trio?	Minuet: A repeated B repeated A Repeated Trio: C repeated D repeated C repeated Minuet: ABA
What is Rondo Form?	Section A main theme repeated Section B contrasting episode repeated Section A main theme repeated Section C another contrasting episode repeated Section A main theme repeated

<b>Orchestra</b>	
What are the 4 orchestral families?	String, Woodwind, Brass and percussion
Define an orchestra?	Any large group of strings.
What are transposing instruments and why do they need to be transposed?	Transposing instruments are instruments which need the music to be written in a different key because they play in a different pitch. for example, B flat clarinet when it plays a B flat it sounds C
What instruments belong to the Brass Family?	Trumpet Trombone French Horn Tuba Played using either valves or sliders
What instruments belong to the Woodwind Family?	Flute – no read Piccolo – no read Clarinet – single read Oboe - double read Bassoon – double read Cor Anglais - double read Saxophone – single read Played by using a single or double read
What instruments belong to the String Family?	Violin Viola Cello Double Bass Harp
What instruments belong to the Percussion Family?	Tuned percussion: Piano Xylophone - wooden Glockenspiel - metal Tubular bells Timpani Vibraphone Celesta  Untuned percussion: Bass drum Snare drum Timbale Cymbals Maracas Sleigh bells Bodhran Triangle castanets
What is the role of the conductor?	They are in charge of the orchestra, keeping the beat and emphasising dynamics and bringing in parts or players.
What are the playing techniques for Stringed instruments?	Pizzicato – plucking the strings Arco – play with the bow Con Sordino – play with mute Con Legno – Play with the wood of the bow Vibrato – wobbling of the finger, varying the pitch slightly Tremolo – rapid back and forth movement of the bow
What are the 4 main types of voices?	Soprano Alto

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	Tenor Bass (SATB)
What types of instruments are used in a Wind band?	Woodwind, Brass and percussion
What instruments are usually used in jazz bands?	There are no fixed set of instruments. Small jazz groups have combos a typical combo might be trumpet, trombone, clarinet, saxophone, piano, banjo, double bass (string bass) and drum kit.
What was chamber music originally known as and why?	Home entertainment because it was an old word for a room in a posh building like a palace or a mansion.
Name the different types of chamber groups?	Duet – 2 players Trio – 3 players Quartet – 4 players Quintet - 5 players Sextet – 6 players Septet – 7 players Octet – 8 players
What are some of the chamber groups with extra people?	String trio – Violin, Viola and Cello String Quartet – Violin 1 and 2, Viola and Cello Piano trio – Violin, Cello and Piano (not 3 pianos) Clarinet Quintet – Clarinet, Violin 1 and 2, Viola, Cello (Not 5 Clarinets) Wind Quartet – Usually Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn and Bassoon.

Music Technology	
What Does MIDI stand for?	Musical instrument Digital interface
What is a synthesizer?	A device either with or without a keyboard which allows you to create sounds which often imitate musical instruments.
Name the 3 different types of Synthesizer?	1. Analogue Synthesiser 2. Digital synthesiser 3. Software synths
What are some of the Electronic effects?	<b>Distortion</b> - distorts sounds <b>Reverb</b> – adds an echo to the sounds <b>Chorus</b> – makes it sound as if there's more than one player or singer <b>Phaser</b> – creates a 'Whooshing' effect. <b>Flanger</b> – similar to a phaser but makes a more intense sound. <b>Pitch Shifting</b> – used to bend the natural note or add another harmony <b>Octave effects</b> – creates octaves above or below the note being played

Operas and Oratorios	
What is the difference between an Opera and an Oratorios?	Operas are stories set to music with singing and acting whereas oratorios are Religious versions of Operas.
What are the three types of songs used in an Opera?	Aria Recitative Chorus

Eras of Music	
When was the Baroque Period?	1600 -1750
When was the Romantic period	1825 -1900
When was the Classical Period?	1750 -1825
When was the Modern Period?	1900 - present
What are some of the common features of Baroque music?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous driving rhythms in fast pieces.</li> <li>• Long ornamented melodies.</li> <li>• Clear contrast between loud and soft ('terraced dynamics').</li> <li>• Emphasis on treble and bass in some pieces or contrapuntal textures in others.</li> <li>• A fairly consistent mood throughout each individual movement.</li> <li>• A harpsichord (which is part of the continuo) is often heard filling in the chords between treble and bass.</li> <li>• Small orchestra of strings and oboes plus trumpets and drums in celebratory pieces.</li> </ul>
What are some of the common features of Classical music?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gradual changes (crescendo and diminuendo) as well as clear contrasts in dynamics.</li> <li>• Homophonic textures (chordal or melody and accompaniment).</li> <li>• Mainly simple harmonies but melodies may include chromatic decoration.</li> <li>• Cadences at regular intervals clear phrases.</li> <li>• Pairs of balanced phrases in which the second can give the impression of an answer to the first.</li> <li>• There are contrasts of mood within the same movement.</li> <li>• The Piano replaces the harpsichord as the main keyboard instrument.</li> <li>• Flutes, Clarinets and Horns start to appear regularly in medium sized orchestras.</li> </ul>
What are some of the common features of Romantic music?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music that tells a story or paints a picture become popular.</li> <li>• Many pieces convey emotions, evoking subjects such as dreams, love and nature.</li> <li>• Melodies are often memorable and feature an expressive and singing quality.</li> <li>• Extremes in length and difficulty of pieces and in the range of dynamics used are common.</li> <li>• Homophonic textures continue to predominate, often with denser accompaniments.</li> <li>• Harmony is often complex, including chromatic chords and expressive dissonances.</li> <li>• Most composers added very detailed performing directions to their scores.</li> </ul>

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What are some of the common features of Modern music?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The orchestra grew to its largest size typically 80 or more players.</li> <li>• Characterised by a diversity of styles (no one style predominates).</li> <li>• Some composers used chords for 'colour' rather than to define keys and cadences.</li> <li>• The increasing use of dissonance led some composers to reject the concept of tonality.</li> <li>• Complex rhythms, angular melodies and unusual metres feature in some modern music.</li> <li>• Rationalists continued to develop the symphony, concerto and string quartet.</li> <li>• Some pieces were influenced by folk music, world music or jazz.</li> <li>• Experimental works including music formed through chance and the use of extended instrumental techniques or electronically generated sounds.</li> <li>• Repetitive motifs, layered textures and gentle diatonic dissonances of minimalism featured in much music since 1970s.</li> </ul>
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Popular Music	
What are the 4 ways backing singers can harmonies?	In Harmony In Unison Descant Call and Response
What are some of the different ways a singer can sing?	A cappella Vibrato Falsetto Portamento Scat Riffing Belting Rapping Beatboxing
What are some of the Electronic effects which can add to a vocal part?	Reverb Multi-tracking Sampling Vocoder
What are the different types fo Rock music?	Hard Rock Punk rock Heavy metal Progressive (Prog Rock) Glam Rock Psychedelic Rock
What are Classical Rock songs known as?	Anthems
What are the 4 main types of songs used in musicals	Solo character Duet Action Song Chorus numbers
What is a leitmotif?	A tune which represents a particular character, object or place.

Traditional music	
What notes make up the Blues Scale?	C, E Flat, F, G Flat, G, B Flat and C
What is the 12 bar blues structure?	Chord I, Chord I, Chord I, Chord I Chord I, Chord IV, Chord I, Chord I Chord V, Chord IV, Chord I, Chord I (V)
What is the 16 bar blues structure?	Chord I, Chord I, Chord I, Chord I Chord I, Chord IV, Chord I, Chord I Chord V, Chord IV, Chord V, Chord IV Chord V, Chord IV, Chord I, Chord I
What is the difference between Ragtime and Dixieland Blues?	Ragtime was often played on a piano and used to accompany silent films and Dixieland was a mix of brass band marches.

Western Classical Traditions Since 1910	
What is Serialism and the 12 tone system ?	Serialism is a 20th Century composition technique which uses the 12 tone system. 1. arrange 12 chromatic notes of an octave into a set order written out horizontally. 2. rearrange the prime order playing the notes in reverse order. 3. take the prime order of the notes and turn the intervals between the notes upside down. 4. take your inversion and play the notes in reverse order.
What is Minimalism?	Build music out of repeated patterns and uses many musical ideas such as: Rhythm plays an important part Polyrhythm layering Harmonies change slowly Pieces are long and hypnotic                      Looping