National 4 and 5 Music



Sgoil Lionacleit

Music Department

<u>Understanding Music</u>

National 4 and 5



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In this booklet you will cover all National 4 Music concepts. The concepts are organized into three units:

- Music and the Media
- Music for Culture and Celebration
- Music for Entertainment

All words that are <u>underlined</u> are to be written into your jotters, or understanding music <u>student booklets</u>. Your assessments are in the student booklets, so this will be a record/evidence of your success in understanding the concepts involved in music. You can revise these concepts by going to the National Qualifications Music website: www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nqmusic

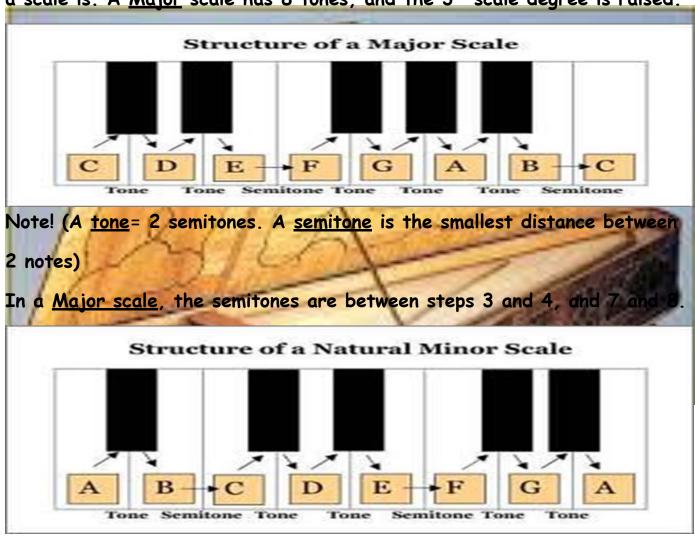
Be prepared for class with a pencil/rubber and have both booklets ready at the beginning of each listening lesson. Remember, it is only YOU that will sit these listening unit assessments, and only YOU that can hear the concepts in each individual audio clip! Music concepts will be grouped into 5 catagories:

- 1. Styles
- 2. Melody/Harmony
- 3. Rhythm/Tempo
- 4. Texture/Structure/Form
- 5. Timbre/Dynamics

Understanding <u>what</u> these words mean, and how each musical concept is grouped into these catagories, is half the battle. The other half is hearing them in the music, and identifying them in written music. After the red picture of a pencil, copy the definitions of the word into your student booklet, and prepare for an audio assessment.

Music and the Media

Most music has a <u>tonality</u>, or is played in either a <u>Major</u> or <u>Minor</u> key, or tonality. A <u>Major</u> key has a happy sound to it, and a <u>Minor</u> key has a sad sound to it. To understand Major and Minor, you need to understand what a scale is. A <u>Major</u> scale has 8 tones, and the 3rd scale degree is raised.



In a Minor scale, the 3rd step is lowered. This gives it the sad sound.

The semitones are between steps 2 and 3, and 5 and 6. Giving it a sad sound, or minor tonality.



Copy the <u>underlined</u> word definitions into your student booklet, and prepare to identify Major and Minor music!

A <u>chord</u> is usually 3 notes played together at the same time. If we have <u>broken chords</u>, this means that the notes of the chord are played <u>separately</u>, or one at a time. An <u>Arpeggio</u> is notes of a chord played one after the other.



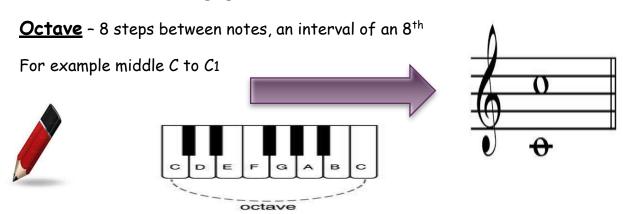
<u>Change of key</u> this happens in music when the tonality of the piece changes from one key to another. It is easy to see in written music;

Key Signature Changes



You will have to identify when this happens in music be listening! Listen to Whitney Houston singing 'I will always love you'. The change of key is called a modulation.

<u>Pedal</u> - Short for pedal point. A note which is sustained, or repeated continuously, in the bass beneath changing harmonies.



Simple time - This is music in which the **beat** can be divided in **half**.

(example; 2/4 March, 3/4 Waltz, 4/4 Reel and Strathspey)

March: 2 beats in the bar.



Waltz: 3 beats in the bar.



Reel: 4 beats in the bar. Made up mainly of crotchets and quavers.

ATAVI The Window mode or The Brown

The Witches



Strathspey- 4 beats per bar, featuring a Scotch snap.





Orchestral Instruments

<u>Violin</u>- highest range of the String family

<u>Cello</u>- spiked instrument you sit to play, range is lower than the Viola by one octave

Double Bass - lowest range of the String family

Harp- a member of the String family, strings are plucked

Flute - a woodwind, made of silver, and second only to the Piccolo in pitch

<u>Clarinet</u>- a woodwind requiring a single reed to play, mellow in timbre (sound)

<u>Trumpet</u> - highest in pitch of the Brass family

Trombone- member of the Brass family that uses a slide to change notes

<u>Timpani</u>- large drum made of copper, the drum heads can be tuned to a specific pitch

Bass drum- lowest of the drums, requires a large mallet to play, percussion instrument

Snare drum- unturned percussion instrument, played with sticks or brushes

<u>Cymbals</u>- unturned percussion instrument, round in shape and made of metal

Glockenspiel - tuned percussion instrument with metal bars laid out similar to the piano

<u>Xylophone</u>- tuned percussion instrument with wooden bars laid out similar to the piano

<u>Triangle</u> - This instrument belongs to the percussion family. A piece of metal in the shape of a triangle, open at one corner, and struck with a metal beater. It is an unturned percussion

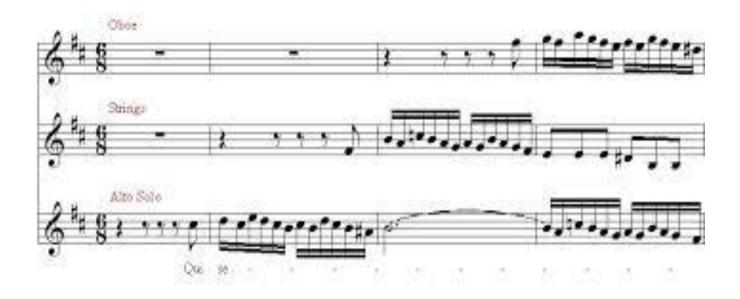
<u>Tambourine</u>-This instrument belongs to the <u>percussion</u> family. It has a wooden or plastic frame, pairs of metal jingles attached, and is mostly played by the hand striking or shaking the instrument.

You will need to be able to identify these instruments in audio clips.



Imitation-

<u>Imitation</u>= is the repetition of a melody in a polyphonic texture shortly after its first appearance in a <u>different voice</u>, usually at a <u>different pitch</u>. The melody may vary through transposition, inversion, or otherwise, but retain its original character. The intervals and rhythms of an imitation may be exact or modified, imitation occur at varying distances relative to the first occurrence, and phrases may begin with voices in imitation before they freely go their own ways.



When a phrase recurs exactly as before, it is called strict imitation. A round, or Canon, is thus an example of <u>strict imitation</u>.



Theme and Variation

<u>Theme and Variation</u>. The structure of a piece where the melody is heard (the theme), then returns several times with variations, or changes made to it.

This style was very popular in the Classical period, which you will look at more in National 5 Music. It was used in the Baroque and Romantic periods as well. Bach, a famous composer during the Baroque period, wrote the Goldberg Variations. Mozart, a famous composer during the Classical period, wrote the <u>Variations from Quintet K. 581</u>. As you listen to the variations, can you still here the main melody?

Theme:



Variation:







Tempo - speed at which the music is played.

(At the National 4 and 5 levels you will need to use the Italian words for tempo.)

Accellerando - gradually speeding up.

Rallentando - gradually slowing down.

<u>A tempo</u>- means to return to the original speed. This happens after a change of speed has already occurred.



<u>Music and the Media</u> National 5



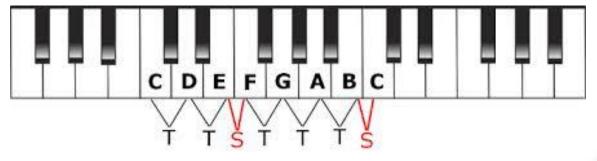
<u>Minimalism</u>- A development in the second half of the 20th century based on simple rhythmic and melodic figures which are constantly repeated with very slight changes each time.

(Reflections I - Minimalist Piano Music by Daniel Sullivan)

Inverted Pedal - A note which is held on or repeated continuously at a high pitch.

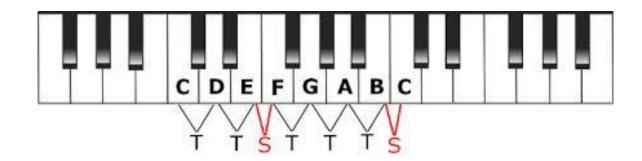


Tone - the interval (distance between notes) of 2 semitones



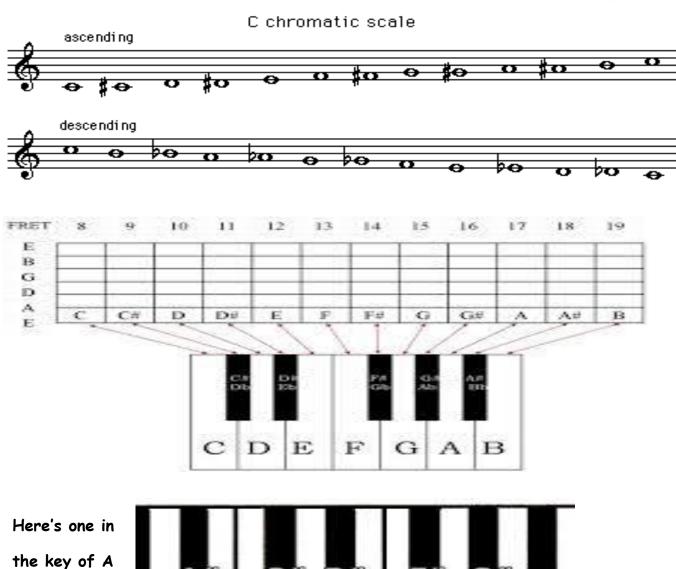


Semitone - the shortest distance between 2 notes is called a semitone. 2 semitones = tone.

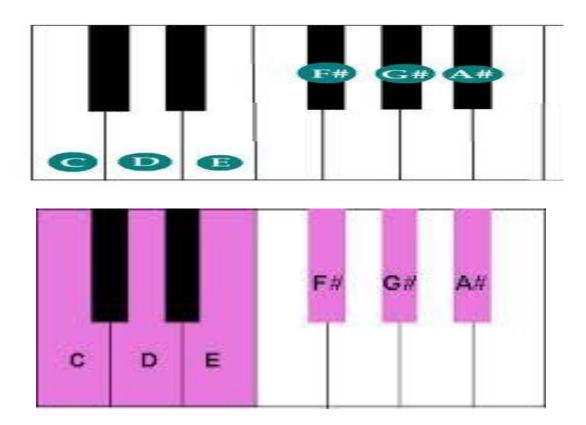


<u>Chromatic scale</u> - A scale made up entirely of semitones.





Whole tone scale - scale containing no semitones but built entirely on whole tones.



Debussy - Voiles (piano solo) - has a dreamy sound to it.

<u>Glissando</u> - Sliding from one note to another, taking in all the notes in between where possible.



Countermelody - A melody played against the main melody.









<u>Rubato</u> - Translates as 'robbed time', which means the music will speed up and slow down in order to allow for expression, therefore there will <u>not</u> be a strict tempo maintained.



Ritardando - The music slows down.



Moderato - A medium tempo (speed).



Structure/Form

Homophonic - Texture where you hear melody with accompaniment.



or, where all the parts play a similar rhythm at the same time:



Homophonic

Two or more parts moving together



<u>Polyphonic</u> - Texture which consists of two or more melodic lines, possibly of equal importance, which weave independently of each other.



Ex.1



Ex.2





<u>Contrapuntal</u> - Texture in which each, of two or more parts, has independent melodic interest; similar in meaning to polyphonic.



Orchestral Instruments:

Piccolo - highest in pitch of all the woodwinds, looks like a small flute.

<u>Oboe</u> - This woodwind requires a double reed to play, it is higher in pitch than the clarinet.



Bassoon - This woodwind requires a double reed to play and has the lowest pitch of all the woodwinds. It is often used for funny characters.

<u>French horn</u>- This instrument belongs to the brass family and is basically 4 metres of tubing curled around, with a bell on one end and a mouthpiece in the other. The keys are played with the left hand.

<u>Tuba</u>-The tuba is the largest and lowest brass instrument in the brass family.

<u>Viola</u>-This instrument belongs to the string family. It is slightly bigger and lower in pitch.



String playing techniques (String Family)

There are 2 techniques used by string players to get the sound from the instrument. They are;

- 1. <u>Arco</u> when this is indicated, string players use the hair on the bow to pull across the string to make a tone, or sound.
- 2. <u>Pizzicato</u> when this is indicated (Pizz.) players are to pluck the string, and <u>not</u> use the bow.

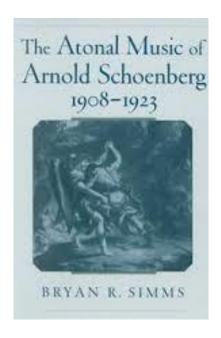


<u>Rolls</u>-A very fast repetition of a note on a percussion instrument. (For example, on a snare drum or timpani.)





<u>Atonal</u> music has no feeling of key, major or minor. It is very <u>dissonant</u> and lacks a 'nice' melody and accompaniment.



<u>Cluster</u>-A term used to describe a group of notes, which clash, played together.



A cappella - Unaccompanied choral singing.



Music for Culture and Celebration

At the National 4 level we will cover two Scottish vocal music styles;

- Mouth Music
- Scots Ballad

<u>Mouth music</u>- Un-accompanied songs with Gaelic or nonsense words, normally sung for ceilidh dances.

<u>Scots Ballad</u>- A Scottish song which tells a story. Examples of Scots ballads are 'Flower of Scotland' and 'Loch Lomond'.

And, two dance styles:

- Strathspey uses dotted rhythms, called scotch snaps, and is in simple time.
- **Jig-** uses <u>dotted rhythms</u> (dotted crotchets), is in 6/8 and considered <u>compound</u> <u>time</u>.

<u>Strathspey</u>- has four beats in each bar, features <u>scotch snaps</u>, which are dotted rhythms that sounds like Uncle, or two together would be, Uncle Billy.



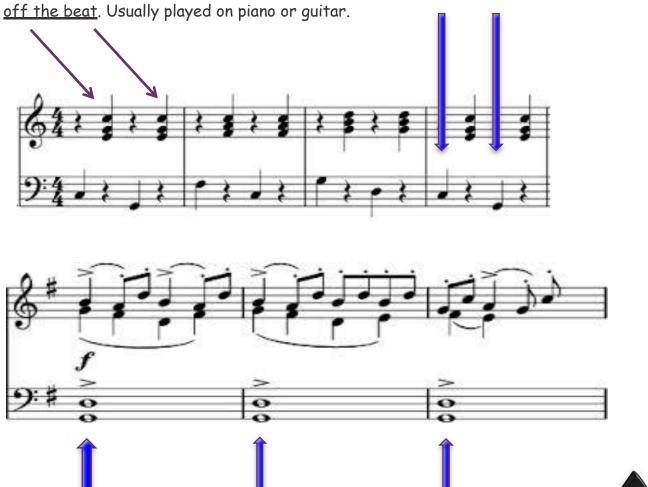
Jig- 6 beats in the bar, uses dotted crotchets, and is in compound time (the beat, can not be divided in half).





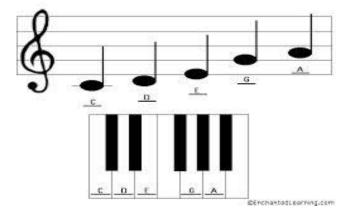
<u>Compound time</u> - The beat is divided into groups of three.

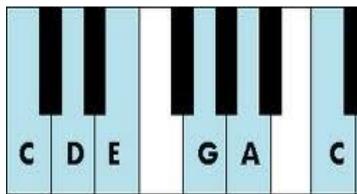
<u>Vamp</u>- A rhythmic accompaniment with a bass note played <u>on the beat</u> and a chord



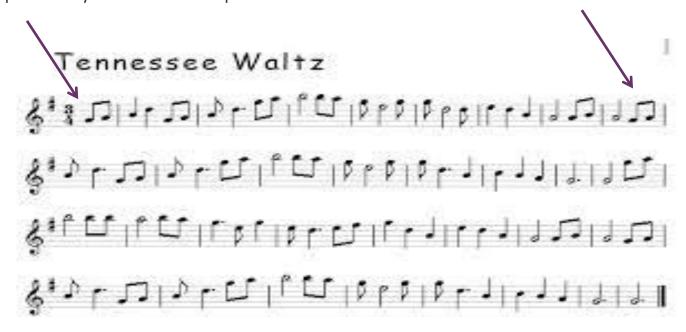
<u>Drone</u> - One note held on (or repeated in) the bass. Often called a drone bass. Sometimes there is more than one note. The low-pitched pipes of a bagpipe.

<u>Pentatonic scale</u> - Any five-note scale. In practice, the most common one is that on which much folk music is based, particularly Scottish and Celtic.

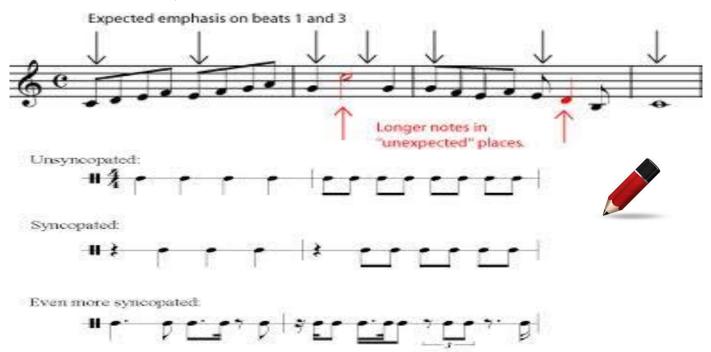




<u>Anacrusis</u>—the notes which appear before the first strong beat of a musical phrase, particularly at the start of a piece.



<u>Syncopation</u> - Strongly accented notes playing off or against the beat. Syncopation occurs in all kinds of music.



Syncopation – syncopation involves a variety of <u>rhythms</u>, which are in some way unexpected, which make part or all of a tune or piece of music off beat. More simply, syncopation is a general term for "a disturbance or interruption of the regular flow of rhythm", or a placement of rhythmic stresses or accents where they wouldn't normally occur.



Reggae music was developed in the late 1960s in Jamaica. It has quite a distinctive sound and has the characteristic of strong <u>accents</u> on the <u>2nd and 4th beats</u> of the bar. Bob Marley (illustrated) has had many reggae hits in the pop charts.



AFRICAN MUSIC

Much $\underline{\textit{African music}}$ features voices and/or $\underline{\textit{African drums}}$. It also features $\underline{\textit{African}}$

dancing.





<u>Panpipes</u> - pipes which are graded in size and are bound together. The sound is made by blowing across the top of the pipes.

<u>Guiro</u> - This instrument belongs to the percussion family. It is made of wood that has been hollowed out and has ridges cut into the outer surface. A wooden stick is scraped along the ridges to produce the sound.







Music for Culture and Celebration

National 5

<u>Pibroch</u>- Music for solo bagpipe, in theme and variation form, and with grace notes.





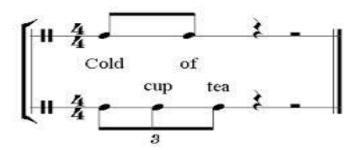


<u>Grace notes</u>— a type of ornament played as a quick, crushed note before the main note of a melody.



<u>Cross rhythms</u> - Contrasting rhythms played at the same time or played with unusual emphasis on notes.





<u>Clarsach</u> - A small Scottish harp, used in folk music. Clarsach is Gaelic for harp.





Celtic rock - A style of music that mixes Celtic folk music and rock together.

Celtic folk groups can include; fiddle, tin whistle, flute, guitar, pipes, bohdran, mandolin, harp, and other acoustic instruments that can be carried.

Bothy ballad - A folk song, usually with <u>many</u> verses, from north-east Scotland.



<u>Waulking song</u> - A rhythmic song sung in Gaelic by the women in the Western Isles of Scotland while they waulked woolen cloth to soften and shrink it.



Gaelic Psalm - Psalms (hymns) which were sung in Gaelic, unaccompanied.

Bodhran - An Irish wooden drum, held in one hand and played with a wooden beater.







Binary - A form in which the music is made up of two different sections labelled A and B.

Indian - Music from India which uses instruments such as the sitar and tabla.



Sitar- Indian guitar.

Tabla-Indian drums.

<u>Pitch bend</u> - Changing the pitch of a note, for example by pushing a guitar string upwards.

Bongo drums - Fairly high-pitched drums, joined in pairs and usually played with fingers and palms.



<u>Countermelody</u> - A melody played against the main melody.



<u>Contrary motion</u>- Two parts which move in opposite directions, eg as one part ascends the other part descends.



<u>Hi-Hat</u>- Used as part of a drumkit, they consist of two cymbals (one upside-down) that are hit with a stick or brush, and opened/closed with a foot pedal.

<u>Castanets</u> - A percussion instrument popular in Spanish music.

Cymbals - A percussion instrument, round in shape and made of metal.



Music For Entertainment



Baroque Music-1600-1750



Harpsichord and Recorder



The <u>Harpsichord</u> is considered a keyboard instrument, but as the strings are plucked, it is actually a string instrument! It is <u>not</u> included as one of the string family.

The Piano, on the other hand, has strings which are <u>struck</u> (hit), with felt covered hammers, and therefore it is a member of the Percussion family.

Famous composers of this period are Johann Sebastian <u>Bach</u> and George Frederick <u>Handel</u>.



The <u>Recorder</u> is a member of the woodwind family, but does not require a reed. It comes in various sizes, is made of wood, and has a mellow sounding tone, or <u>timbre</u>.

The Baroque Orchestra

The Baroque Orchestra includes, but is not limited to, the following instruments:

- 1. Violin-highest, in pitch, of all the string family.
- 2. Viola-slightly larger than the violin and lower in pitch.
- 3. <u>Cello</u>-Players sit to play this spiked string instrument, lower in pitch than viola
- 4. <u>Double bass</u>-lowest, in pitch, in the string family.
- 5. Flute-made of silver, highest in pitch of all the woodwind family.
- 6. Recorder-made of wood, used in Baroque music before the flute.
- 7. Oboe-uses a double-reed, second in pitch to the flute.
- 8. <u>Trumpet</u>-highest in pitch of all the Brass family.
- 9. Harpsichord-keyboard instrument which is plucked rather than struck.
- 10. <u>Timpani</u>-made of copper, skin heads can be tuned to a specific pitch, and is struck with a large soft mallet.

Note: The string family made up the majority of the Baroque orchestra.





Romantic- This is music written between 1810-1900.



The Romantic Era of music is "music with intense energy and passion. The Classical period, which came before this era, had many strict rules. In contrast, the Romantic era allowed for creativity and was very expressive.

The use of clarinet, bassoon, harp, tuba, trombone, and various percussion; triangle, tambourine, bass drum and cymbals are featured.



<u>Clarinet</u>, a woodwind instrument lower in pitch than the Oboe, it uses a single reed and has a rather mellow sound to it.



This is the mouthpiece of a clarinet. It shows the single reed and ligature which holds it in place. It was rarely used in the Baroque era, as it was a new instrument, and not many people played it. It became popular in the Classical period, and is used in many different styles of music to this day.

Romantic Orchestra layout



<u>Theme and Variation</u> is a standard form of musical composition consisting of a simple usually harmonized melody presented first in its original unadorned form then repeated several or many times with varied treatment so based on the theme that at least some semblance of its general melodic or harmonic form is evident. This style was very popular in the Classical period, which you will look at more in National 5 Music. It was used in the Baroque and Romantic periods as well. Bach, a famous composer during the Baroque period, wrote the Goldberg Variations. Mozart, a famous composer during the Classical period, wrote the <u>Variations from Quintet K. 581</u>. As you listen to the variations, can you still here the main melody?

Popular composers during the Romantic period were:

<u>Chopin-</u> <u>Schubert</u> <u>Tchaikovsky</u>

Heroic Polonaise in A Flat The Unfinished Swan Lake

Major- Piano solo Symphony
(No.8) Sleeping Beauty

Nutcracker

Ave Maria

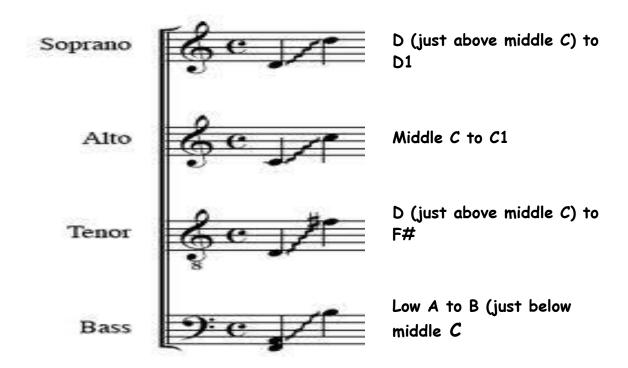
<u>Imitation</u>= is the repetition of a melody in a polyphonic texture shortly after its first appearance in a <u>different voice</u>, usually at a <u>different pitch</u>. The melody may vary through transposition, inversion, or otherwise, but retain its original character. The intervals and rhythms of an imitation may be exact or modified, imitation occur at varying distances relative to the first occurrence, and phrases may begin with voices in imitation before they freely go their own ways.

When a phrase recurs exactly as before, it is called strict imitation. A round, or Canon, is thus an example of <u>strict imitation</u>.

(Bartok, Chromatic Invention, Mikrokosmos, vol. III, no. 91, mm. 1-4)

Imitation is used in instrumental <u>and</u> vocal music. Vocal music uses 4 main vocal ranges; SATB

- Soprano highest of the female range
- Alto lowest of the female range
- Tenor highest of the male range
- Bass lowest of the male range



<u>Opera</u>



A drama set to music with soloists, chorus, acting, and orchestral accompaniment.



Opera is an <u>art form</u> in which <u>singers</u> and <u>musicians</u> perform a <u>dramatic</u> work combining text (called a <u>libretto</u>) and <u>musical score</u>, usually in a theatrical setting. Opera incorporates many of the elements of spoken <u>theatre</u>, such as <u>acting</u>, <u>scenery</u>, and <u>costumes</u> and sometimes includes <u>dance</u>. The performance is typically given in an <u>opera house</u>, accompanied by an <u>orchestra</u> or smaller <u>musical ensemble</u>.

<u>Raotime</u>

Ragtime is a musical genre that enjoyed its peak popularity between 1895 and 1918. Its main characteristic trait is its <u>syncopated</u>, or "ragged," rhythm. It began as dance music in the red-light districts of African American communities in <u>St.Louis</u> and <u>New Orleans</u> years before being published as popular sheet music for piano. Scott Joplin became famous through the publication in 1899 of the Maple Leap Rag, and soon after the Entertainer. It helped to influence Jazz music.

Swrimar

Swing music is a form of American music that developed in the early 1930s and became a distinctive style by 1940. Swing uses a strong rhythm section of <u>double bass</u> and drums as the anchor for a lead section of <u>brass</u> instruments such as trumpets and trombones, <u>woodwinds</u> including <u>saxophones</u> and <u>clarinets</u>, and sometimes stringed instruments such as <u>violin</u> and <u>guitar</u>, medium to fast <u>tempos</u>, and a "lilting" <u>swing</u> <u>time rhythm</u>. The name swing came from the phrase 'swing feel' where the emphasis is on the off-beat or weaker pulse in the music (unlike classical music). Swing bands usually featured <u>soloists</u> who would improvise on the melody over the arrangement.

<u>Brass Band</u>- is a <u>musical ensemble</u> generally consisting entirely of <u>brass instruments</u>, most often with a percussion section.



Brass instruments include; <u>Trumpet</u>, <u>Trombone</u>, <u>French Horn</u>, and <u>Tuba</u>. Brass bands often use percussion instruments. In the picture above you see a <u>Bass drum</u> to the left.

Bass drum - a large drum of indefinite low pitch.



Scat Singing-Nonsense words, syllables and sounds are improvised (made up) by the singer. Sometimes the singer is imitating the sounds of instruments.

<u>Backing Vocals</u>-Singers who support the lead singer(s), usually by singing in harmony in the background.

<u>Rapping</u>-Rhyming lyrics that are spoken and performed in time to a beat. Rapping is popular in hip-hop music. Popular rappers in 2014 are Jay-Z, Juicy J, Tupac Shakur, and Iggy Azalea.

<u>Ternary</u> - A B A - 3 part form: Section A, followed by a B section which is a different melody, than a return to the A section.



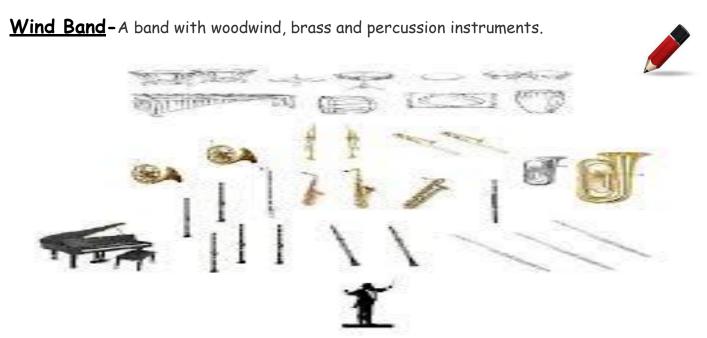
<u>Verse and Chorus</u> - A structure/form popular in many songs. The music of the verse is repeated, often with different words, and (between verses) the chorus is normally repeated, featuring different music to the verse.

<u>Middle 8</u> - In popular music, a section which provides a contrast to the opening section. It is often eight bars long.

Bass Guitar - The bass guitar is pitched lower than a guitar. It is an electric string instrument and has only four strings, two fewer than an electric guitar.

<u>Distortion</u>- An electronic effect used in rock music to colour the sound of an electric guitar. It gives a 'fuzzy' sound rather than the usual clean sound.

Muted - Using a mute changes the sound normally produced on an instrument.



<u>Chord Progression (I.IV.V)</u>- A series of related chords built on the first, fourth and fifth notes of a major or minor scale.



Music For Entertainment

<u>National 5</u>

<u>Classical</u> - A term used to describe/refer to music composed during the period 1750-1810 approximately; the era of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven.



Symphony - A large work for orchestra, usually in four movements.

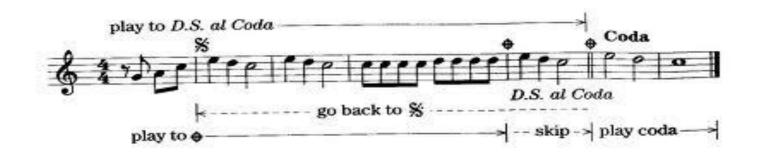
Rondo- A form where the first section (A) keeps returning, in between different sections - B, C etc.



Episode - A passage of music linking two musical themes, such as in Rondo Form.



<u>Coda</u> - A passage at the end of a piece of music which rounds it off effectively.



<u>Alberti Bass</u> - Broken chords played by the left hand outlining harmonies, whilst the right hand plays the melody.

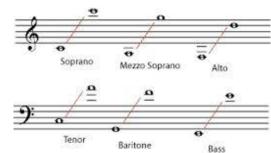


<u>Aria</u> - A solo song sung in an operatic style, in an opera, oratorio or cantata, with orchestral accompaniment.

<u>Chorus</u> - A group of singers, the music written for them, or the refrain between verses of a song.

Mezzo Soprano - A female singer whose voice range lies between that of a soprano and an alto.

Baritone – A male voice whose range lies between that of bass and tenor.



Descant - A counter melody which accompanies and is sung above the main melody.

Syllabic - Vocal music where each syllable is given one note only.

<u>Melismatic</u> - Several notes sung to one syllable.

Gospel - Music written with religious lyrics, often in praise or thanksgiving to God.



Walking Bass-A bass line (low notes) often featured in a variety of jazz styles. It goes for a walk, up and down a pattern of notes, and is often played on a double bass.



<u>Ground Bass</u>-A theme in the bass which is repeated many times while the upper parts are varied.

<u>Chord Progression (I,IV,V,VI)</u>- Different progressions using the chords built on the 1st, 4th, 5th and 6th notes of a major or minor scale.

		mon C aressi		
I	VI	IV	V	I
C	Am	F	G	С
D	Bm	G	Α	D
1	II	VI	V	1
C	Dm	Am	G	C
D	Em	Bm	A	C
I	VI	II	V	I
C	Am	Em	G	C
D	Bm	Em	A	D
I	III	VI	V	I
C	Em	Am	G	C
D	F#m	Bm	A	D



<u>Strophic</u> - A song which has music repeated for verses/choruses, therefore the same music will be heard repeating throughout the song.

VERSE	VERSE	VERSE
А	Α	А

<u>Con Sordino</u>- Using a mute changes the sound normally produced on an instrument. Con means with, and sordino is 'mute'.

Trumpet Mute



Violin/Viola mute



Flutter Tonguing - Rolling your 'r's' whilst playing a brass or woodwind instrument.

Reverb - An electronic effect, which can give the impression of different hall acoustics.

<u>Perfect Cadence</u> - A cadence consists of two chords at the end of a phrase. A perfect cadence is the dominant to tonic chords (V-I).

<u>Imperfect Cadence</u> - A cadence consists of two chords at the end of a phrase. In an imperfect cadence the last chord is chord V (the dominant) creating an unfinished effect.



