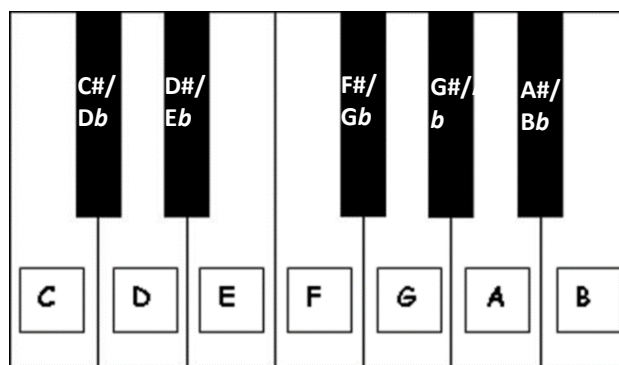




Year 8 Music

Knowledge Organiser



| Element | Description | Key terms associated with the element |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Pitch | How high or low the sound is. | The musical alphabet is A B C D E F G # = sharp b = flat Treble clef  Bass clef  |
| Tempo | The speed of the music. | Largo = slow Andante = walking pace Allegro = fast Presto = very fast |
| Dynamics | The volume of the music. | Piano = quiet Forte = loud Crescendo = gradually getting louder Diminuendo = gradually getting quieter |
| Texture | How many layers are playing together. | Melody and accompaniment is the most common texture associated with pop music, reggae and Blues. |
| Structure | The order of the music. | Strophic form = the structure of most pop songs Verse, Chorus, Bridge = different sections of pop songs 12 bar Blues = the structure of Blues music |
| Timbre (Instruments/voice) | The sound the instrument makes. | Ensemble = group of musicians playing together Bassline = a low and often repeating pattern played on a low instrument such as a double bass or bass guitar Synchronous sound |
| Melody | The main tune of the piece. | Riff = a repeating pattern in pop songs AAB phrases = the structure of Blues melodies Improvisation = creating music on the spot Blues Scale = notes used to improvise Blues melodies Leitmotif = a short musical phrase associated with a character in film music |
| Rhythm | The length and combination of the notes. | Drum fill = a short pattern, not part of the main beat which often emphasis a new section of the song Syncopation = off-beat Time signature = how many beats in a bar |
| Chords | Multiple notes played at the same time. | Chord sequence = the order of chords Harmonic rhythm = how many chords per bar Primary chords = chords I IV & V |
| Tonality | The key of the music. | Major = bright and happy mood Minor = sad mood Atonal = not happy or sad, usually lots of clashes which sound unpleasant Dissonance = clashes where notes don't 'fit' together |