

Year 1: Timbre and rhythmic patterns (Fairytales)

Musical style: Classic music

We are listening to a classical 'symphonic fairytale' called 'Peter and the Wolf' composed by Prokofiev in 1936.



A symphony is a piece of music which has been composed to be played by a full orchestra. Symphonies are usually quite long pieces which are divided into parts.

Vocabulary

Timbre The quality of sound e.g. smooth, scratchy, twinkly.

Pulse The heartbeat of the music. Sometimes called the 'beat'.



We can clap along in time, we can move our bodies in time, we can march in time to the beat of the music.

Rhythm A pattern of long and short sounds.



Instruments

Different instruments have different 'timbres'. In 'Peter and the Wolf', the animals are represented by instruments with different timbres.

Peter - Violin



Cat - Clarinet



Hunter - Timpani



Duck - Oboe



Grandfather - Bassoon

Wolf - French horn



Bird - Flute



Year 2: Orchestral instruments

Musical style: Orchestral

Orchestral music is music that is played by an orchestra. It is usually classical or film music, but sometimes orchestras play other types of music too.

Vocabulary

Strings

Instruments that are played by plucking or bowing strings.

Woodwind

Instruments that make sound by blowing air through a reed or small mouthpiece.

Brass

Instruments that are made of metal and the sound is made by blowing air through a cup-shaped mouthpiece.

Percussion

Instruments which are played by shaking, tapping or scraping with your hand or a beater.

Dynamics

The volume of the music (loud or quiet).

Sound effects

A sound created to represent something in a film, television programme or a play.

Tempo

The speed of the music (fast or slow).

Timbre

The quality of sound e.g. smooth, scratchy, twinkly.

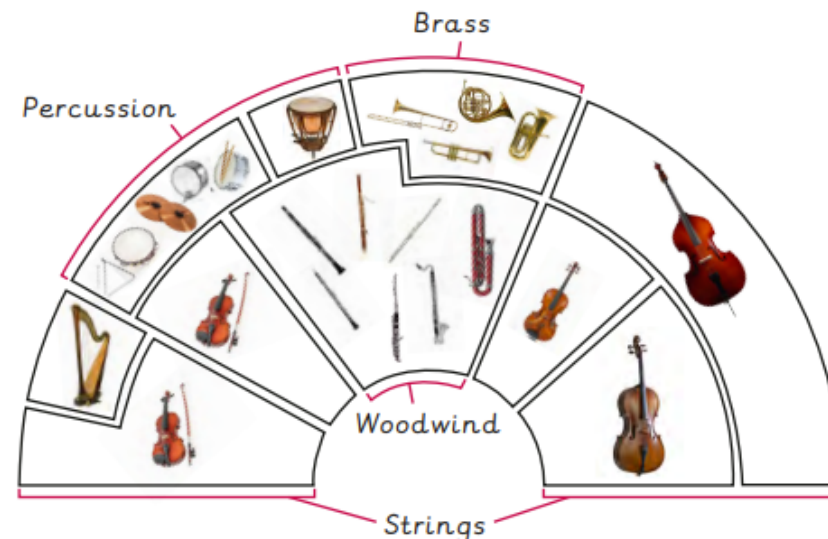
Vocals

Using your voice in a piece of music.

Instruments

Orchestra

A group of instruments that play together.



Year 3: Creating compositions in response to an animation: Mountains

Musical style: Classical

Classical music is music that has been composed by musicians who are trained in the art of writing music (composing), such as Mussorgsky, Vivaldi, Beethoven and Holst. The term 'classical music' can also refer to music composed in the classical period of 1750 to 1825.



Ensemble A small group of musicians who perform together.

Melody Notes of different pitches played in a sequence to create a tune.

Soundscape A collection of sound effects used to describe a landscape.

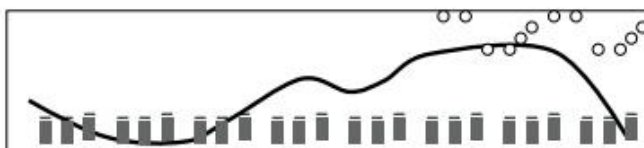
Rhythm A pattern of long and short sounds (and silences) within a piece of music.

Vocabulary

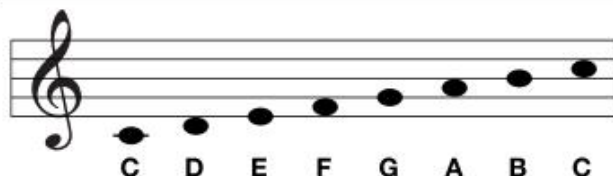
Compose To create an original piece of music.

Notation The way that music is written so that others can play it.

Graphic score



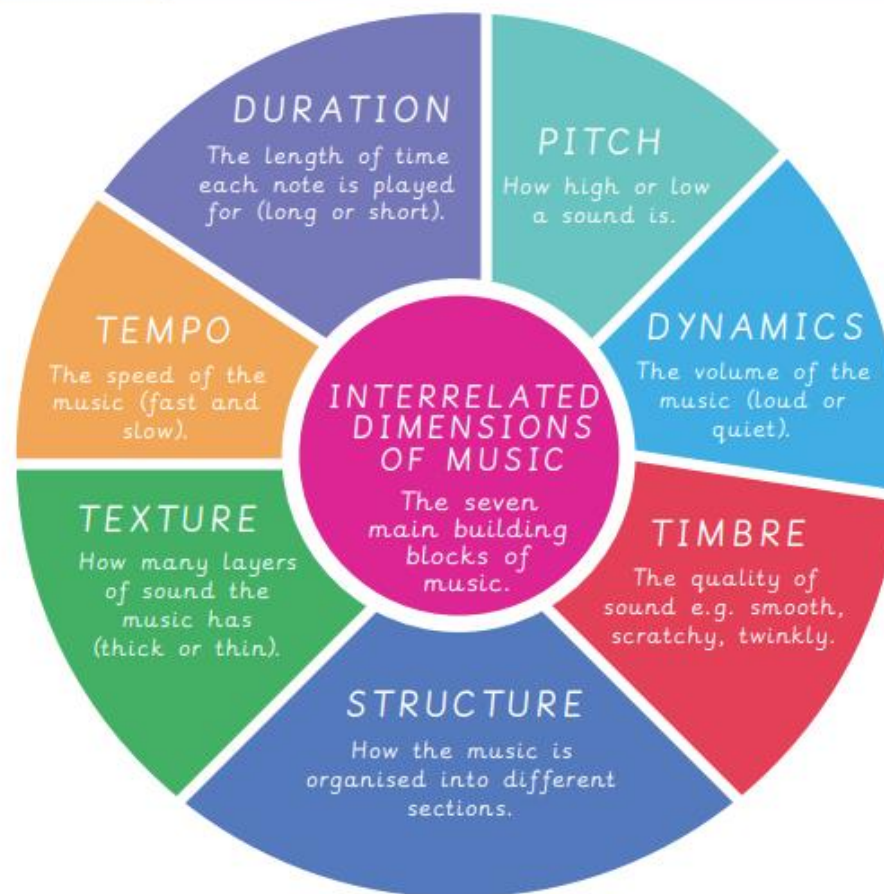
Stave and letter notation



Musical notation helps us to 'write' and 'read' the melodies so they won't be forgotten and can be played by others.

Composition An original piece of music that has been created.

Graphic score A way of writing music down using pictures or symbols, rather than standard music notation.



Year 4: Samba and carnival sounds and instruments (South America)

Musical style: Samba



Samba is a Brazilian music style which forms a part of everyday life in Brazil. It is used for celebrations, including the Rio Carnival, and even in football! It is a style of music which layers syncopated rhythms on multiple percussion instruments.

Instruments

Untuned percussion

Percussion instruments you **cannot** play a tune on.

Agogo



Caixa



Chocahlo



Ganza



Repique



Surdo



Tamborim



Vocabulary

Rhythm

A pattern of long and short sounds (and silences) within a piece of music.

Syncopation

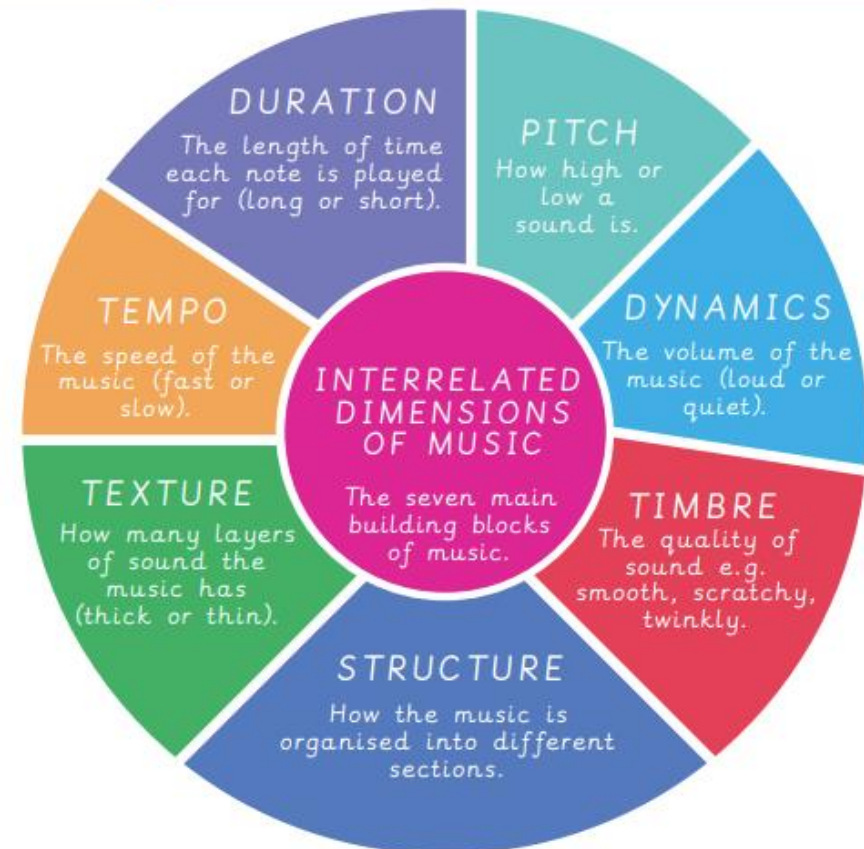
A type of musical rhythm in which the strong notes are not on the beat.

Off-beat

The beats in between the ones you would naturally clap on.

Break

A four or eight beat rhythm which is usually played once or twice.



Year 5: Exploring the associations between music, sounds and colour

Musical feature: Composition

In this unit we compose our own musical composition to represent Holi, the Hindu festival of colour, which celebrates the beginning of spring and the triumph of good over evil.

Holi celebrations include people throwing and smearing each other with vibrant, multi-coloured paints and powders.



Vocabulary

Graphic score

A way of writing down music on the page without using traditional stave notation, using symbols and images to represent the music.

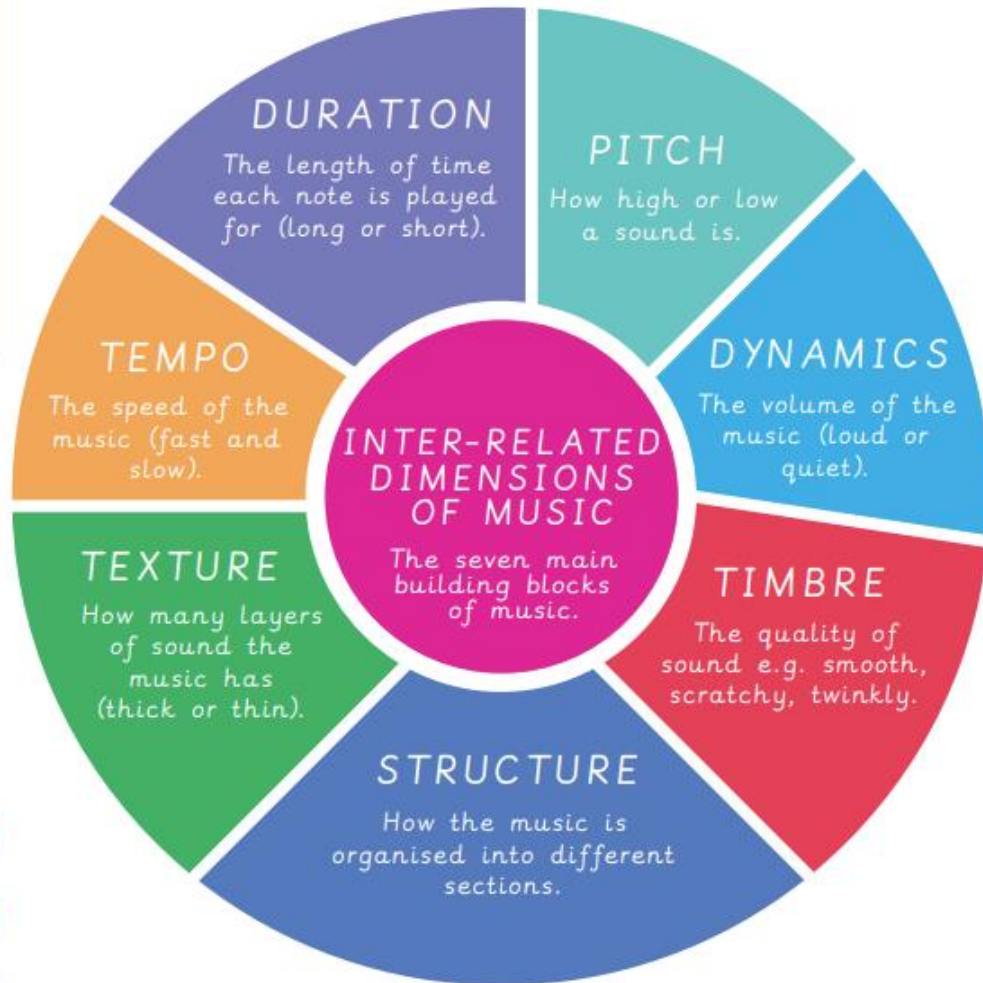


Synaesthesia A condition where you 'see' music as colours.

Major A tonality where the music sounds happy or bright.

Minor A tonality where the music sounds sad or tense.

Layering An overlapping of different music or instruments to create a 'thick' texture in a musical piece.



Year 6: Theme and variations (Pop Art)

Musical form: Theme and variations

Theme and variations is a common musical structure, especially in classical music. The structure features a theme at the start of the piece, then once the theme has been played, the composer repeats it but with some form of variation. The theme is then played again but this time with a further variation.

Vocabulary

Pop Art

An art movement from the 1950s where artists focused on common objects (comic books, tins of soup, teacups) and showed them in bold, bright colours.



Pulse

Pulse is a steady beat - the heartbeat of the music.

Notation

Written symbols to represent music.

Diaphragm

A dome shaped muscle beneath our lungs, which we use to control our breath when singing.

Melody

Notes of different pitches played in a sequence in order to create a tune.

Phrase

A short musical passage that makes sense on its own.

Rhythm

The pattern of long and short notes in music.

3/4 time

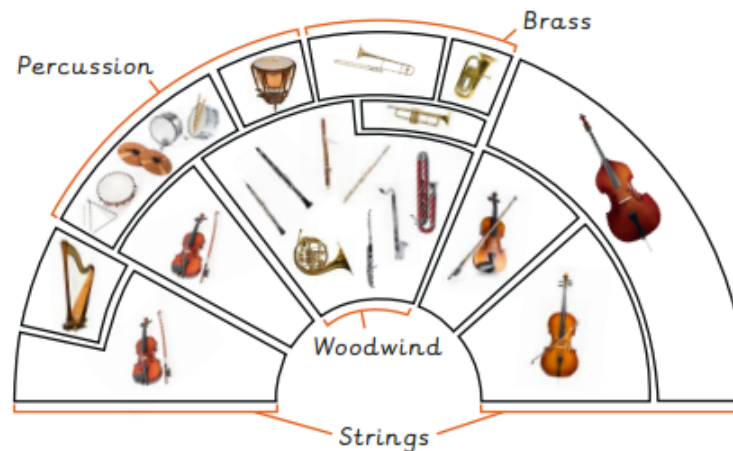
Commonly called 'waltz time' and only has 3 beats per bar.

4/4 time

Known as 'common time' and has 4 beats per bar.

Orchestra

A group of instruments that play together.



Strings - Instruments that are played by plucking or bowing strings.

Woodwind - Instruments that make sound by blowing air through a reed or small mouthpiece.

Brass - Instruments that are made of metal and the sound is made by blowing air through a cup-shaped mouthpiece.

Percussion - Instruments that are played by striking, beating or shaking the instrument.

Kodaly rhythm names

