



# Knowledge Organiser

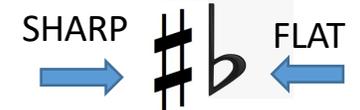
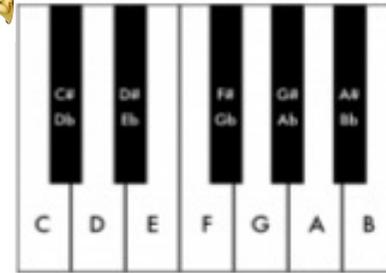


**COMPOSE –**  
To write/ create  
your own piece  
of music

MAD TSHIRT



The brass family



Recap:

**MELODY** - A melody is the main tune in any piece of music and can be sung or played by any instrument. Melodies are often catchy and repeated.  
e.g. the melody moves by step and goes up in **pitch**  
**ARTICULATION** - How individual notes or sounds are played/ sung and the techniques used. E.g. the violin is plucked (pizzicato) and the sound is detached (spiky)  
**DYNAMICS** - The volume of a sound or a piece of music. E.g. the music *crecendos* (gets gradually louder) to a *forte* (loud) dynamic  
**TEMPO** - The speed of a sound or a piece of music. E.g. FAST: Allegro, SLOW: Lento, GETTING FASTER – Accelerando (accel.) GETTING SLOWER - Rallentando (rall.)

**STRUCTURE** - How a piece of music is built or put together. E.g. 12 bar blues ☺  
**HARMONY** - The types of chords/ keys used.  
e.g. MAJOR ☺  
MINOR ☺

**INSTRUMENTS** - The different instruments from the four families and how they are played. Sometimes described as **Sonority**  
e.g. the violin is played with a bow  
The guitar is strummed  
**RHYTHM** - LEARN TO SPELL THIS WORD!  
Rhythm Has Your Two Hips Moving  
Describes how long and short the sounds are (crotchets, quavers)

**TEXTURE** - How much sound we hear  
THIN TEXTURE: (sparse/solo) – small amount of instruments or melodies.  
THICK TEXTURE: (dense/layered) – lots of instruments or melodies.

**What is a fanfare?**

A fanfare is a short ceremonial tune traditionally played on brass instruments. This tune has a purpose, which could be to introduce something or someone important.

**THE HARMONIC SERIES**

VALVELESS brass instruments would have been used to play fanfares. They could only play a limited amount of notes – called the harmonic series. These notes are C, G, upper C, E and G.

**Personal Reflection**

- 1. I was successful because I was able to use a good variety of rhythm patterns when composing my fanfare.*
- 2. I was successful because I managed to choose suitable 'voices' for when my fanfare is performed.*
- 3. I was successful because I was able to add a second part to my fanfare to make it a 2 part fanfare.*
- 4. I was successful because I created a suitable mood/ atmosphere which fitted the composing brief well.*
- 5. I was successful because I used my time wisely during rehearsals which meant that my fanfare was confident.*
- 6. I was successful because I thought about structure in my fanfare and I remembered to repeat some sections.*

**Peer feedback**

- They used a good variety of rhythms in their piece which meant that it was quite interesting.
- When performing their composition, they performed with confidence.
- Their fanfare was suitable for the brief set – they used appropriate instruments and good rhythm patterns.
- They remembered to only use the notes from the harmonic series.
- They could consider adding other sections to the music to make it more interesting. Think about structure...can some sections be repeated?

Every Green Bus Drives Fast. Notes in the SPACES spell "FACE"

TEA (crotchet 1 beat)

COFFEE (quavers 1/2 beat)

LEMONADE

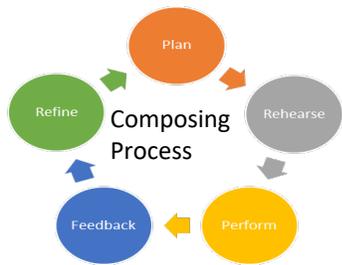
COCA COLA (semi quavers 1/4 beat)

**Structure**

Structure describes how a piece of music is built or put together.  
**BINARY FORM** or **AB structure** consists of **two contrasting sections**

**Polyphonic**

Musical texture describes how many layers of harmony and melody that we can hear at the same time. **Polyphonic texture**, is when there are multiple independent melodies being played or sung at the same time.



# Knowledge Organiser

## MUSIC OF WEST AFRICA

### MUSICAL ELEMENTS



MAD TSHIRT



The traditional instrument of West Africa is the Djembe drum and djembe music is thought to date back to the Mandinka people of Mali as far back as the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

### DJEMBE



**Bass  
 Tone  
 Slap**

The djembe is made from 3 materials:  
 Wood, thin rope and goat skin.  
 It is believed that the djembe contains 3 spirits:  
 The spirit of the tree  
 The spirit of the animal  
 The spirit of the drum maker

### Background

African instruments are often made from plants and animal products such as hide and bone. African musicians are very fond of PERCUSSION instruments and use a wide variety of drums. Drums are traditionally used as an accompaniment to singing, dancing, working and communicating between villages. Drummers are typically the most respected members of their community.

African Drumming is 'traditional' and handed down via the ORAL TRADITION (not written down). Not performed 'at a concert', rather everyone joins in by dancing or playing an instrument, singing or clapping. Combines other art forms and heard at special occasions and celebrations. Many Africans believe that music serves as a link to the spirit world

#### Recap:

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e.g. the melody moves by step and goes up in **pitch**

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**TEMPO** - The speed of a sound or a piece of music. E.g.

FAST: Allegro,  
 SLOW: Lento, GETTING FASTER - Accelerando (accel.)  
 GETTING SLOWER - Rallentando (rall.)

**STRUCTURE** - How a piece of music is built or put together. E.g. 12 bar blues, Verse/chorus

**HARMONY** - The types of chords/ keys used.

e.g. MAJOR ☺  
 MINOR ☹

**INSTRUMENTS** - The different instruments from the four families and how they are played. Sometimes described as

**Sonority**  
 e.g. the violin is played with a bow  
 The guitar is strummed

**RHYTHM** - LEARN TO SPELL THIS WORD!

Rhythm Has Your Two Hips Moving  
 Describes how long and short the sounds are (crotchets, quavers)

e.g. the rhythm is dotted, the rhythm consists of lots of short notes

**TEXTURE** - How much sound we hear

THIN TEXTURE: (sparse/solo) - small amount of instruments or melodies.

THICK TEXTURE: (dense/layered) - lots of instruments or melodies

## KEY WORDS

### Master Drummer

The master drummer leads the group by giving aural signals to the other players. The MD can change the rhythm patterns, the sections of the music, the tempo, the dynamics and the length of the performance. The MASTER DRUMMER can elaborate and decorate his solo drum part with ACCENTS and playing in a technically demanding style to "show off" to the rest of the drum ensemble and audience.

### Ostinato

Repeated rhythm pattern

### Improvisation

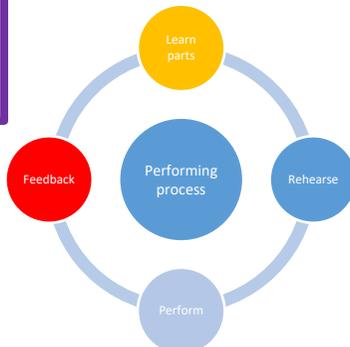
Music made up on the spot

### Polyphonic

In West Africa, drum ensembles have 3-5 players each with a distinctive method of striking their drum and playing interlocking rhythms. This creates a complex POLYPHONIC texture (many lines woven together)

### Call and Response

Where one player (SOLOIST) plays a line and then the whole group makes a reply - like a "musical conversation"



### PEER FEEDBACK

- ✓ They used a good variety of rhythms in their improvisation which meant that it was quite interesting.
- ✓ Everyone in the group contributed well - \_\_\_\_\_ made a good leader.
- ✓ They all listened well to each other during the performance and it was well organised.

### PERSONAL REFLECTIONS:

- ✓ I was successful because I kept my concentration and managed to perform without giggling.
- ✓ I was successful because I was able to lead my group and be master drummer during a performance.
- ✓ I was successful because I was able to use some more complicated rhythms in my improvisation.
- ✓ We were successful because we rehearsed well and everyone knew what they should be doing during the performance.



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**PERFORM**  
**COMPOSE**  
**APPRAISE**

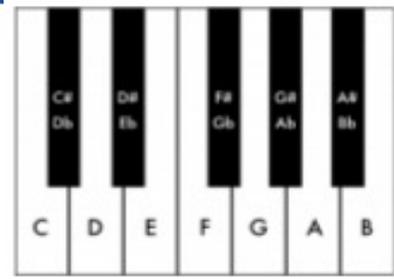


## Basic 12 bar blues Chord structure in the key of C

The 12- Bar Blues

1	C	2	C	3	C	4	C
5	F	6	F	7	C	8	C
9	G	10	F	11	C	12	C

**IMPROVISE** (making a section of music up on the spot) using the blues scale

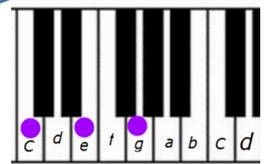


The C Blues Scale

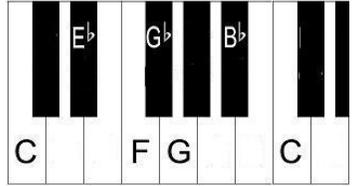


## 12 bar blues

The 12 bar blues consists of three different chords: Chord I, IV and V. In the key of C, those chords are C, F and G.



C  
E  
G



F  
G  
C

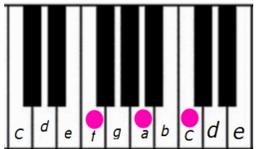
Every Green Bus Drives Fast. Notes in the SPACES spell "FACE"



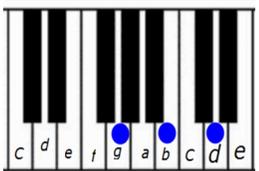
## 7th Chords

To make the 12 bar blues sound more 'bluesy' we can add 7ths to the basic triads – your chord will now have 4 notes in it! Root, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

IV  
V



F  
A  
C

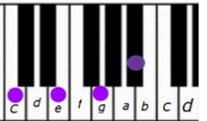
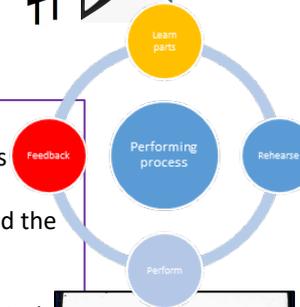


G  
B  
D

## What is a chord?

- ❖ A chord is two or more notes played at the same time. A chord with 3 notes is called a **TRIAD**.
- ❖ A triad consists of a root, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ The root note is always the name of the chord e.g. The root in a C chord is a C!

The blues has deep roots in American history, particularly African-American history. The blues originated on Southern plantations in the 19th Century. Its inventors were slaves, ex-slaves and the descendants of slaves—African-American sharecroppers who sang as they worked in the cotton and vegetable fields. It's generally accepted that the music evolved from African spirituals, African chants and work songs.

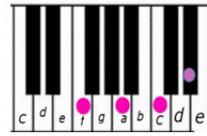


C, E, G, Bb

### PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✓ **I was successful because** I worked on improving my technique when playing the keyboard.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I was able to stay in time throughout the performance.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I used my rehearsal time wisely – this meant I was ready for the performance.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I had planned out the structure of my piece so we were well organised.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I was able to improvise with confidence. I was also able to use interesting swung rhythm patterns in my improvisation.

F, A, C, Eb



G, B, D, F



### PEER FEEDBACK

- ❖ They performed confidently to the class and were well organised – both players knew what they should be doing.
- ❖ They managed to use some interesting rhythm patterns in their improvisation section.
- ❖ I enjoyed that they were both able to play the chords and the improvisation. This showed that they had practiced well during the lessons.
- ❖ The performance flowed well and there were no hesitations.



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## STRIKE A CHORD – Year 7

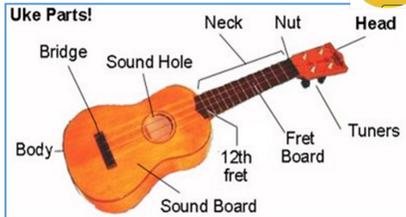
### Personal reflection

- ✓ **I was successful because** I played at an appropriate tempo throughout.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I was able to play accurate rhythms and pitches.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I was focused throughout the performance and concentrated well.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I was able to play with just one hand for the part.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I was able to play in time with my partner.
- ✓ **I was successful because** I was able to play with two hands together (both parts on my own!).

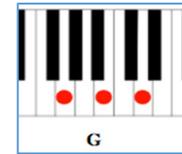
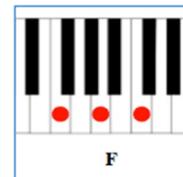
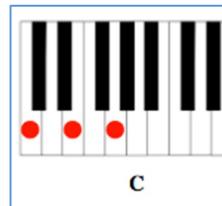
### PEER FEEDBACK

- ❖ They performed confidently to the class and were well organised – both players knew what they should be doing.
- ❖ I enjoyed that they were able to play two hands together on their own.
- ❖ The performance flowed well and there were no hesitations.
- ❖ They showed good keyboard technique and were able to play with all of the fingers on one hand.
- ❖ They played nicely in time with each other throughout the performance.

## Ukulele



- The ukulele is originally from Portugal.
- 'Ukulele' is the Hawaiian name.
- A ukulele has only 4 strings whereas a guitar has 6.
- The action we use to play chords on a ukulele is called **strumming**.



Chord Structure

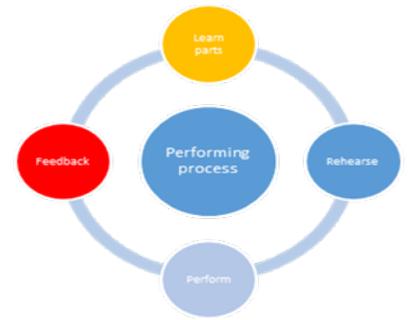
G	C	F	G
G	C	F	G
C	G	G	C
C	G	G	C

Chord Notes: C = CEG F = FAC G = GBD

## CHORDS

A chord is two or more notes played at the same time.

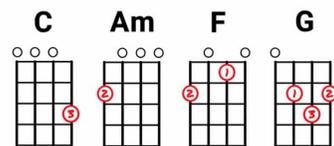
- ❖ A chord with **3** notes is called a **triad**.
- ❖ To play a triad on a keyboard: play one, miss one, play one, miss one, play one.
- ❖ A triad consists of a root, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ The root note is always the name of the chord e.g. The root in a C chord is a C!
- ❖ There are **4** notes in chords played on a ukulele (as there are 4 strings)



The Beatles were formed in Liverpool in the 1960s. There were 4 members of the group.

John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. Lennon and McCartney were well known for their song writing partnership. Lead vocals for Yellow Submarine were sung by Ringo Starr.

The Yellow submarine was a 1968 animated musical adventure film inspired by the music of the Beatles. The music-loving inhabitants of Pepperland are under siege by the Blue Meanies, a nasty group of music-hating creatures. The Lord Mayor of Pepperland dispatches sailor Old Fred to Liverpool, England, where he is to recruit the help of the Beatles.



## Chord Structure

A chord structure tells us the order that the chords should be played in