

Dance is an important part of music in South and West Africa



Vocabulary

Chord

Two or more notes that are played at the same time and work in harmony.

Chord progression

A group of chords played in a particular order.

Major chords

A chord made up of three notes. Major chords are often described as happy chords.

Minor chords

A chord made up of three notes. Minor chords are often described as sad chords.

Break

When some instruments stop playing and others change the rhythm.

Call and response

A musical technique that is similar to a conversation. One phrase of music acts as the 'call' and is 'answered' by a different phrase.

A capella

Singing without any musical accompaniment.

Soloist

A musician or singer who performs on their own, known as performing a solo.

Duo

Two musicians or singers who perform together, known as performing a duet.

Ostinato

A repeated pattern or phrase.

Polyrhythms

Many rhythms played at once.

Syncopation

Playing on the off-beat.

Rest

The silences in music.

Metronome

A device that can be set to create a steady sound (beat) to help musicians play rhythms accurately.



Tips for improving your performance - FACE

Fluency - Being able to play without hesitancy.

Accuracy - Getting the melody and the words correct.

Control - Controlling the sound and music being created or sung.

Expression - Giving a personal response to the music.

Instruments

Percussion instruments

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

Kalimba

Guero

Djembe drums

Shekere

Bongos

Balafon

