Musical style: Folk music from China



Traditional folk music of China. As with most folk music, we often do not know who wrote these songs and they have been passed onto generations by people singing them.

Vocabulary

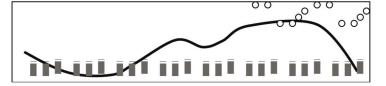
Crescendo When the music gets gradually louder.

Pentatonic A scale made up of five notes.

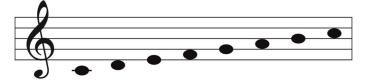
Notation

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

Graphic score



Stave and letter notation



CDEFGABC

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

DURATION

The length of time each note is played for (long or short).

PITCH

How high or low a sound is.

TEMPO

The speed of the music (fast and slow).

TEXTURE

How many layers of sound the music has (thick or thin).

INTERRELATED DIMENSIONS OF MUSIC

The seven main building blocks of music.

STRUCTURE

How the music is organised into different sections.

DYNAMICS

The volume of the music (loud or quiet).

TIMBRE

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

Tips for improving your performance - FACE

Fluency Reducing hesitation.

Accuracy Getting the melody right.

Control Instrumental technique.

Expression

Giving a personal response to the music.