

Music at Key Stages 1 and 2

Reference guide

Inter-related dimensions of music

These are used to create and communicate music, and to describe some of the music's characteristics. These dimensions include pitch, dynamics, structure, duration, tempo, timbre, texture, and musical notation.

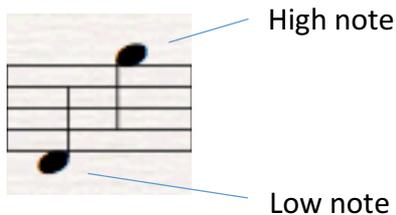
Pitch

A sound may be classified as relatively high or low

A school bell = high pitched sound

A rumble of thunder = low pitched sound

- *Pitch is visually represented in music by placing notes higher or lower on a 5 lined staff:*



Dynamics

The volume

To describe the volume of music, use these terms:

<i>P</i>	<i>'Piano' – softly</i>	<i>mp</i>	<i>'Mezzo Piano' – moderately soft</i>	<i>mf</i>	<i>'Mezzo Forte' – moderately loud</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>'Forte' – loud</i>
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- Dynamics are used for expression and convey the mood and character of the music.
- Dynamics can be practiced by singing or playing an instrument.

Structure

Structure gives music direction and is identified by hearing different sections– for example a verse or chorus. Common structures found in music include:

AB – Binary Each verse of Ding Dong Merrily on High

ABA – Ternary Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

ABACABA or ABACA - Rondo Mozart, Horn Concerto No. 4 in Eb

Call and Response – Don't You Just Know It

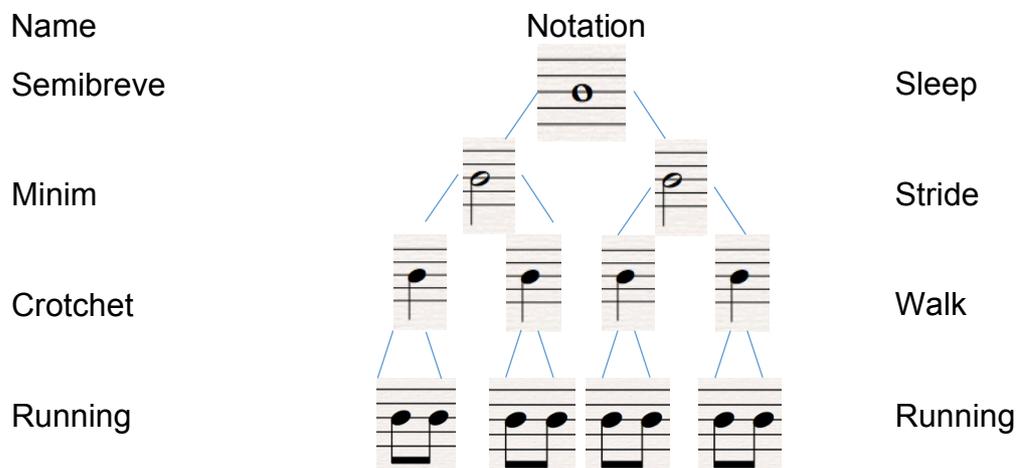
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzqtmDAc0Ag>

Duration

Refers to time

How long the note, section or piece of music lasts, and how long note the sounds for

Duration of notes is represented with different note heads:



Tempo

The speed and pulse of the music

Speed can be measured in beats per minute (BPM) and is written in this format:

This is called a metronome mark. This means that there are 168 crotchet BPM. Metronomes are useful for working out speed:
<https://www.8notes.com/metronome/>

Speed can also be described to help give more detail on the character of the piece:

Terms	Meaning
Lento	Slowly
Adagio	Slowly and expressively
Moderato	Moderate pace
Allegro	Fast
Vivace	Lively and fast
Accelerando	Gradually speeding up
Rallentando	Gradually slowing down

Timbre

The unique sound of an instrument, voice or ensemble

A saxophone and a violin may be playing the same note, at the same volume, but there is a difference in the kind of sound produced.

Sound can be described in many ways, including:

Clear, Bright, Dark, Warm, Piercing, Harsh, Light, Resonant, Raspy, Mellow

A smooth, mellow sound: Brass band, <https://youtu.be/ShJyU8Vmgxk?t=16s>

A harsh, raspy sound: Bulgarian female voice choir,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtxF5vULqoU>

Texture

The layers that make up the music

Homophonic - Melody and accompaniment. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=spE-BE23qxA> Many pop songs also fall into this category, where a singer has the melody, and the band play a backing/accompaniment.

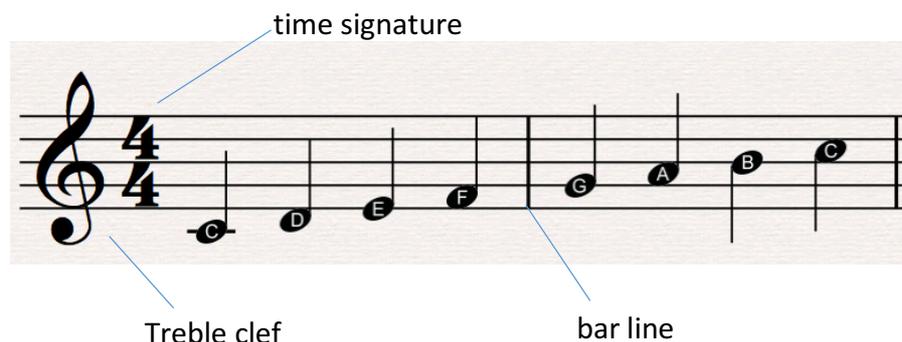
Monophonic - one melody line <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqZ3kwdqtVY>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFWRcXYsYMo>

Polyphonic – two or more melodies that fit together
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4IzqJtD4dM>

Drone - Melody against a drone <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQgPReMF1f0>

Using a Stave

Music is usually notated using a stave



- A music stave consists of 5 lines
- Each line and space on the stave represents a different note pitch
- The time signature tells you how many beats are in a bar – in this case, it is 4 crotchet beats
- Each bar is separated by a bar line

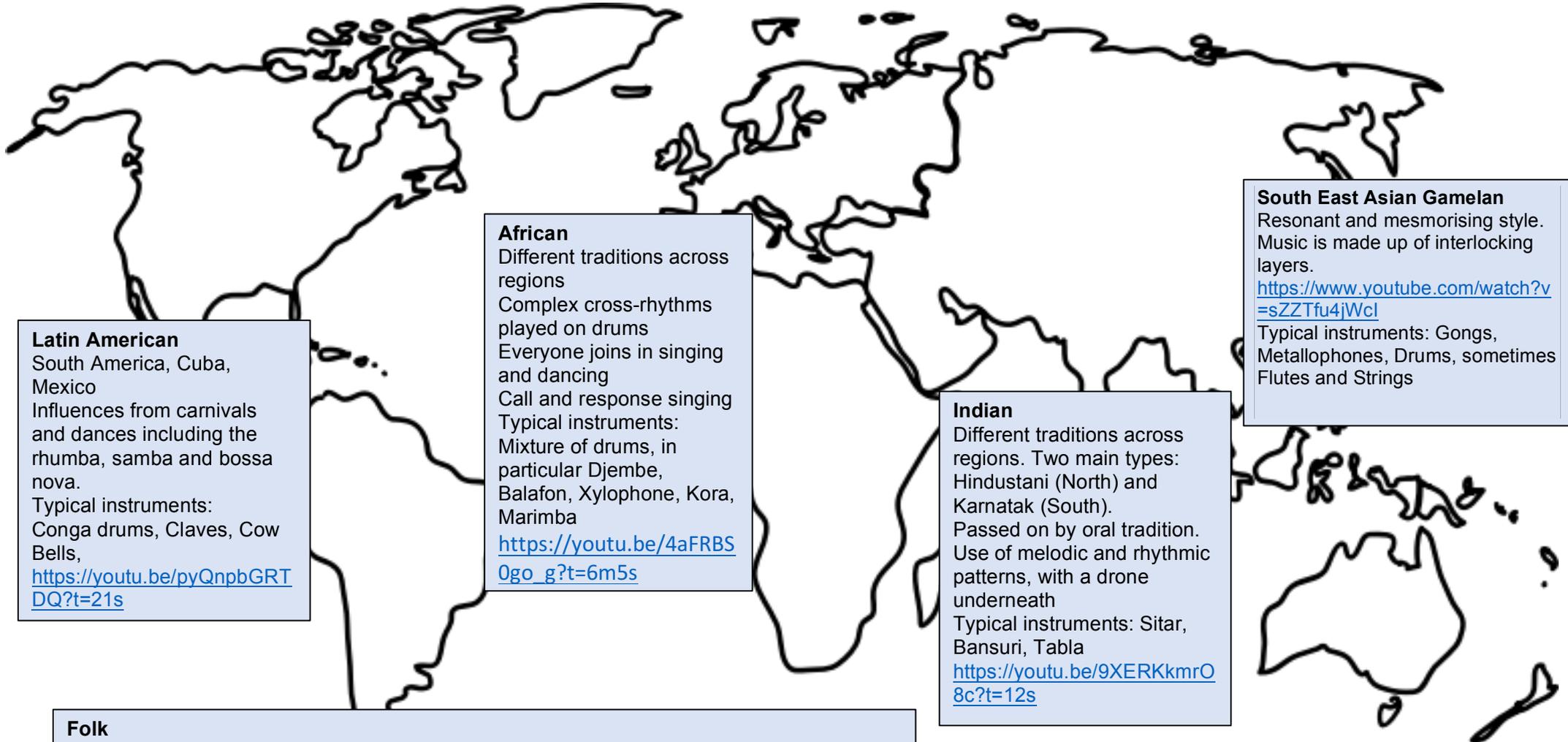
History of Music (Western Classical Traditions)

RENAISSANCE 1400 - 1600	BAROQUE 1600 - 1750	CLASSICAL 1750 - 1830
Music of the Middle Ages, dominated by church Smooth and gentle melodies Mostly vocal music, starting to use instruments e.g. Lute	New musical styles and texture – concerto, sonata, melody and accompaniment, Beginning of orchestras Harpsichord, string instruments,	Clear patterns, strict structure and tonality rules Pleasant sounding music – no strange harmonies Orchestras expand to include wind instruments Piano developed
<p><u>Examples</u> Josquin des Prez: Qui Habitat https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNm9tNZePew</p> <p>Guillaume Dufay: Part droit je puis bien complaindre et gemir https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COArfaAf-hQ</p>	<p><u>Examples</u> J.S. Bach: Prelude in E Flat Major BMV 998 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ryQ2WjmcYWI</p> <p>Vivaldi: L'estro Armonico, Op.3 No. 3 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6_Z5lpc1g0</p> <p>Handel: Water Music https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8Wahxcg8ro</p>	<p><u>Examples</u> Mozart: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, Allegro https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCi2u265wxQ</p> <p>Clementi: Sonata for Piano, Flute and Cello Op 21 No.2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDAbDZ34Efk</p> <p>Haydn: Symphony No. 104, 4th Movement https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IE8keznMCcQ</p>

...AND BEYOND... <i>Latter half 20th Century, Post-modern, Contemporary</i>	20TH CENTURY 1900s	ROMANTIC 1830-1900
Minimalism Experimental with sound and technology Abstract ideas Film music and video game music	Rejecting tradition Diverse range of musical styles Jazz music also developed Further	Expressive, emotional and dramatic Explorations outside of classical form and harmony Music conveys other arts forms e.g. paintings/literature. Virtuoso musicians
<p><u>Examples</u> (Minimalism) Philip Glass: Mad Rush https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnr0Rlvhx04</p> <p>John Williams: Close Encounters of the Third Kind https://youtu.be/qDDThITaAhw?t=12s</p> <p>Nils Frahm: Says https://youtu.be/xLNeZogTsK8?t=11s</p>	<p><u>Examples</u> Stravinsky: Infernal Dance (Rite of Spring) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Vj8ow8iC4s</p> <p>Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynEOo28lsbc</p> <p>Bartok: https://youtu.be/cM-SIWPDIVo?t=1m4s</p>	<p><u>Examples</u> Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake (main theme) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cNQFB0TDfY</p> <p>Rachmaninov: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Variation 18 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThTU04p3drM</p> <p>Brahms: Hungarian Dance No. 5 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X9LvC9WkkQ</p>

World Music Traditions

- All of these styles have developed over decades and centuries.
- There are many different types within these styles, these are the basics



Latin American

South America, Cuba, Mexico
Influences from carnivals and dances including the rumba, samba and bossa nova.
Typical instruments: Conga drums, Claves, Cow Bells,
<https://youtu.be/pyQnpbGRTDQ?t=21s>

African

Different traditions across regions
Complex cross-rhythms played on drums
Everyone joins in singing and dancing
Call and response singing
Typical instruments: Mixture of drums, in particular Djembe, Balafon, Xylophone, Kora, Marimba
https://youtu.be/4aFRBSOgo_g?t=6m5s

Indian

Different traditions across regions. Two main types: Hindustani (North) and Karnatak (South).
Passed on by oral tradition.
Use of melodic and rhythmic patterns, with a drone underneath
Typical instruments: Sitar, Bansuri, Tabla
<https://youtu.be/9XERKkmrO8c?t=12s>

South East Asian Gamelan

Resonant and mesmerising style. Music is made up of interlocking layers.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZZTfu4jWcI>
Typical instruments: Gongs, Metallophones, Drums, sometimes Flutes and Strings

Folk

Folk music has roots from countries all over the world including Russia, Ireland, UK, Asia, USA.
This is traditional music from communities, passed down generations by word of mouth and playing.
Example of Irish folk music: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mpMZLi_KS9o

Other forms of notation

Guitar Tab:

Guitar chords can be written on a staff but are often written in tab form, above the staff. Here is an annotated example:

X = Don't play this string (right hand)
 O = Do play this string (right hand)

The horizontal lines represent each fret

Name of chord/chord symbol

Play these with left hand fingers

Thickest string (6th String)

Thinnest String (1st String)

Graphic Notation

- Graphic notation conveys meaning about how the sound should be played using pictures, symbols and marks to represent the music. You do not need to be able to read music to be able to use a graphic score.

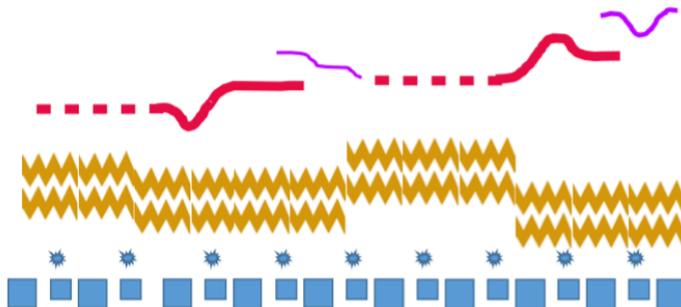
Example 1

Backing vocals

Lead vocal line/melody

Chords accompanying

Drum beat and cymbal



Example 2

	1	2	3	4	5
Tambourine					
Woodblock					
Drum					
Triangle					

Resources

National Music Plan

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-importance-of-music-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

National Curriculum

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-music-programmes-of-study>

Local Music Education Hubs

<https://www.musicmark.org.uk/members/organisation-types/music-services/>

Singing

<https://www.singup.org/>

[https://teachers.theguardian.com/system/files/assets/90/6549/How to lead a singing session from Sing Up.pdf](https://teachers.theguardian.com/system/files/assets/90/6549/How_to_lead_a_singing_session_from_Sing_Up.pdf)

<http://www.durhamonlinemusic.co.uk/site/podcast/>

Charanga

<https://charanga.com/site/musical-school/>

Primary Music Resources

<https://teachers.theguardian.com/>

<https://www.musicmark.org.uk/marketplace/resources/primary/>

<http://ismtrust.org/resources/primary-toolkit>

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National projects providing extensive resources based around listening and creativity

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04pc0j8>

<https://login.classical100.org/login/>