

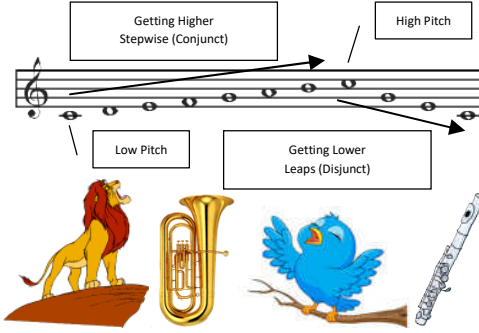
Building Bricks

Exploring The Elements of Music



Pitch

The **highness** or **lowness** of a sound.



Tempo

The **speed** of a sound or piece of music.

FAST: *Allegro, Vivace, Presto*
SLOW: *Andante, Adagio, Lento*
GETTING FASTER –
Accelerando (accel.)
GETTING SLOWER –
Ritardando (rit.) or Rallentando (rall.)



Dynamics

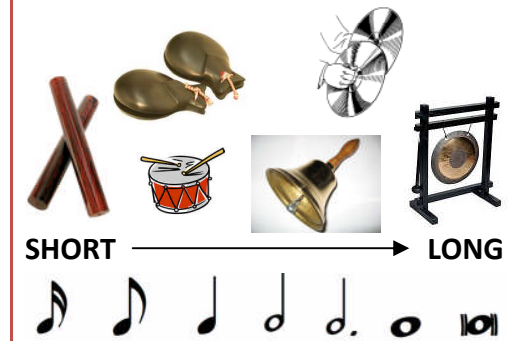
The **volume** of a sound or piece of music.

VERY LOUD: *Fortissimo (ff)*
LOUD: *Forte (f)*
QUITE LOUD: *Mezzo Forte (mf)*
QUITE SOFT: *Mezzo Piano (mp)*
SOFT: *Piano (p)*
VERY SOFT: *Pianissimo (pp)*
GETTING LOUDER: *Crescendo (cresc.)*
GETTING SOFTER: *Diminuendo (dim.)*



Duration

The **length** of a sound.



Texture

How much sound we hear.

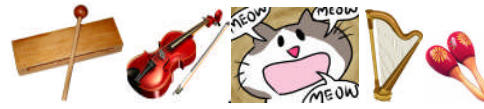
THIN TEXTURE: (*sparse/solo*) – small amount of instruments or melodies.



THICK TEXTURE: (*dense/layered*) – lots of instruments or melodies.

Timbre or Sonority

Describes the **unique sound or tone quality** of different instruments voices or sounds.



Velvety, Screechy, Throaty, Rattling, Mellow, Chirpy, Brassy, Sharp, Heavy, Buzzy, Crisp, Metallic, Wooden etc.

Articulation

How individual notes or sounds are **played/techniques**.

LEGATO – playing notes in a long, smooth way shown by a **SLUR**.



STACCATO – playing notes in a short, detached, spiky way shown by a **DOT**.



Silence

The opposite or absence of sound, **no sound**. In music these are **RESTS**.



Unit Learning Objectives

- Understand and recognise the Elements of Music: **PITCH, TEMPO, DYNAMICS, DURATION, TEXTURE, TIMBRE or SONORITY, ARTICULATION, SILENCE.**
- Draw on the Elements of Music as a resource when composing, creating and improvising and use the Elements of Music effectively when performing and singing.
- Recognise the Elements of Music when listening to and appraising music describing morning and night moods from different times and different places.

Notation

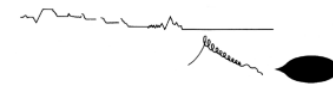
How music is **written** down.

STAFF NOTATION – music written on a



STAVE (5 lines and spaces)

GRAPHIC NOTATION/SCORE – music written down using shapes and symbols to represent sounds.



Music to listen to

“Dawn”, “Sunday Morning”, “Moonlight” and “Storm” from ‘Four Sea Interludes’ from “Peter Grimes – Benjamin Britten

“Eine Kleine Nachtmusik” – Mozart

“Morning Mood” from ‘Peer Gynt Suite – Edvard Grieg

“Children” – Robert Miles

“Music of the Night” from ‘The Phantom of the Opera’ – Andrew Lloyd-Webber

“The High Moon”, “The Flowing Streams”, “The Races” and “Night” – Traditional Chinese Music