

Musical Concepts - Single Focus

This is an opportunity for your students to simply focus on one element at a time. Each element has a series of activities. The listening pieces are not included and you can select your own pieces of music to challenge your students.

Areas covered:

Tempo

Dynamics

Time signatures

Key signatures

Cadences

Structure

Instruments

TEMPO

Tempo is:

Put these Italian terms in order:

Allegro
Andante
Vivace
Largo
Grave
Presto

1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

5.....

6.....

Listen to the following four pieces of music and comment on the TEMPO of each one. If the tempo changes remember to write down how it begins, how it change and how it ends.

1.
.....

2.
.....

3.
.....

4.
.....

Tempo can also be expressed as **beats per minute** at the beginning of a piece of music. What are these called and please explain them.

♩ = 60

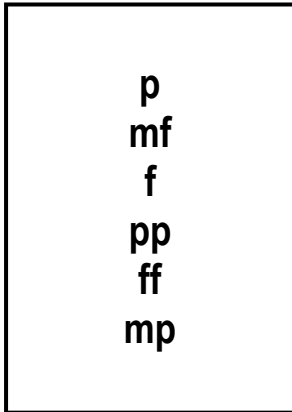
♩ = 120

♩ = 90

DYNAMICS

Dynamics means:

Put the following dynamics in order:



- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- 6.....

What does a **crescendo** mean?

Draw a **crescendo**:

What does a **diminuendo / de-crescendo** mean?

Draw a **diminuendo / de-crescendo**:

Write the definitions of the following terms:

sfz:

Accent:

Describe the dynamics of the following pieces of music:

- 1.
.....
- 2.
.....
- 3.
.....
- 4.
.....

KEYS AND KEY SIGNATURES

Try and remember the order of sharps and flats using the rhyme below. If a scale has 3 sharps it is the first three in the rhyme (F#, C#, G#). If a scale has 2 flats you start at the end and count backwards two (Bb, Eb).

F C G D A E B

Father Charles Goes Down And Ends Battle

SHARPS

Rule: The last sharp is the note before the scale note

e.g. A key signature of F# & **C#** is D major because **C#** is the note before D

A key signature of F# & C# & **G#** is A major because **G#** is the note before A

0 # =

F# =

F# C# =

F# C# G# =

FLATS

Rule: To work out major keys go back one flat.

e.g. The key signature of Bb Eb = Bb Major

Bb = F major

Bb Eb =

Bb Eb Ab =

Bb Eb Ab Db =

- **Minor**

Rule: To find the relative minor count down 3 semi-tones and then sharpen the 7th note.

e.g. to find the relative minor of C major you move down 3 semitones to A. The key signature stays the same as C major (no # or b) but all Gs are turned into G#s using accidentals in the music.

Key signature	Major key	Minor Key = Down 3 semitones`	7 th note is sharpened (not in key signature)
nothing	C	A	G#
F#, C#	D		
Bb, Eb	Bb	G	
	A		
F#			

CADENCES

A cadence is what makes musical punctuation (i.e. full stop, comma, explanation mark)

There are 4 types of cadence

1 Chords:

How to spot one:
.....

2 Chords:

How to spot one:
.....

3 Chords:

How to spot one:
.....

4 Chords:

How to spot one:
.....

Listen to the following pieces of music and identify the different cadences when asked.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

STRUCTURE

Structure is a way of describing:

- binary :
- ternary:
- rondo:
- theme and variation:
- call and response:
- arch-shape:
- strophic:
- popular song forms:

A minuet is nearly always in form which means it has sections.

The blues is based on a structure.

INSTRUMENTS

You need to be able to recognise the instruments of the orchestra as well as 'popular' instruments.

There are four instrument families:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

List the common instruments in each family:

Instrumental playing techniques and devices. Name the instrument/s or family of instruments that play/s the techniques listed below. Write a brief description of how this technique is executed and any specific notation that tells the player to use this technique.

Technique	Instrument/family	Explanation	Specific notation
Mute			
Pizzicato			
Arco			
Glissando			
Flutter tonguing			
Trill			
Ornament			
Vibrato			
Tremolo			