



GCSE MUSIC – Year 10 and 11

Articulation – the way in which a note is played. Eg. Smooth, detached, staccato, legato, arco, pizzicato, plucked or strummed

Baroque – A musical style around in Europe from about 1600-1750. Strong bass and lots of decoration.

Classical – Either a musical style of music composed in Europe from about 1750 to 1820 or any music that's not pop.

Compare – to identify similarities and differences

Composition – a piece of music that you have created.

Dynamic – the volume of the music. Loud, quiet, getting louder.

Ensemble – A group. Your ensemble performance is a group performance.

Features – the key facts or musical characteristics. Eg. Identify 5 features of Baroque music.

Harmony – to identify the chords used.

Instrumentation – to identify the instruments, groups or voices that have been used.

Melody – the tune

Metre – how many beats are in the bar.

Ornaments – short extra notes that add decoration eg. Turns, trills, mordents, grace notes.

Piece – music that doesn't have words. Eg. A piece of music

Performance – when you play a piece that someone else has written. You need to perform a solo and an ensemble piece.

Rhythm – the combination of long and short notes.

Romantic – a musical style which was around from about 1820 to 1900. The music often describes a story or has powerful emotions.

Solo – a common feature of jazz and rock music where one instrument or singer play on their own. A solo concerto is where one solo instrument performs with an accompaniment by an orchestra.

Structure – the order or sections of a piece. Eg. Verse, chorus, introduction, coda, middle eight, outro, groove.

Syncopated – a rhythm that emphasises the off-beat. It is not on the main pulse and occurs on the 'and'.

Tempo – the overall speed of a piece.

Texture – the way parts fit together. This could be the number of parts and whether parts are doing the same or different. eg. Unison, melody and accompaniment, polyrhythmic.

Tonality – the overall key of the music. Major, minor, atonal, modal.