

Music – Listening and Appraising - Kestrels

Key Vocabulary	
Percussion	Instruments that can be tapped, shaken or scraped to make a sound.
Instrument family	Each instrument is part of one of the four families of the orchestra: Woodwind: The instrument family that includes flute, clarinet, recorder, oboe, bassoon and saxophone. Brass: The instrument family that consists of Trumpet, Cornet, Flugelhorn, French Horn, Eb Horn, Baritone, Euphonium, Trombone, Bass Trombone and Tuba. Strings: The instrument family that consists of violin, viola, cello, double bass and guitar. Percussion: The instrument family that consists of untuned (e.g. snare drum) and tuned (e.g. xylophone) percussion instruments, i.e. instruments that make a sound or note when struck with a mallet, beater or stick.
Timbre	How an instrument sounds when you play it.
Dynamics	How loudly or quietly a piece of music is played.
Tempo	How quickly or slowly a piece of music is played.
Mood	How the piece of music makes us feel. Does it sound exciting? Sad? Scary? Funny?

Key Facts

Music can 'paint pictures' in our head by using instruments to sound like certain things. For example, in Peter and the Wolf, the flute is made to sound like a fluttering bird and the oboe is made to sound like a quacking duck.

The mood of a piece of music can change depending on the way it is played. For example, if music is played very quickly it can sound exciting. If it is played very quietly it can sound gentle like a lullaby.

Music – Listening and Appraising - Sparrowhawks

Key Vocabulary	
Pulse	Another name for the beat.
Rhythm	A pattern of long and short sounds
Metre	The different groupings of beats, most commonly occurring in 2, 3 and 4 time.
Texture	The overall effect of how melody, harmony and rhythm are combined in a piece of music.
Timbre	The character or quality of a musical sound or voice as distinct from its pitch and intensity.
Dynamics	The volume of the sound, for example <i>piano</i> (quiet), <i>mezzo-piano</i> (moderately soft) or <i>forte</i> (loud)
Ostinato	A musical phrase or rhythm which is repeated.
Drone	A sustained sound, which could be a single note or a chord.
Phrase	A single unit of music within a larger piece that makes sense on its own. Like a sentence within a paragraph.
Repetition	The same phrase returning again within a piece of music.
Rest	A period of silence within a piece of music.
Mood	In music, the emotional <i>feel</i> of the piece. Is it cheerful? Spooky? Exciting?

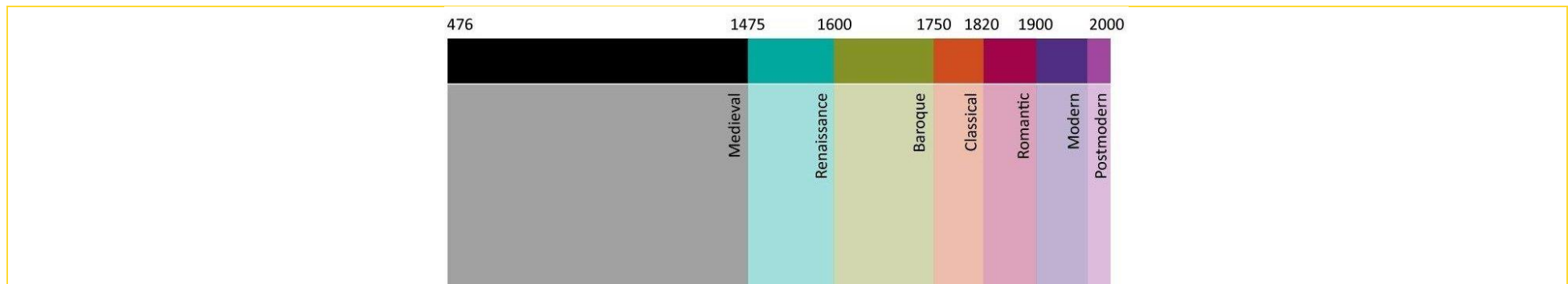
Key Facts

When we're evaluating our own or others' compositions and performances, we can think about the *interrelated dimensions of music* as a checklist: pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and notation. Changing any one of these elements could totally change the feel and effectiveness of the music.

Metre can be counted not just in 4/4-time (four beats in a bar) but also 3/4 time (and sometimes even 5/4!) Feel for the beat where the emphasis is in the music (**one** two three four, **one** two three four... / **one** two three, **one** two three...)

Songs can have different structures. It could be a *call and response*, where the first phrase is followed immediately by a second distinct phrase. It could be *verse and chorus* where the music is arranged in a pattern of sections.

Composers create interesting effects by layering different sounds. Listening for these can help us with our own compositions.



Music – Listening and Appraising - Buzzards

Key Vocabulary	
Rhythm	Variable sound patterns that fit over a steady pulse or beat: in songs, rhythms are dictated by the arrangement of syllables
Phrase	A single unit of music within a larger piece that makes sense on its own. Like a sentence within a paragraph.
Melody	The main tune within a piece of music.
Harmony	A musical effect created by combining two or more notes played or sung simultaneously.
Ostinato	A musical phrase or rhythm which is repeated.
Metre	The different groupings of beats, most commonly occurring in 2, 3 and 4 time.
Repetition	The same phrase returning again within a piece of music.
Scale	A sequence of eight adjacent notes which together span an octave.
Accompaniment	The part of the music which provides the support or background for the main song.
Style	The way that a piece is performed – this could be the choice of instruments, the way the rhythm is performed (e.g. is it a 'swung' rhythm?) and even the feeling it evokes. It might give clues about when it was written.
Expression	The feeling that the musician gives to the music, similar to the way we use expression with our speaking voice.

Key Facts

Periods of history have different distinct styles. For example, Renaissance music (c.1500s) tends to be primarily vocal and often sacred music, often with a string accompaniment.

A style of music is often borne out of the circumstances it first appeared in. For example, jazz music originated in African American communities in New Orleans where blues and ragtime traditions joined, so the music uses rhythms from African cultures and instruments gathered from marching bands and other European traditions.

The mood of a piece of music can be strongly influenced by the key it is played in, whether major (happy/positive) or minor (sad/scary etc.)

There are lots of different ways to structure a piece of music; Binary (AB, or A A B B), Ternary (A B A) and Rondo (A B A C A) are examples of these.

