

Yr 5/6 Knowledge organiser: Musical vocabulary

Rhythm – combinations of long and short sounds that convey movement in music.

Duration – the length of a sound.

Pitch – how low or high a sound is.

Tempo – the speed of the music.

Pulse – the underlying steady beat of the music. This is what you may tap your foot or clap along to.

Beat – the basic unit of time in music.

Timbre – the particular tone that distinguishes one sound from another E.g. a violin / piano playing the same note.

Texture – the layers of sound in a musical work and the relationship between them.

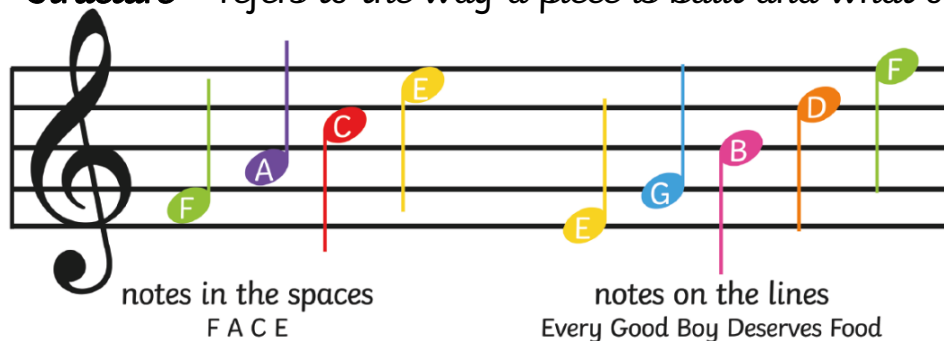
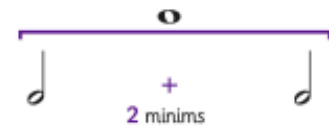
Melody – a sequence of notes and rhythms that form the main focus of a piece.

Structure – refers to the way a piece is built and what order sections are in.



Rhythm Notation Chart

1 semibreve is equal in length to...



Harmony – the sounding of two or more notes at the same time.

Dynamics – the variation in volume between notes or phrases.

Lyrics – the words that accompany music in a song.

Sense of occasion – what style has been used to convey the mood. E.g. Is it a happy, sad, grand etc style?

Solo – a single voice or instrument carrying the main focus of the music.

Round– music which can be performed by two or more groups of people. One group starts off and the next group start the same song/melody a bit later.

Accompaniment – A second part played alongside the main melody but the accompaniment doesn't have the star role but is there to support. It may be on a different instrument or on a piano will be the left hand part.

Drone - where a note or chord is continuously sounded throughout most or all of a piece.

Cultural context - Music is often the expression of idea, opinion, or emotion. Therefore the culture's ideas or views are almost always represented in the lyrics, the style of their music and the instruments available.

