

# Knowledge Organiser: Timbre and Dynamics

1. Dynamics - The volume of the music

RAG

2. Timbre - The sound of an instrument

RAG

3. The string family

RAG

4. The woodwind family

RAG

5. The brass family

RAG

6. The percussion family

RAG

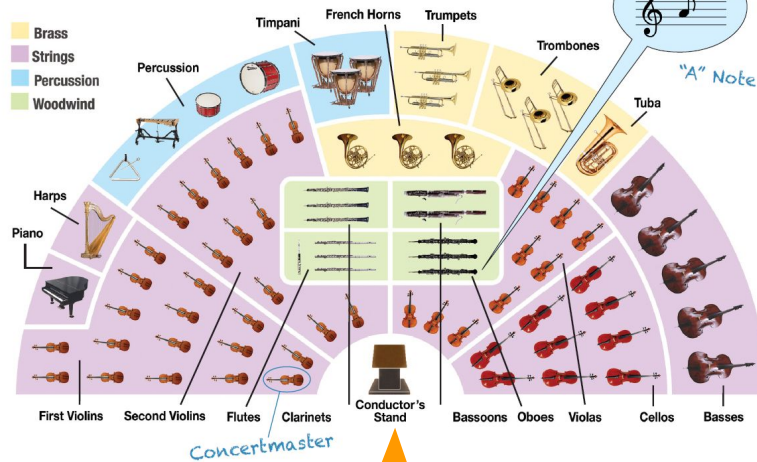
7. Italian dynamic markings such as pp,p,mp,mf,f,ff,sfz < and >

RAG

8. Instruments from the East such as sitar, tabla, djembe, bansuri

RAG

9. Instrumental techniques. These are things that are linked to that family or the specific instrument. Such as Arco (bow) and pizzicato (plucked). Roll on a drum kit.



10. This is a diagram of the classical orchestra layout. It has changed and grown since the Baroque period. The baroque orchestra was much smaller, as instruments developed so did the orchestra size. The classical orchestra was much larger and then finally the orchestra of the romantic period was the largest. Notice the louder instruments are towards the back and there are less of them. The conductor stands centre stage. To their is the concertmaster (principal violin). Everyone tunes to that individual at concert A.

	Term	Symbol	Definition
11.	Fortississimo	<b><i>fff</i></b>	very, very loud
12.	Fortissimo	<b><i>ff</i></b>	very loud
13.	Forte	<b><i>f</i></b>	loud
14.	Mezzo forte	<b><i>mf</i></b>	a little loud
15.	Mezzo piano	<b><i>mp</i></b>	a little soft
16.	Piano	<b><i>p</i></b>	soft
17.	Pianissimo	<b><i>pp</i></b>	very soft
18.	Pianississimo	<b><i>ppp</i></b>	very, very soft
19.	Crescendo		gradually getting louder
20.	Decrescendo		gradually getting softer
21.	Sforzando	<b><i>sfz</i></b>	suddenly, with a sudden emphasis

22. This diagram shows the main musical dynamics, their name, their symbol (Italian marking) and their meaning.