

The Elements of Music and their definition

These are essential to know for every topic at KS3! These elements of music are involved in every topic over the 3 years at KS3.

1. Dynamics - The volume of the music

RAG

2. Duration- The length of a sound

RAG

3. Harmony- The relationship of notes

RAG

4. Melody - The main tune

RAG

5. Metre - How many beats in a bar

RAG

6. Pitch - How high or low the sound is

RAG

7. Rhythm - The pattern of the notes

RAG

8. Structure - The sections of the music

RAG

9. Tempo - The speed of the music

RAG

10. Timbre - The sound of an instrument

RAG

11. Tonality - The mood of the music

RAG

12. Chords = A chord is where multiple notes are played at the same time. Commonly a 3 note chord is played.

13. Walking Bass = This is where the lower register of the piano or bass guitar walks around a certain group of notes. It never stops hence why it is called a walking bass.

Knowledge Organiser: Blues

14. Scale = A group of notes. You need two scales.

C - C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C AND
C Blues - C, Eb, F, Gb, G, Bb, C

15. Improvisation = This is where you take the scale of notes you are using and make up ideas on the spot. You will improvise using the C blues scale.

16. 12 Bar = This refers to the structure of the music. There are 12 bars in each sequence of 12 bar blues. When you finish bar 12 you go back to bar 1. There are 4 beats per bar.

17. Flat - A flat in music is a note that has been lowered by 1 note (a semitone). For example B would become Bb (the black key between A and B).

18 Chord variation = A chord variation refers to either a change in rhythm or pitch.

19. Dominant 7th Chord = A dominant 7th chord is where you have added the 7th note on from where you have started. A chord of C has C (1st), E (3rd) and G (5th). If you add the 7th it is a Bb (a minor 3rd/3 semitones from the G).

20. The notes in the chords
Chord of C = C E G
Chord of F = F A C
Chord of G = G B D

Chord of C7 = C E G Bb
Chord of F7 = F A C Eb
Chord of G7 = G B D F

12 Bar Blues Chord Progression in C

21.

1	C	2	C	3	C	4	C
5	F	6	F	7	C	8	C
9	G	10	F	11	C	12	G