

Music
Vocabulary

Word	Definition	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Acapella	without instrument accompaniment						x	x	x	x
Accelerando	gradually faster					x				
Accent	1. greater stress given to one musical tone. 2. emphasis laid on an artistic			x						
Accompaniment	an instrumental or vocal part designed to support or complement a melody.	x	x		x		x	x	x	x
Adagio	a slow tempo.					x				
Alto	1. second highest voice part in a four part chorus. 2. range lower than treble of soprano									
Andante	moderately slow tempo.						x	x	x	x
Aria	an accompanied elaborate melody sung by a single voice									x
Arpeggio	production of the tones of a chord in succession and not simultaneously.						x	x	x	x
Arranger	one who adapts musical composition by scoring for voices or instruments.						x	x	x	x
Articulation	the act of articulating sounds							x	x	x
Bar Line	a vertical line across the musical staff						x	x		
Baroque	1. expression marked by complex forms, juxamovement and tension. 2. complexity, flomboyance.							x	x	x
Base	low pitch									
Bass clef	a clef placing the F below middle C on the fourth line of the staff.						x	x	x	x
Beat	1. a single stroke. 2. the tempo of a musical performance. 3. pronounced rhythm. 4. steady, under-lying pulse.	x	x							
Blues	1. a song often of lementation. 2. use: 12 bar phrases, 3-line stanza in which words of the second line repeat those of the first.						x	x	x	x
Brass	instruments made of brass. (trumpet, horn)									
Calypso	style of music originating in West Indies marked by lively meter.						x	x	x	x
Cannon	1. a musical composition in two or more voice parts in which the melody is imitated exactly by the successive voices though not always at the same pitch. 2. makes a big boom.									
Cantor	1. a choir leader. 2. one who leads congregation in song.			x						
Chamber Music	instrumental ensemble music intended for performance in a small room of auditorium.						x	x	x	x
Chord	3 or more musical notes souned simultaneously.				x	x				
Classical	1. of Greek or Roman world. 2. music characterized by an emphasis on balance, clarity and moderation.							x	x	x
Clef	sign placed at the beginning of a musical staff to determine the pitch of the note.									
Coda	a concluding musical section that is formally distinct form the main structure.									

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Composer	person who writes original music.								x	x
Conductor	one that leads.			x						
Contemporary	present period							x	x	x
Counter Melody									x	x
Crescendo	an increase of volume used as a direction in music.									
Diatonic	related to a major or minor musical scale having 5 tones and two semitones.					x				
Diminuendo	diminishing sound.			x						
Da Capo al Fine	from the beginning to the end.			x						
Decrescendo	diminishing.									
do	first and last note on a scale				x					
Drum	Percussion instrument.	x	x							
Duration	the time during which something exists or lasts.						x	x	x	x
Dynamic	powerful, marked by energy.		x			x	x	x	x	x
Echo	Repetition of sound.	x	x							
Eighth Note	a musical note with a time value 1/8 of a whole note.			x						
Eighth Rest	a musical rest corresponding in time value to an eighth note.						x	x		
Ensemble	a group of supporting singers, dancers.						x	x	x	x
Fanfare	a short and lively sounding of trumpets.						x	x	x	x
Fermata	a prolongation at the discretion of the performer of a musical note.						x	x	x	x
Flat	a musical note or tone one half step lower than the specified note or tone.									
Folk	traditional with the common people.							x	x	x
Folk Song	1. Passed down from generation to generation- usually without being written down. 2. a traditional or composed song characteristic of a people or country. (Has stanza, refrain and melody.) several verses sung to the same melody with or without a refrain.				x		x	x	x	x
Forte	1. a direction in music. Strong. 2. a direction to perform loudly.			x						
Fortissimo	very loud.									
Fugue	a musical composition in which one of 2 themes are repeated by successively entering voices.								x	x
Half Note	a musical note with the time value of 1/2 of a whole note			x						
Half Note/Rest	a musical rest corresponding in time value to 1/2 note.						x	x		
Harmony	1. tune ful sound. 2. pleasing arrangement of music.					x	x	x	x	x
Hymn	a song with religious content.									
Imitation	a repetition by one voice of a melody.			x		x				
Improvise	to compose, recite, play or sing extemporaneously, to arrange offhand.					x	x	x		x

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Interlude	short musical composition inserted between the parts of a longer composition.									
Jazz	music developed from ragtime and blues characterized by propulsive syncopated rhythms and often deliberate distortions of pitch and timbre.					x		x	x	x
Key Signature	the sharps or flats placed after a clef in music to indicate the key.					x	x	x	x	x
Legato	in a manner that is smooth and connected.									
Libretto	the text of a work (opera) for the musical theater.								x	x
Lullaby	a song used to quiet a child.		x							
Lyrics	the words to a song.						x	x	x	x
Major	musical interval, scale, key, or mode.								x	x
March	a musical composition that is usually in duple or quadruple time with a strongly accented beat.		x							
Measure	musical time, rhythmic structure or movement.						x	x		
Melody	a rhythmic succession of single tones organized as an aesthetic whole.		x	x		x				
Metallaphone	a percussion musical instrument consisting of a series of metal bars of varying pitch struck with hammers.		x							
Meter	1. a basic recurrent rhythmic pattern of note pattern. 2. arrangement of beats into measures with regularly recurring accents.				x		x	x	x	x
Mezzo	moderate									
Mezzo Forte	moderately loud.					x				
Mezzo	minor having half steps between 2nd & 3rd, 5th & 6th degrees, based on a monor scale.						x		x	x
Motive	a recurrent phrase that is developed through the course of the musical compositions.					x	x	x	x	x
Musical	theatrical production that includes music & dialogue						x	x	x	x
Natural	1. having neither sharps nor flats 2. the sign which serves to cancel a sharp or a flat.									
Note	1. a written symbol used to indicate duration and pitch of a tone. 2. used to write music on a staff indicating the relative time value of each pitch.			x						
Opera	a drama set to music.									x
Orchestra	1. a group of musicians (usually string) organized to perform ensemble music. 2. a large group of players performing on strings, brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and led by a conductor.				x	x				
Ornament	an embellishing note not belonging to the essential melody or harmony.					x	x	x	x	x
Ostinato	a musical figure repeated persistently throughout a composition or section.			x		x	x	x	x	x
Overture	the introduction to a musical work a piece of orchestral music that serves as an introduction to a longer work.					x				
Percussion	instruments that produce sound by being struck, scratched or shaken of two main kinds: tuned or untuned.							x	x	x
Phrase	to divide into melodic phrases.					x	x	x	x	x

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Pianissimo	1. a passage played or sung very softly. 2. A direction to perform very softly.									
Piano	percussion instrument.			x						
Pitch	1. a standard frequency for tuning instruments. 2. the highness or lowness of a musical tone considered in relation to other tones depending on its frequency.			x		x	x	x	x	x
Quarter Note	a musical note with the time value of 1/4 of a whole note.			x						
Quarter Rest	a musical rest corresponding in time value to a quarter note.			x						
Quartet	a musical composition for four voices or instruments.						x	x	x	x
Range	a sequence or scale between limits.						x	x	x	x
Recital	a concert or public exhibition given by one of several musicians.				x					
Refrain	a regularly recurring phrase or verse usually at the end of a stanza.				x					
Repeat Sign	a sign placed before and after a musical section.			x						
Rest	a rhythmic silence in music.		x	x						
Rhythm	an ordered recurrent alternation of strong and weak elements in the flow of sound movement for musical tones with relation to time: how fast they move (tempo). Patterns of long & short duration, and strong & weak accents.						x	x		
Ritardando	a gradual slowing in tempo.					x				
Rock	popular music usually played; on electronically amplified instruments with a persistent heavy beat.							x	x	x
Romantic	music of the 19th century characterized by an emphasis on subjects emotional qualities and freedom of form.							x	x	x
Rondo	an instrumental composition with a kind of refrain recurring at regular intervals.						x	x	x	x
Root	fundamental note of a chord-root position if the note is the lowest note of the chord.									
Round	a musical canon sung in unison in which each part enters one after the other & is continuously repeated.						x	x	x	x
Section	a distinct part or portion.						x	x	x	x
Sharp	a musical note or tone one half step higher than a note or tone named raises the pitch of a note by one half step #.		x							
Soprano	the highest singing voice of women.									
Spiritual	a religious song usually deeply emotional		x			x				
Staccato	1. cut short or apart in performing. 2. a direction to perform a note quickly, lightly & separated from the notes before and after it.									
Staff	the horizontal lines with their spaces on which music is written since the 13th century - 5 lines			x		x				
Steady Beat		x	x	x						
Step	a musical scale degree.				x	x				

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String Family	a group of musical instruments whose sounds are made by vibrating the strings.					x				
String Family	a group of musical instruments whose sounds are made by vibrating the strings.					x				
Style	a particular manner or techniques by which something is performed.				x					
Syncopated	a shortened, cut short rhythm uneven rhythm resulting from changing the normal pattern of accents and beats					x				
Syncopation	a temporary displacement of the regular musical accent caused by stressing a weak beat.						x	x	x	x
Tambourine	a small one-headed drum with metallic disks at the sides.	x	x							
Tempo	rate or speed of a musical piece or passage.	x	x				x	x	x	x
Tenor	the voice part next to the lowest part in a four-part chorus; highest range of the male voice in modern choral music.									
Texture	a pattern of musical sound created by tones of lines played or sung together.						x	x	x	x
Theme	a melodic subject of a musical composition or movement.					x	x	x	x	x
Tie	a curved line that joins two musical notes of the same pitch to denote a single tone sustained through the time value of the two.					x	x	x	x	x
Time Signature	a fractional sign placed after the key signature whose denominator indicates the kind of note taken as the time unit for the beat and whose numerator indicates the number of these to a measure.									
Treble Clef	a clef that places G above middle C on the second line of the staff.			x		x				
Tune	a succession of pleasing musical tones.		x							
Unison	harmonious agreement of union; identity in musical pitch.						x	x		
Variations	the repetition of a musical theme with modifications in rhythm.						x	x	x	x
Verse	a line of metrical writing.		x				x	x	x	x
Volume	the degree of loudness or intensity of a sound.	x	x							
Whole note	a musical note equal in time to four quarter notes.				x					
Whole rest	a musical rest corresponding in time value to a whole note.			x						
Woodwind family	group of wind instruments that produce tones by the vibration of an air column set in motion by a player's breath through a mouth hole or reed.									
Xylophone	a percussion instrument.		x							