

GCSE MUSIC TERMINOLOGY

RESOURCES

- ◉ **Groupings of instruments/voices:**
orchestra, string quartet, choir etc
- ◉ **Range:** *highest and lowest notes playable*
- ◉ **Timbre:** *different instrument families or vocal groups*
- ◉ **Instrumental/vocal techniques:** *eg pizzicato/arco, melismatic/syllabic*
- ◉ **Roles:** *solo and accompaniment, melody dominated homophony*

STRUCTURE

- ◉ **Binary:** *AABB*
- ◉ **Ternary:** *ABA*
- ◉ **Rondo/Ritornello:** *ABACABA*
- ◉ **Sonata Form:** *Exposition, Development, Recapitulation*
- ◉ **Verse/Chorus**
- ◉ **Through-composed:** *eg programme music where structure based on story*
- ◉ **Introduction – Bridge – Coda**
- ◉ **Episode – Fugato**

MELODY

- ◉ Conjunct: stepwise
- ◉ Disjunct: jumping around
- ◉ Intervals
- ◉ Ascending and descending
- ◉ Motifs/Leitmotifs
- ◉ Tone Rows (in 12 note music)
- ◉ Ornamentation: appoggiaturas, etc
- ◉ Passing notes
- ◉ Blue notes

HARMONY

- ◉ Root position chords
- ◉ 1st and 2nd inversion chords
- ◉ Dominant 7th
- ◉ Diminished 7th, Augmented 6th, Neapolitan 6th
- ◉ Functional Harmony
- ◉ Cadences
- ◉ Circle of 5ths
- ◉ Pedal
- ◉ Tierce de Picardie
- ◉ Suspensions
- ◉ False relation

TONALITY

- ◉ Major/minor
- ◉ Chromatic
- ◉ Atonal
- ◉ Pentatonic
- ◉ Modulation
- ◉ Dominant preparation
- ◉ Abrupt modulation
- ◉ Tertiary shifts
- ◉ Parallel keys

RHYTHM AND METRE

- Cross rhythms, polyrhythms
- Hemiola
- Pause
- Anacrusis
- Syncopation
- Ostinato
- Augmentation
- Diminution
- Triplets
- Swung rhythm

TEXTURE

- ◉ Homophonic, chordal
- ◉ Melody-dominated homphony
- ◉ Contrapuntal
- ◉ Imitative
- ◉ Fugal
- ◉ Monophonic
- ◉ Antiphonal
- ◉ Dialogue
- ◉ Accompaniment patterns
- ◉ Cantus Firmus