

Knowledge Organiser

What are we learning about?:

- A. What are the key features of the Classical era?
- B. Keywords
- C. What are the key features of the Romantic era?
- D. How do we identify Chord Progressions?
- E. Why is Fusion Music so popular?
- F. How can Music Technology be used to alter a piece of Music?
- G. Self-Assessment

Keywords for this Half Term

Concerto
Rubato
Piccolo
Symphony Orchestra
Recorder
Dominant
Trumpet
Fusion
Trombone
Tuba
Reverb

A:

What are the key features of the Classical era?


**The Classical Period
(1750-1820)**

Classical music sounds **BALANCED, ELEGANT, ORDERED** and **SYMMETRICAL**

BALANCED REGULAR PHRASES (4 and 8 bars)

HOMOPHONIC TEXTURE – clear melody with an accompaniment

ALBERTI BASS – Pattern of Root, 5th, 3rd, 5th as an accompaniment

FUNCTIONAL HARMONY – clear keys, cadences and modulations

VARIETY IN DYNAMICS – wider range and use of **CRESCENDO** and **DIMINUENDO**

TIMBRE & SONORITY – orchestra enlarged – clarinets added, piano invented (replaced harpsichord)

SYMPHONY, STRING QUARTET, SONATA (SONATA FORM), SOLO PIANO SONATAS, CONCERTO, CHAMBER MUSIC, OPERA, MASS

Examples of Classical Music:
"Symphony No.40 in G minor" by Mozart
"Trumpet Concerto" by Haydn
"Symphony No.5" – Beethoven ("bridging the gap" to the Romantic)

HT5 How has Music changed through History?

B:	Keywords
Concerto	A Solo instrument accompanied by an ensemble
Rubato	Freedom from the Tempo
Piccolo	Highest pitched Woodwind instrument (Small Flute)
Symphony Orchestra	Large instrument ensemble with 4 sections; Strings, Woodwind, Brass, Percussion
Recorder	High pitched Woodwind instrument
Dominant	V meaning 5
Trumpet	Highest pitched Brass instrument
Fusion	Mixture of two Musical styles
Trombone	Low pitched Brass instrument
Tuba	Lowest pitched and largest Brass instrument
Reverb	Echo like sound

C:

What are the key features of the Romantic era?



Romantic music sounds **LYRICAL, EMOTIONAL, DRAMATIC** and **DESCRIPTIVE**

THEMES – much music based on an emotion, place, dreams, the supernatural or stories

LEITMOTIFS – short melodies linked to a character or emotions

EXTRAVAGANT DYNAMICS – extremes used to portray intense emotion

CHROMATICISM – use of notes outside the key to create **DISSONANCE**

RICHER HARMONIES – extended chords and unusual keys to help show emotion

NATIONAL INFLUENCES – music influenced by folk music and national pride

TIMBRE & SONORITY – huge increase in size and range of orchestral instruments. Harps, Tuba, Piccolo, Bass Clarinet, Cor Anglais and Double Bassoon added with large range of percussion. Piano popular – solo piano pieces

PROGRAMME MUSIC: PROGRAMME SYMPHONY, CONCERT OVERTURE, SYMPHONIC/TONE POEM, INCIDENTAL MUSIC, OPERAS, ORATORIOS, REQUIEMS, LIEDER, CONCERTOS

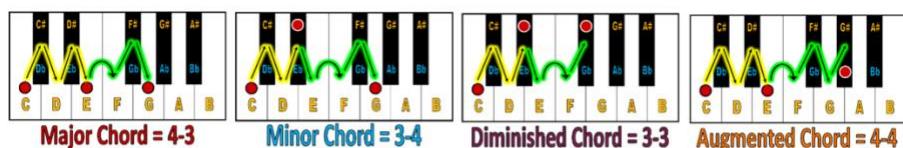
Examples of Romantic Music:

"Raindrop Prelude" (solo piano piece) by Chopin
"Hebrides Overture" (Concert Overture) by Mendelssohn
"New World Symphony" (Orchestral work) by Dvorak

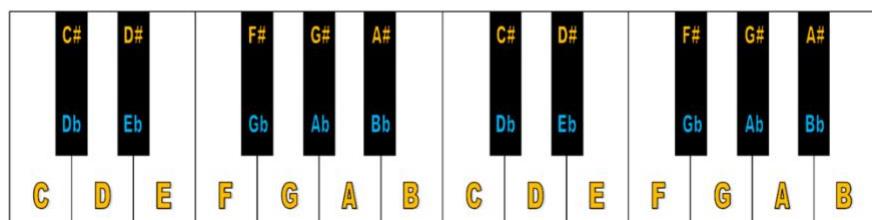
D:

How do we identify Chord Progressions?

Being able to hear a bass line can help you quickly identify the chords. This is because the job of the bass is generally to play the root of the chord – the note that gives the chord its name – at the moment the chord begins.



The patterns for each chord are stated in semitones. So: a major chord is created when the interval between the root and 3rd is 4 semitones, and the interval between the 3rd and 5th is 3 semitones.



E:

Why is Fusion Music so popular?

When an artist takes aspects from more than one musical genre and combine them to create something new, we call it a fusion.

Some examples of 20th century fusion projects and their origins are:

- **Afro Celt Sound System** - Irish traditional, West African traditional, electric dance
- **Esperanza Spalding** - samba with jazz
- **Dizzy Gillespie and Machito** - Afro-Cuban with jazz
- **Buena Vista Social Club** - fusion of African and South American elements with American guitar
- **Capercaillie** - Gaelic traditional with modern music technology production
- **Demet Akalin** - Turkish folk with Western pop
- **Nitin Sawhney** - Asian with elements of jazz, electronica and other worldwide influences



F:

How can Music Technology be used to alter a piece of Music?

Technology can play a vital role in both composing and performing music. Composers often use notation software to create a score for musicians. Players may use electronic effects or samples and listeners have many options for consuming music, including personal mp3 players and online streaming services.

- Synthesised/electronic
- Panning
- Phasing
- Sample
- Reverb
- Echo
- Amplified



H:

Self-Assessment

