

KS3 Music Quiz

Fundamental Elements of Music

The Fundamental Elements of Music are: Pitch, Duration, Dynamics, Tempo, Timbre, Texture and Structure.

Have a go at the following quiz to see how much you've been taking notice in your Music lessons!



1. Which element of music best describes how 'high' or 'low' notes sound?

- Pitch
- Rhythm
- Texture
- Timbre

2. In terms of duration, which is longest of these notes?

- Dotted quaver
- Minim
- Semi-breve
- Semi-quaver

3. What is the purpose of dynamics in a piece of music?

- To express how loud or quiet the music should be played
- To illustrate a key signature
- To represent a change of speed
- To show a change of time signature

4. What does 'andante' mean?

- At a moderate/'walking' pace
- Gradually getting faster
- Very fast
- Very slow

5. What best describes the effect of a 'ritardando'?

- A gradual increase of volume
- A sudden pause
- Changing of key signature
- Gradually getting slower

6. Which of these instruments has a 'bright' timbre?

- Bassoon
- Cello
- Double bass
- Piccolo

7. What is a 'homophonic' texture?

- A single and unaccompanied voice
- Multiple voices varying a main melody simultaneously
- The overlapping of several melodic voices in a piece
- Where one voice stands out on top of a backing harmony

8. What does the marking 'mezzo forte' (mf) mean?

- Moderately loud
- Moderately quiet
- Very loud
- Very quiet

9. Binary form is made up of how many sections?

One (A) - a single section often repeated

Two (AB)

Three (ABA)

Five (ABACD)

10. A minim is made up of how many quaver beats?

Three

Four

Six

Eight

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3. What is the purpose of dynamics in a piece of music?

- To express how loud or quiet the music should be played
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They can illustrate both sudden and gradual changes

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5. What best describes the effect of a 'ritardando'?

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This is often generalised as 'rit.' on sheet music

6. Which of these instruments has a 'bright' timbre?

- Bassoon
- Cello
- Double bass
- Piccolo

The others are low sounding and have 'darker' timbres

7. What is a 'homophonic' texture?

- A single and unaccompanied voice
- Multiple voices varying a main melody simultaneously
- The overlapping of several melodic voices in a piece
- Where one voice stands out on top of a backing harmony

Note: homophonic and homophony are not the same!

8. What does the marking 'mezzo forte' (mf) mean?

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9. Binary form is made up of how many sections?

One (A) - a single section often repeated

Two (AB)

Three (ABA)

Five (ABACD)

However, both sections are sometimes repeated

10. A minim is made up of how many quaver beats?

Three

Four

Six

Eight

Remember - minim = two crotchets, crotchet = two quavers