

Year 6 - Theme and variations (Pop Art)

Musical style: Theme and variations

Key Vocabulary

Pulse	Pulse is a steady beat - the heartbeat of the music.
Diaphragm	A dome shaped muscle beneath our lungs, which we use to control our breath when singing.
Notation	Written symbols to represent music.
Melody	Notes of different pitches played in a sequence to create a tune.
Phrase	A short musical passage that makes sense on its own.
Rhythm	The pattern of long and short notes in music.
3/4 time	Commonly called 'waltz time' and only has 3 beats per bar.
4/4 time	Known as 'common time' and has 4 beats per bar.

Theme and variations is a common musical structure, especially in classical music. The structure features a theme at the start of the piece, then once the theme has been played, the composer repeats it but with some form of variation. The theme is then played again but this time with a further variation.

Vocabulary

Pop Art

An art movement from the 1950s where artists focused on common objects (comic books, tins of soup, teacups) and showed them in bold, bright colours.



Orchestra A group of instruments that play together.



Strings - Instruments that are played by plucking or bowing strings.

Woodwind - Instruments that make sound by blowing air through a reed or small mouthpiece.

Brass - Instruments that are made of metal and the sound is made by blowing air through a cup-shaped mouthpiece.

Percussion - Instruments that are played by striking, beating or shaking the instrument.

Kodaly rhythm names



Year 6 - Film music

Music Style: Film

Key Vocabulary

Chromatics	Notes played from the chromatic scale which can make the music sound creepy.
Composition	A creative work, such as a piece of music.
Evoke	To suggest a particular feeling or though.
Graphic score	A way of writing down music on the page without using traditional stave notations, instead using images to represent the music.
Imagery	Visually descriptive music.
Improvise	Making up music as it is played or performed.
Major key	A tonality where the music sounds happy or bright.
Minor key	A tonality where the music sounds sad or tense.
Modulate	Changing from one key to another (e.g major to minor)
Notate	To write symbols to represent music.
Pitch	How high or low a note sounds.
Sound effects	Effects made that imitate real sounds.
Soundtrack	The background music, together with the main songs, create the soundtrack to a film.
Tremolo	A trembling effect, achieved by creating a loud and then quiet sound with a single note.
Unison	Playing or singing notes at the same pitch, at the same time.

Key Facts:

Examples of scenes and types of music



TENSE music

- Long notes followed by short notes or pauses.
- Melody switching between two notes (e.g the theme from 'Jaws').
- Useful for making the viewer think something bad is going to happen.



PURPOSEFUL music

- Military drum sounds.
- A major key (happy sounding music).
- A medium tempo.
- Useful for characters getting a job done, or planning to defeat an enemy, etc.



ROMANTIC music

- Slow, long notes.
- Sweeping melodies (getting higher and lower very smoothly and quickly).
- High, twinkly notes.
- Useful for showing which characters are the love interest.



DANGER music

- Getting higher and faster.
- Using lots of instruments to create a chaotic sound.
- Useful for building a sense of impending doom.

This unit explores the music used in film to accompany action and create atmosphere.

Year 6 - Instrumental lessons: North America

Instrumental based lessons

Key Vocabulary

Harmony	Two notes that sound at the same time, and usually sound nice played together.
Ostinato	A repeated pattern in music, can be a melody or rhythm.
Layered textures	Tunes or sounds layered on top of each other.
Interlocking phrase	A musical phrase or pattern that overlaps.
Electronic dance music (EDM)	Music that is produced electronically, often used in nightclubs, and was invented in the mid-1980s.
Synthesiser	An electronic instrument that usually has a keyboard.

Key Facts:

'In C' by Terry Riley was the first ever minimalist piece, written in 1964. It was composed for 35 players and could be played on any instruments.



Philip Glass is a minimalist composer who has written lots of film music such as music for the 2015 superhero film 'Fantastic Four'.



Steve Reich is another minimalist composer who spent time studying West African drumming and gamelan music, so these styles influenced his compositions.

Electronic dance music is influenced by minimalist music, containing features like repetition, layering and interlocking phrases.

Features of minimalist music

Repetition

Layered textures



Interlocking phrases and rhythms

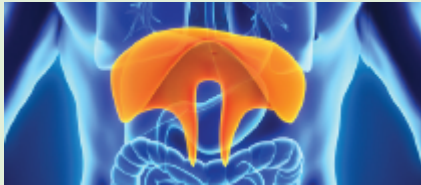
Simple harmony



Year 6 - Songs of World War 2

Music Style: Wartime music

Key Vocabulary

Expression	Playing or singing with a personal response to the music.
Dynamics	The volume of the notes. This often changes throughout a piece of music.
Diaphragm	A dome shaped muscle, which we use to control our breath when singing. 
Melody	The combination of pitch and rhythm which forms a tune.
Melody line	The notes that make a melody.
Counter melody	A melody that can be sung to complement the existing melody. It uses harmony to make it sound good, but is different to harmony because it uses a different rhythm.
Pitch	How high or low a note sounds.
Score	A written form of a musical composition.
Graphic score	A way of writing down music on the page without using traditional stave notation, instead using symbols and images to represent the music.



Key Facts:

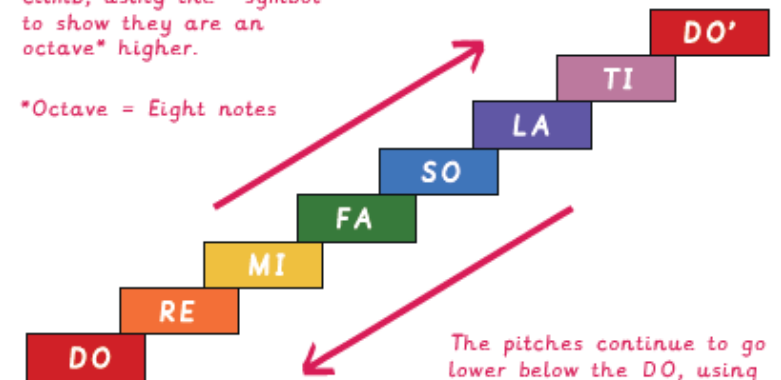
The songs of WW2 were often very sentimental. They were seen to offer hope and understanding to the feelings of those who were affected by the war effort.



Solfa ladder pitches

The pitches continue to climb, using the ' symbol to show they are an octave* higher.

*Octave = Eight notes



The pitches continue to go lower below the DO, using the , symbol to show they are an octave lower.