

The Elements of Music

Year 7, Autumn 1

The elements of music are words that we use to describe music in detail.

Tempo

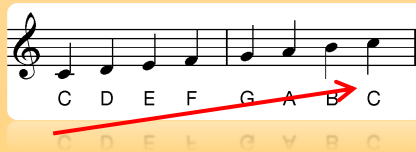
The speed of music.

In music, Italian words are often used to describe the tempo.

Eg. **Allegro** means fast and **Largo** means slow

Pitch

How high or low music is



These notes go up in pitch.

Texture

The layers (number of instruments playing) of a piece of music.

If music has lots of layers, the texture is thick. If there are only one or two layers it is thin.

Extra vocab:

Monophonic texture: one solo instrument

Polyphonic: lots of instruments weaving in and out of each other.



Duration

The length of notes.

Notes can be short or long, and when different length notes are put in a pattern, it create a rhythm.



Dynamics

The volume of music.

Music can be soft, very loud and everything in between.

Italian words are used to describe dynamics:

Forte: Loud

Piano: Soft

Mezzo Forte: Moderately loud

Timbre

The different tones and sounds different instruments make.

