

AoS 1 - Rhythm & Metre

PULSE – the beat of the music – it's what you tap your foot to!
TEMPO – the speed of the music
RHYTHM – patterns of different lengths of sounds
METRE is a regular pattern of beats indicated by a **time signature**
SYNCOPIATION – when the weak (off beats) beats of the bar are accented
ACCELERANDO – gradually getting faster
RALLENTANDO (rall) / RITARDANDO (rit) – Gradually getting slower
TRIPLET is 3 notes played in the time of two
DRUM FILL – short drum solo in between sections of a piece.

ADAGIO – slow tempo
MODERATO – A medium tempo / moderate tempo
ALLEGRO – Fast tempo
SIMPLE TIME each beat is divided into two equal parts e.g. 4/4, 2/4
COMPOUND TIME each beat is divided into 3 equal parts, 6/8, 9/8, 12/8
REGULAR METRE – a time signature where all the beats are the same length.
IRREGULAR METRE – a time signature where the beats are grouped together unevenly (5 or 7 beats per bar). Will have a lopsided feel.

LARGO – very slow tempo
ANDANTE – at a walking pace. (Medium-slow)
VIVACE – Fast and lively tempo.
PRESTO – Very fast tempo
RUBATO – flexible tempo, expressive, can sound quite 'free'
HEMIOLA – where a piece of music in one time signature appears to change to another beat e.g. 6/8 suddenly sounds like $\frac{3}{4}$ (I like to be in America)
CROSS-RHYTHM – simple beats such as quavers playing over the top of triplets to cross over each other and make a complex sound
AUGMENTATION – doubling the note values/lengths of the original tune
DIMINUTION – halving the note values/lengths of the original tune
POLYRHYTHM – many different rhythms all happening at the same time
BI-RHYTHM – 2 different rhythms happening at the same time

TOP TIPS

Rhythmic device = syncopation, triplets, dotted rhythm