

Music History

Contemporary Period (1900-present)

- no proper melody - only creates mood
- use instruments in a different way
- Minimalism
- does not have to be in a key
- often has thin texture

Romantic Period (1820-1900)

- large orchestra
- uses all percussion
- big range of dynamics
- thick texture
- complex rhythms
- music can tell a story

Classical Period (1750-1820)

- Mozart, Haydn
- elegant, graceful
- accompaniment is all played together with same thing at the same time (homophonic)
- repetitive
- strings most important
- small orchestra

Baroque Period (1600-1750)

- Bach, Pachelbel
- harpsichord
- polyphonic texture (all instruments playing different things at once)
- ornaments (decoration)
- fugue (when instruments copy each other)

Renaissance Period (1450-1600)

- church music sung a capella (without accompaniment)
- Renaissance instruments - example: sackbut, crumhorn, lute, viol, virginal, hand drum, tambourine
- chorales
- clashing notes - dissonance
- imitation (echo)

World Music

African

- pentatonic
- hand drumming
- complex rhythms
- call and response
- syncopation

Australian

- didgeridoo
- chanting

Caribbean

- usually major
- syncopated
- repetition
- steel pans, cow bells agogo bell, tambourine, trumpets

China

- pentatonic
- pitch bends
- erhu (2-string chinese fiddle)

Gamelan (Indonesia)

- metallophone, gongs
- modal
- usually slow tempo
- irregular tempo

Indian

- pitch bends in voice or 1/4 tones
- drone played by tamboura
- melody instrument is sitar
- ostinato played by tabla
- rhythm independent of voice
- rag is melody

Spain (Latin America)

- acoustic guitars
- flamenco
- clapping
- style of playing/slapping guitar
- conga
- syncopated

Cadences

(1) Perfect Cadence:

Dominant to Tonic - Chord V to I
The Music will sound complete

(2) Imperfect Cadence:

Tonic to Dominant - Chord I to V
The Music will sound incomplete

(3) Plagal Cadence:

Subdominant to Tonic - Chord IV to I
The Music will sound like 'Amen'

(4) Interrupted Cadence:

Dominant to anything other than Tonic - Chord V to anything except I
The music will be a surprise to the ear

Key Signatures



C

Sharps:



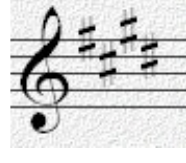
G



D



A



E

Flats:



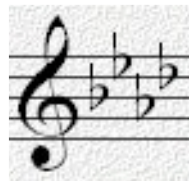
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Bb



Eb









Ab

Dynamics







English	Italian	Symbol
Very soft	Pianissimo	pp
Medium soft	mezzo piano	mp
soft	piano	p
medium loud	mezzo forte	mf
loud	forte	f
very loud	fortissimo	ff

Signs and Symbols






b	flat	makes pitch go down by semi-tone
#	sharp	makes pitch go up by semi-tone
	treble clef	shows where high pitch notes should be written
	bass clef	shows where low pitch notes should be written
	alto or tenor clef	shows where middle pitch notes should be written
 or etc.	time signature	tells the number of beats in each bar and what kind of note gets the beat
	hold sign	hold out until conductor cuts off
	turn sign	note, above, note, below, note
tr	trill sign	fast movement between two notes

Note Values

Notes:

	4 counts	semi-breve
	3 counts	dotted minim
	2 counts	minim
	1 count	crotchet
	½ count	quaver
	_ count	semi-quaver

Rests:

	4 counts	semi-breve rest
	2 counts	minim rest
	1 count	crotchet rest
	½ count	quaver rest
	_ count	semi-quaver rest

Main Musical Forms:

Binary	AB
Ternary	ABA
Rondo	ABACA
Theme and Variations	Theme - Variation I - Variation II - etc.
Fugue	Subject given in one instrument with subject imitated in different instruments afterwards one at a time
Symphony	4 Movements - fast, slow, dance in 3, fast
Sonata	Exposition - Development - Recapitulation

Area of Study 1	Area of Study 2	Area of Study 3	Area of Study 4
Repetition and contrast in Western Classical Music 1600-1899	New directions in Western Classical Music - 1900 to present day	Popular song in context	Rhythms, scales, and modes in music from around the world
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · ground bass · variations · ternary form · rondo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · serialism · minimalism · experimental music: eg. Graphic notation · electronic music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 12-bar Blues · reggae · club dance · remix · songs from musicals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · gamelan music · Indian music · African drumming · music which draws together at least two different cultures: eg. Bhangra & folk rock

It is now up to you!!!!

You can practice for your listening exam EVERY time you listen to a piece of music. When you listen to music, wherever you are, make sure you do the following:

- ✓ Decide what period of musical history it comes from.
- ✓ Decide where in the world it comes from.
- ✓ Why does it come from that period of part of the world?
- ✓ What cadence can you hear in the middle and at the end?
- ✓ If you think the piece is in G major, work out the key signature.
- ✓ Decide what the dynamics are in Italian and what the correct symbol is.
- ✓ See if you can hear a glissando or imitation, or anything from your vocabulary list.

Listening is a skill that needs practice! The more you do, the more you will improve.

REMEMBER: You want to do your best in the exam!!!