



Graphic Scores

Name _____

Form _____

A graphic score gives a **picture of the sound** using shapes and symbols to represent different sounds used. You read a graphic score from left to right, just as you would when reading a book. A graphic score can be written down in any way at all that represents the sound as closely as possible, and makes sense to the performer.

Music can also be written down in a more traditional way on the five lines called a **STAFF**, using musical notes. This is called **STAFF NOTATION** and you need to be able to read music in order to play it whereas with a graphic score, you are given much more responsibility for what to play and need to listen very carefully to the music to feel just the right moment to make each sound be part of the music. Staff Notation shows the performer the exact **PITCH** to play the note and the **DURATION** of the note whereas in a graphic score, performers are left to choose the pitch and duration for themselves giving them much more freedom.



STAFF NOTATION



GRAPHIC SCORE

1. What is a graphic score? _____
2. What is staff notation? _____
3. What is the musical name for the five lines used to record music? _____

4. How is a graphic score written down? _____

5. How does the performer know what to do when playing a graphic score? _____

6. Which two of the **elements of music** are clearly given when playing from staff notation? _____
7. How do you follow a graphic score? _____

