



Knowledge Organiser



Knowledge Organiser Key Stage 3

Subject: MUSIC

Year: 8

Topic Title: CLASSICAL TIME PERIOD

Lesson 4 – Classical Time Period – Harmony & Melody

Key Facts from this lesson

The **classical time period** often uses **diatonic harmony**. This means that the chords were part of the key and the **harmony** sounds **consonance**. However, during the classical time period composers were beginning to experiment and break the rules of previous time periods (such as the baroque time period). Therefore they chose to add **chromatic** notes into the melodies. This was a way to add small amounts of **dissonance** without upsetting audiences of the time. The classical time period (1750-1820) was followed by the romantic time period (1820-1900). Composers in the romantic time period used more **dissonance** and **non-diatonic** harmony.

Für Elise uses **diatonic harmony** in the chords outlined in the accompaniment.

However the **melody** uses **chromatic notes**.

An **interval** is the distance between two notes. When we count intervals the note you begin on counts as **one**. Therefore, the interval between the pitches **C** and **D** would be a 2nd. Notes with an interval of an **octave** are 8 notes apart and have the same pitch name. For example, the pitch of **C** an **octave** up would be called **C**.

Key words and definitions from this lesson:

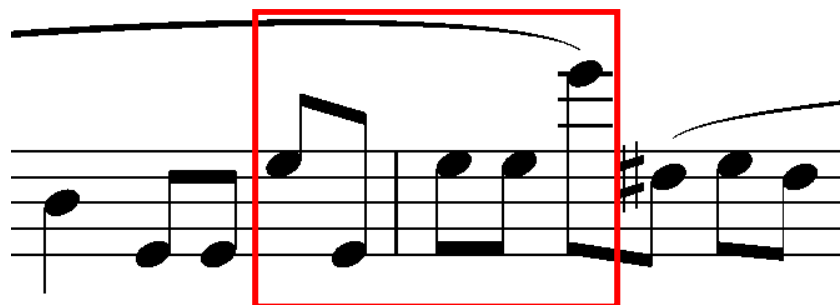
- ★ **Harmony** – describes the sound of two or more notes playing at the same time
- ★ **Diatonic** – notes within the key of the music
- ★ **Chromatic** – notes that are not within the key of the music
- ★ **Dissonance** – a type of harmony that clashes
- ★ **Consonance** – a type of harmony that sounds pleasing
- ★ **Interval** – the distance between two notes
- ★ **Octave** – an interval of an 8th

Diagrams/ Maps/ illustration to help with learning



Chromatic note

This note is chromatic because it is not part of the A minor scale



Octaves

All the highlighted notes are the pitch of E in different octaves