



Knowledge Organiser



Knowledge Organiser Key Stage 3

Subject : MUSIC

Year: 7

Topic Title: ELEMENTS OF MUSIC

Lesson 1 – Elements of Music

Key Facts from this lesson

The musical elements are a set of keywords we use to describe music.

Tempo – Tempo describes the speed of the music. Music can be fast or slow. It can also speed up and get slower.

Dynamics – Dynamics describe the volume of the music. It can be loud or quiet. It can also get louder or get quieter.

Texture – Texture describes how many **different** parts a piece of music has and how they interact with each other. Texture is thick if there are many different parts, or thin if there are not many different parts.

Timbre – Timbre describes the unique sound that an instrument is making. One instrument can have multiple timbres depending on how it is played. For example, a trombone can have a warm timbre or a harsh timbre depending on how it is played.

Key words and definitions from this lesson:

- ★ **Timbre** – the unique sound of an instrument is creating
- ★ **Texture** – how many different parts are playing and how they interact with each other
- ★ **Dynamics** – the volume of the sound
- ★ **Forte** – A loud dynamic level
- ★ **Piano** – A quiet dynamic level
- ★ **Tempo** – the speed of the music
- ★ **Composition** – creating original music

Diagrams/ Maps/ illustration to help with learning

Use this space to plan your composition

Potential misconceptions to avoid / errors students often make

Texture – Texture is how many different parts are playing, **NOT** how many instruments are playing.

Thick texture = many different parts at the same time

Thin texture = one or two different parts at the same time

Therefore

40 violins playing the **same part** = thin texture

3 violins playing **different parts** = thicker texture