

# ELEMENTS OF MUSIC

## Key Vocabulary for Primary Schools

DLS  
MUSIC

[www.dlsmusic.co.uk](http://www.dlsmusic.co.uk)



### DYNAMICS

Volume

Quiet / Medium / Loud  
piano / mezzo piano / forte

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### TEMPO

Speed

Slow / Medium / Fast  
largo / andante / presto

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### PITCH

Individual notes

High / Medium / Low

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### MELODY

The Tune of a Song  
Pitches in sequence

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### BEAT / PULSE

Steady Beat

Keeps us in time

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### RHYTHM

Sequences of long & short notes.

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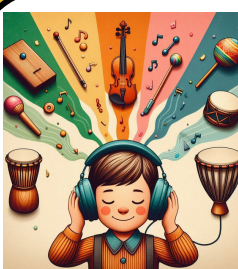


### TONALITY

Mood

Happy / Sad / Mysterious  
Major / Minor / Diminished

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### TIMBRE

Individual Sound Colour  
Wood / Metal / Shaker /  
Skin / Strings / Wind /  
Environmental

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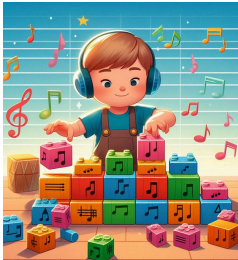


### TEXTURE

Layers of Music

Thick (lots of parts) Vs  
Thin (one part)

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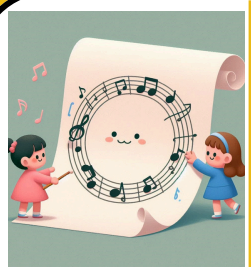


### STRUCTURE

Order of Sections

Introduction / Verse /  
Chorus / Ending

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### OSTINATO

A short repeating pattern!

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### HARMONY

More than one pitch played  
or sung at the same time

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