



Year 4 Music Knowledge Organiser

Pentatonic scale



Pentatonic scale

A five-note scale
Latin word 'penta' meaning 5
Latin word 'tonus' meaning sound



Music from around the world and across many traditions and cultures use a pentatonic scale.



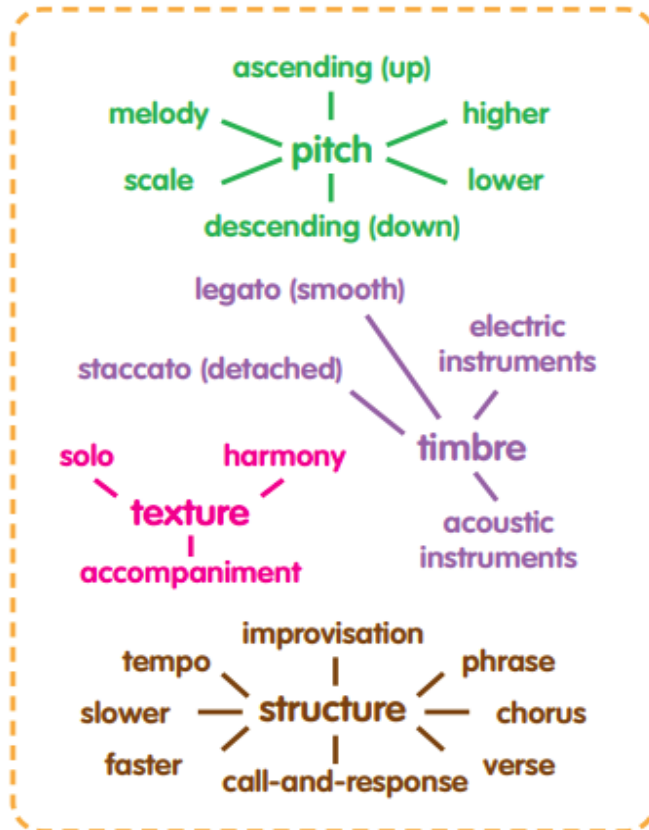
A pentatonic scale starting on the note C

Duration = note lengths

= crotchet (1 beat)
Walk walk walk walk

= minim (2 beats)
Stride stride stride stride

= quavers (1/2 beat each)
Jogging jogging jogging jogging





Below are the pieces of music you will listen to. Can you use musical terms to describe them?



Skye boat song

- Folk song from the Isle of Skye, Scotland
- Usually played as a lullaby



Om Namah Shivaya

- Devotional Hindu mantra to Lord Shiva
- Hindustani classical music based on the bhupali raga



Busy weaving

- Solo piece played on a Chinese long-stringed instrument called a guzheng (pronounced 'goo-chung')



Desert blues

- A live performance as part of the Pan African Pentatonic Project
- Two African musicians: Alhousseini Anivolla from Niger and Girum Mezmur from Addis Ababa

I feel confident using musical terms to compare music featuring the pentatonic scale.



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