Music

GCSE Music – Melody, Instrumentation and Tempo



A: Melody

- Conjunct melodies Move mainly by step (semitone or tone)
- Disjunct melodies Move mainly by leaps
- Scalic melodies Melodies that follow the order of a scale.
- Scale a group of notes played in ascending or descending order.
- Chromatic scale a scale made up of semitones.
- Whole tone scale a scale made up of only whole tones.
- Pentatonic scale a five note scale.
- **Arpeggio –** Playing the notes of the chord one by one.
- Interval the gap in pitch between two notes.
- Ornamentation the decoration of notes.
- Appoggiatura An ornament that clashed with the accompanying chord then resolves
- Acciaccatura An ornament that's played as quickly as possible before the note.
- **Trill** An ornament that's played going quickly between two notes.

B: Instrumentation

- Percussion Family made up of instruments that you hit to make a sound.
- Strings Family made up of instruments that are played with strings
- Brass Family made up of instruments that are made out of brass and use a mouthpiece.
- Woodwind Family made up of instruments that use reeds or were originally made out of wood.
- **Articulation** The effect on how the note is played eg phrase mark, staccato, accent and legato.
- Guitar Effects Effects used on the guitar such as distortion, reverb etc.
- Glissando Gliding over strings or notes.
- Pizzicato Plucking of strings.

C: Tempo

- Grave Very, very slow
- Largo Very Slow
- Adagio Slow
- Allargando Much Slower
- Andante Walking Pace
- Moderato at a moderate pace
- Allegro Moderately fast

- Vivace Fast
- Presto Very fast.
- Accelerando Getting faster.
- Ritardando/Rallentando Getting slower
- Rubato With a flexible tempo