

## Elements of Music Chart

<b>Duration</b>	<p><b>The element of music that relates to time, which includes beat, rhythm, metre, and tempo.</b></p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How would you describe the rhythm?</li><li>• Are short or long notes being primarily used?</li><li>• How does the rhythm affect the overall energy of the piece?</li><li>• How might you represent the length (duration) of the notes?</li><li>• What tempo markings (e.g., allegro, vivace, largo) do you notice?</li><li>• How would a different tempo change your experience of the music?</li><li>• How does an increase in tempo affect the mood of the piece?</li><li>• What time signature(s) do you notice in the music?</li></ul>
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<b>Pitch</b>	<p><b>The element of music that relates to the highness or lowness of a tone.</b></p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How might someone move their body to show how individual pitches go up, go down, or stay the same, and how do they connect to form a melody?</li><li>• What patterns do you notice in the melody (e.g., repetition, sequence)?</li><li>• How could you show others how this melody moves without singing/playing it for them?</li><li>• What words might someone use to describe the character of this song/piece of music (e.g., cheerful, bright, bold, intense)?</li><li>• In musical terms, how would you describe the tonality of this piece of music (e.g., pentatonic, major, minor, chromatic?)</li><li>• What accidentals or key signatures do you observe in the music?</li></ul>
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<b>Dynamics and other expressive controls</b>	<p><b>The element of music that relates to volume.</b></p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What range of dynamics is being used?</li><li>• What dynamic markings do you notice in the music?</li><li>• How does a decrease in volume affect the feeling or mood in the music?</li><li>• What dynamic level would support the mood of this piece?</li><li>• How does the compose use expressive controls (e.g., staccato/legato or crescendo/decrescendo) to create contrasts and changes in mood?</li></ul> <p>Comparing two pieces of music/songs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How do these two pieces of music/songs use dynamics differently to create uniquely expressive pieces?</li></ul>
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<b>Timbre</b>	<p><b>The element of music that relates to the quality of a sound (e.g., sound of a doorbell versus a laugh, a trumpet versus a clarinet, or two people speaking).</b></p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are the primary instruments used by the composer?</li><li>• Which pitched or non-pitched percussion instrument(s) are used to accompany this piece of music/song?</li><li>• Why do you think the composer chose specific instruments for this work?</li><li>• What mood do the instruments in this piece create?</li><li>• How would changing the instruments change the effect?</li><li>• What words might someone use to describe the tone, colour, or timbre of this song/musical work (e.g., rich, bright, mellow, or piercing)?</li></ul>
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<b>Texture/ harmony</b>	<p><b>The element of music that relates to the layers of sounds within music.</b></p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Which instruments or found sounds are used to accompany this piece of music/song?</li><li>• What is the rhythmic relationship between the melody and the accompaniment?</li><li>• How does the accompaniment in this piece of music/song reflect the story/poem/lyrics?</li><li>• What similarities and differences do you notice between the melodies and rhythms?</li><li>• How might someone graphically portray the layering of melodies in this piece of music?</li><li>• Is the accompaniment rhythmic, melodic, or choral?</li></ul>
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<b>Form</b>	<p><b>The element of music that relates to the way musical pieces are organized.</b></p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How is the music organized?</li><li>• Using musical terms, how would you describe the overall form and effect of the music?</li><li>• How does the music change from one section to the next?</li><li>• What elements of music does the composer use to vary the original theme?</li><li>• How did the composer use form to suggest certain images?</li></ul>
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