

Year 9 Music Summer Term - Knowledge Organiser

Film music refers to any music written to accompany films. Composers follow **cues** on a moving image and write music to fit those visual cues. Composers often use an **orchestra** because of the vast array of instruments there are to choose from.

Film Music Devices	Definition
Leitmotif	Recurring musical theme associated with a particular character, place or object in a film.
Mickey Mousing	Film composition technique where the music mimics the actions/movements happening on-screen.
Sound Effects	Non-musical sounds used to emphasise movement and help create realism and immersion.

Creating Mood	Definition	Genres	Musical features
Tonality/Harmony	Major - bright Minor - somber Power chords - action Dissonance - adds tension	Romance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major or minor chords Slow to moderate tempo <i>Legato</i> notes Soft strings (long held notes) Piano
Tempo	<u>Speed of the music:</u> Fast (<i>Allegro</i>) Moderate (<i>Moderato</i>) Slow (<i>Adagio</i>)	Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major or minor chords Power chords Fast tempo <i>Staccato</i> notes (short, punchy notes) Brass and percussion instruments
Dynamics	<u>Volume of the music:</u> Loud (f - <i>Forte</i>) Medium (mf - <i>Mezzo Forte</i>) Quiet (p - <i>Piano</i>)	Horror	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor chords Dissonance (clashy notes) High pitch notes Low pitch notes Screeching sounds Unpredictable tempo: slow and suddenly fast Unpredictable dynamic: quiet and suddenly loud Sudden silence
Timbre	Tone/sound quality of the instruments		

Melody	Definition
Melody	The main tune.
Pitch	How high or low a note is.
Ascending	Low to high pitch
Descending	High to low pitch

Mickey Mousing vs Sound Effects
<p><u>Mickey Mousing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses music The music mimics or synchronises exactly with on-screen actions Often exaggerated or playful Example: rising notes as a character climbs stairs <p><u>Sound Effects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses non-musical sounds Represents realistic or literal sounds from the scene Example: footsteps, door closing, explosions, etc...