



History of Music

Mussorgsky - Night on a Bare Mountain -

written in 1867 and describes a short story in which St John sees a witches' Sabbath on the Bald Mountain near Kiev in the old Russian Empire. It's a wild and terrifying party with lots of dancing but when the church bell chimes at 6am and the sun comes up, the witches vanish.

Holst - 'Mars' from the Planets – taken from a suite of programmatic works written in the 20th century depicting all of the planets.

Ravel - Bolero - premiered in 1928 and is an orchestral piece of music. It was a composition written for a dancer and was a great success when it was performed.



Careers

Music promotions manager is someone who publicises a person/band.

Musician is someone that plays music perhaps in an orchestra/band or solo setting.

Teacher is someone that would give music lessons to people of all ages.

Music therapist uses music and sound to help improve people's emotional wellbeing, relieve stress and build confidence.

Composer writes music. This can be for film/TV/solo instruments or orchestral.



Instrument and Voices

Orchestra - a group of instrumentalists, especially one combining string, woodwind, brass, and percussion sections and playing classical music.

Glockenspiel is a percussion instrument with tuned metal pieces mounted in a frame.



Musical Notation



- The notes within a scale (D as example) are:

D, E, F sharp, G, A, B, C, D

- Crotchets are one beat notes

- Treble clef – indicates where the notes are on the staff



Musical Elements

- **Dynamics** are how loud or quiet a section of a piece of music is.

- **Rhythm** is a strong regular beat in a piece of music.

- **Pitch** is how high or low a note or melody line is.

- **Tempo** describes how quickly or slowly the piece is.

- **Texture** is how many layers of melody there are.

Key vocabulary

Composer is someone who creates music for a variety of different groups, this could be commissioned (they could be asked to create music for an event).

***Orchestra** is a group of instrumentalists which play orchestral music. This would include a string, woodwind, brass and percussion section.

***Conductor** is someone who directs a group of instrumentalists seen at the front of an orchestral/chamber group, this could be of any size.

Singer/songwriter is someone whose main source of income (or some source of income) would come from creating and performing their own musical material