

Concept Lesson Assignment Topics

Dr. Liske

#1

Each voice and instrument makes a unique sound. We can identify that sound by using just our ears. Unique sound is called **timbre** or **tone color**. (Keywords: instruments, tone color, timbre)

#2

Music can change in loudness. In general, the word **dynamics** is used to refer to categories of loudness and softness. For example, musicians use the word **forte** to describe loud music and **piano** to describe soft music. (Keywords: dynamics, loud-soft, expressive qualities)

#3

In music, sometimes songs have a fast steady beat and sometimes it is slow. The speed of the steady beat is referred to as the **tempo**. Other terms are used to categorize the tempo. For example: **Allegro** means fast tempo; **Andante** means moderate or walking tempo; **Adagio** means slow tempo. (Keywords: tempo, fast-slow, expressive qualities)

#4

Texture can refer to the complexity of music or the number of different simultaneous notes and melodies. For example, in monophonic texture everyone plays/sings the same thing. In **polyphonic texture** more than one thing happens at a time. **Partner-songs** (distinctly different songs sung together) are one way for children to perform polyphonic music. (Keywords: partner songs, harmony, polyphonic texture)

#5

Texture can refer to the complexity of music or the number of different simultaneous notes and melodies. For example, in monophonic texture everyone plays/sings the same thing. In **polyphonic texture** more than one thing happens at a time. **Rounds** or **cannons** (a single melody sung by two voices together, but each starting at a different time) are one way for children to perform polyphonic music. (Keywords: rounds, cannons, harmony, polyphonic texture)

#6

Harmony in music refers to the **chords** that accompany the melody. A chord is two or more pitches sung/played simultaneously. When a melody is played or sung with chords accompanying it, or when groups of people sing the same words at the same time but on different pitches, the texture is called **homophonic**. (Keywords: harmony, chords, homophonic texture)

#7

An **ostinato** is a short melodic or rhythmic pattern which is performed repeatedly as an accompaniment for a song. (Keywords: ostinato)

#8

Steady beat is the equally measured pulse of the music. There are many ways to keep a steady beat while singing music. (Keywords: steady beat, rhythm)

#9

Steady beat is the equally measured pulse of the music, but **rhythm** is the varying long and short sounds that happen within the steady beat. For example, the word rhythm of a song is different from the steady beat. (Keywords: rhythm)

#10

When a piece of music has a strong beat followed by two weak beats, it has a **meter** of 3 or triple meter. If it has a strong beat followed by one (or three) weak beat(s), it has a meter of 2 (4) or duple meter. (Keywords: rhythm, meter)

#11

In a melody, pitches can get higher, lower, or stay the same. This is the shape of the melody or **melodic contour**. You can use your hands or body to show the pitch changes. (Keywords: melody, ascending, descending, repeated notes)

#12

Just as in speaking, music is divided into parts with obvious starting and pausing places. These are called **phrases** and often indicate the form of a piece or where to take a breath. (Keywords: form, phrases)

#13

When a song has a melody that is repeated over and over but with a different set of words, it has **strophic** form. Each restatement of the melody is called a verse. (Keywords: form, verse, strophic)

#14

When a song has two distinctly different sections with different words and different melodies, the form of the piece is called **binary**, or **AB form**. It is labeled with combinations of A and B that always end on B (AB, AAB, AABB). (Keywords: form, binary, AB, etc.)

#15

When a song has three sections with the first and last similar but the middle section different, the form of the piece is called **ternary**, or **ABA form**. It is labeled with combinations of A and B that always end on A (ABA, AABA). (Keywords: form, ternary, da capo, ABA, etc.)

NOTE:

Other topics may be acceptable as well. Please consult your instructor. For this lesson you must teach a musical concept (not merely lead a song, or teach academic content other than music).