

Vocabulary Words

Bass Line- the lowest part that creates a foundation for the other parts

C major- a scale using only C, D, E, F, G, A, B

Chord- different notes that sound together, usually a triad

Chord Progression- the order of chords in a piece of music

Chord tone- a note in a chord

Composition- making up musical sounds and writing them down to share with others

Diatonic- using only notes in a scale (C, D, E, F, G, A, B)

Harmony Part- the part that supports the melody and makes it more interesting.

Improvisation- making up and playing musical sounds, the first part of composition

Individual parts- the part that shows just the music one section or instrument plays

Instrumentation- deciding what instrument will play what part

Landler- Austrian dance in the character of a slow waltz. It was very popular in the early 19th century. Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert wrote collections of Landler.

Melodic Contour- the up-and-down shape of a melody

Melody- the part of the music you would sing. The part you recognize first, usually.

Motif- a bit of music that you can recognize by itself, like Beethoven's 5th

Ostinato- a rhythm or harmony or group of notes that keep repeating so that other things can happen over it

Repetition- doing the same rhythm or melody or motif over again

Rhythm- dividing time into different lengths with pulses or beats

Root of the chord-the bottom note of a chord, also the chord's name (like a "C" chord)

Score- music showing all the parts, lined up vertically so you can see what sounds at the same time

Triad- a 3-note chord

3rd of the chord- the note 2 steps up from the root

5th of the chord- the note 4 steps up from the root