

What should I already know?

- There are different styles of music.
- A music genre is influenced by where and when it originated.
- Different styles of music use different instruments.
- Different styles of music have key repetitive features: rapping, phasing and swung rhythm.

Key knowledge – Music Genres

Hip Hop – hip hop music originated in America, in the Bronx region of New York in the 1970s. It is a part of American urban culture, which features DJing, graffiti art, break dancing and rap. De La Soul are well known hip hop artists. Hip hop focuses on rhythm rather than melody and a lot of artists rap the lyrics instead of singing them.

Minimalism – Minimalism is a style of music which originated on the West coast of America in the 1960s. Minimalist music uses repetition, phases and layering. Steve Reich is a minimalist composer.

Wartime Music (WW2) – One popular type of music during WW2 was swing music. This is a type of jazz that originated in the USA, and is a type of dance music. It was broadcast over radio across the world, and played in dance halls. Lots of brass instruments were present in Glenn Miller and his band were famous performers of wartime

Key Vocabulary and definitions

Beat – the basic unit in music

Chord – a group of notes played together

DJ-ing – manipulating sounds of recordings

Dynamics – how loudly or softly to play a piece of music

Genre – a style, or particular type of music

Harmony – a combination of notes played together that produces a ple effect

Improvisation – creating music spontaneously in the moment

Melody – notes that are played one after the other to make a tune (a melody)

Natural note – the notes ABCDEFG, which are represented by the whi keys on a keyboard/piano

Ostinati – continually repeated musical phrases or rhythms (singular – an ostinato)

Phasing – identical lines of music played synchronously, but slowly becc out of time with each other

Rapping – reciting words rapidly and rhythmically over an instrumental backing

Rhythms – patterns of sounds played through time, formed by a series notes

Samples – pieces of sound recordings that are reused in other pieces c music

Solos – sections played or sung by one performer

Swung (rhythm) – rhythms where instead of two notes of equal length, the first note is lengthened and the second shortened