Duration

Refers to the speed of a piece of music as well as the length and organisation of notes and rests.

**Key terms include:** tempo, rhythm, Lento, Andante, Moderato, Allegro, Presto, syncopation, ostinato, backbeat, polyrhythm.
Concepts of music

Refers to highness and lowness of sound and their combinations. **Key terms include:** melody, harmony, tonality, atonality, modes, dissonance, blues scale, sequence, modulation, theme, range, drone, pedal point, riff.
Refers to the order of sections and ideas in a piece of music.

**Key terms include:** binary, ternary, rondo, theme and variations, strophic, 12 bar blues, repetition, imitation, call and response, verse/chorus form, sonata form.
Texture

Refers to layers of sound.

Key terms include: monophonic, homophonic, heterophonic, polyphonic, unison, rhythmic unison, staggered entry.
Tone colour

Refers to varying types of sound production and using adjectives to describe quality of sound.

**Key terms include:** chordophone, idiophone, membranophone, aerophone, electrophone, roles of instruments, instrument families (strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion) and types of ensembles.

**Adjectives can include:** dry, woody, hollow, mellow, bright, dull, icy, metallic, grating, resonant, shrill, breathy, airy.
Concepts of music

Key terms include:
pianissimo, piano, mezzo piano,
mezzo forte, forte, fortissimo.

Dynamics

Refers to the volume (loudness/softness) of sound
Expressive techniques

Refers to the manipulation of the other concepts. For example, crescendo manipulates dynamics, accelerando manipulates duration and vibrato manipulates tone colour.

Key terms include: crescendo, decrescendo, accelerando, ritardando, rubato, legato, staccato, glissando, double stopping, falsetto, vibrato, muting, pizzicato.