



Key Knowledge

The **blues** is a **musical style** created in response to the hardships endured by generations of African American people during the slave trade. It originated in the rural Mississippi Delta region at the beginning of the 20th century. Blues has contributed significantly to the development of jazz, rock music, and country and western music. Country Blues is a simple acoustic style of music, whilst City Blues, or **Rhythm 'n' Blues**, was a much livelier, rhythmic and electric style, developed in the newly developing cities of the USA, such as Chicago and New Orleans.



Further Listening & Links

BB King - The Thrill Has Gone - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4fk2prKnYnI

Bessie Smith – St. Louis Blues: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpVCqXRIXx4

A Short History of The Blues: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnaorRAxhmU





Key Vocabulary

Instrumentation – the instruments you can hear **Work Songs** – songs, sung by slaves, as they worked. **Spirituals** – songs with a religious theme or content A Capella – singing without instrumental accompaniment

Improvisation – *creating musical ideas that are not* written down, making it up as you play.

Call & Response – a short vocal or instrumental melody, is answered by a similar melody, like a musical question and answer

12-bar Blues – a repeating pattern of chords used in Blues music

Blues Scale – a pattern of notes that is used in blues music

Blues Notes – the 3rd and 7th notes of a blues scale













Key Knowledge

We can use a variety of **stimuli**, **elements** and **devices**, to help us **compose** our own music. We can use paintings, poems, images, words, stories or emotions as a stimulus, to help get us started. When we are composing music, we have to think about the intended outcome; what do we want the music to sound like? We have to carefully consider the instruments we want to use, the **elements of music** (tempo, dynamics, texture etc.), and how we can use composing devices to create different effects and moods in the music.

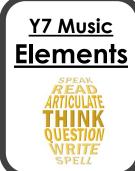


Further Listening & Links

How Music Works - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8HMQtusb9U0

Dynamics - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f96k2siTTpA

Tempo - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SyvHKzsOrFU



Key Vocabulary

Tempo – the speed of the music

Dynamics – the volume of the music

Texture – how many sounds you can hear

Timbre – the sound an instrument makes

Pitch – *high or low notes*

Duration – the length of the notes

Structure – the order in which the music is arranged

Ostinato – a repeating musical idea

Pedal Note – a continuous, or repeating note

Chromatic – mixing white and black notes

together; mysterious

Diatonic – using just the notes of one scale; sounds pleasant

Images

Word:	Symbol:	Affect on Volume:
forte	f	loud
piano	p	soft
mezzo piano	mp	slightly soft
mezzo forte	mf	slightly loud
sforzando	sfz	instantly loud
crescendo	<	gradually louder
diminuendo	>	gradually softer

Tempo term	Speed of the pulse	
Presto	Extremely fast	
Vivace	Quick, lively	
Allegro	Fast, cheerful	
Moderato	Moderate speed	
Andante	Walking speed	
Adagio	Slow, at ease	
Lento	Slow	
Largo	Very Slow	





Key Knowledge

An orchestra is a large instrumental ensemble, typical of 'classical' music, which combines instruments from different families, including strings, woodwind, **brass** and **percussion** instruments. Other instruments such as the piano, celesta, harp and electronic instruments can sometimes be used in the orchestra. depending on the requirements of the composition being performed. Sometimes called a 'Symphony Orchestra' or Philharmonic Orchestra, the ensemble can be made up of over 100 musicians.



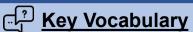
Further Listening & Links

The Young Persons Guide To The Orchestra:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vbvhU22uAM

The Planets Suite - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsic2Z2e2xs





String Family – violin, viola, cello, double bass and harp.

Woodwind Family – Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Cor Anglais, Clarinet, Bassoon and Double Bassoon.

Brass Family – Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Bass Trombone and Tuba.

Percussion Family – Bass Drum, Timpani, Cymbals, Snare Drum, Xylophone, Glockenspiel, Tubular Bells, Triangle, Woodblocks, Cowbells, Maracas, tambourine, and many more.

Keyboard Family - piano, celesta, organ and harpsichord

Conductor – the person that directs the orchestra, keeping them 'in-time', and controlling the dynamics.

