

Key Vocabulary

- Chromatics** Notes played from the chromatic scale which can make the music sound 'creepy'.
- Composition** A creative work, such as a piece of music.
- Evoke** To bring forth emotions.
- Graphic score** A way of writing down music on the page without using traditional stave notation, instead using images to represent the music.
- Imagery** Visually descriptive music.
- Improvise** Making up music as it is played or performed
- Major key** A tonality where the music sounds happy or bright.
- Minor key** A tonality where the music sounds sad or tense.
- Modulates** Changing from one key to another (eg major to minor key).

- Notate** To write symbols to represent music.
- Pitch** How high or low a note sounds.
- Sound effects** Effects made that imitate real sounds.
- Soundtrack** The background music, together with the main songs, create the soundtrack to a film.
- Tremolo** A trembling effect, achieved by creating a loud and then quiet sound with a single note.
- Unison** Playing or singing notes at the same pitch, at the same time.

Musical Style: Film Music

In this unit we explore the music used in film to accompany the action and create atmosphere.

Film Soundtrack Medley

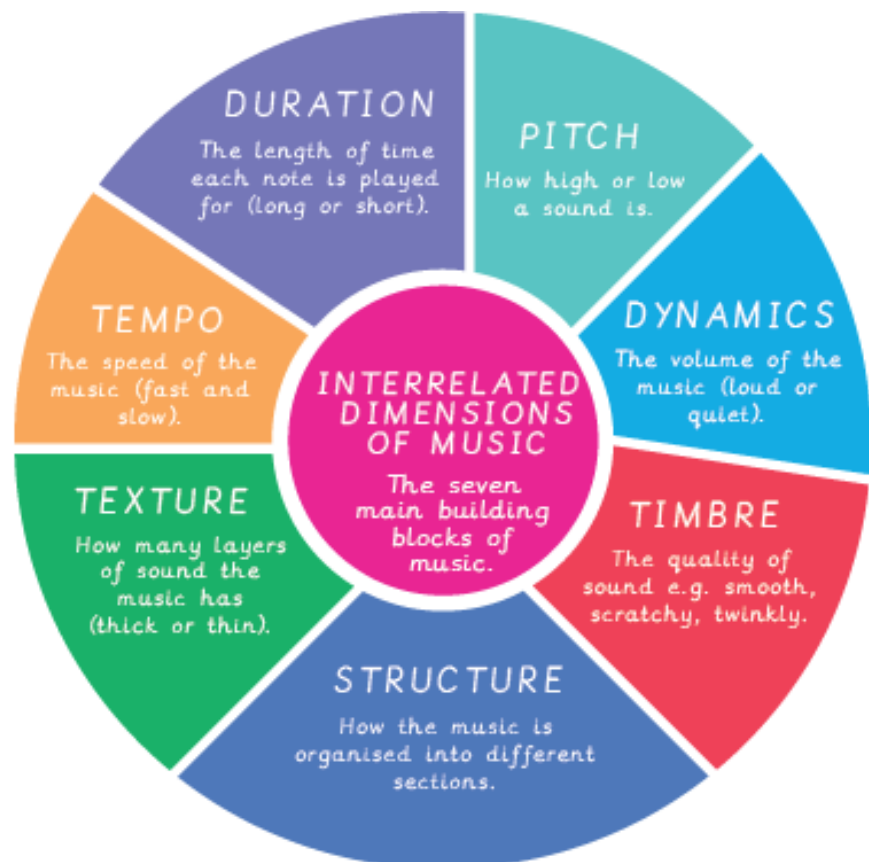
The score is the music that accompanies a specific scene or moment within the movie.

This is mainly composed by one or more composers and would work closely with the film, tailoring their original instrumental material with what's happening on screen.

Musical Elements

Scenes and types of music

Focus Film Music



TENSE music

- Long notes followed by shorts notes or pauses.
- Melody switching between two notes (think of 'Jaws').
- Useful for making the viewer think something bad is going to happen.

PURPOSEFUL music

- Military drum sounds.
- A major key (happy sounding music).
- A medium tempo.
- Useful for characters getting a job done, or planning to defeat the enemy, etc.

ROMANTIC music

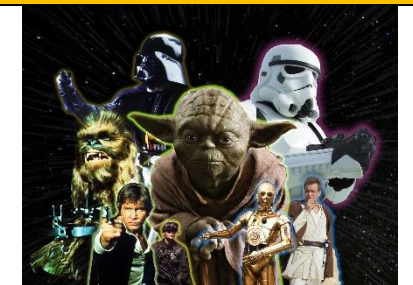
- Slow, long notes.
- Sweeping melodies (getting higher and lower very smoothly and quickly).
- High, twinkly notes.
- Useful for showing which characters are the love interest.

DANGER music

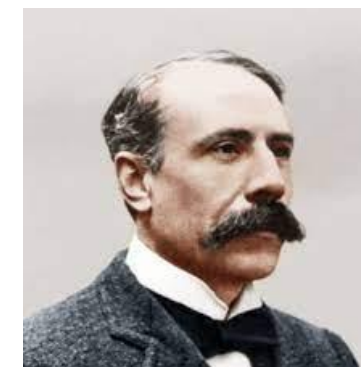
- Getting higher and faster.
- Using lots of instruments to create a chaotic sound.
- Useful for building a sense of impending doom.



Jaws



Star Wars



Pomp and Circumstance
Edward Elgar



Wallace & Gromit:
A Close Shave