


# The Musical Elements: MAD T-SHIRT

<p><b>Melody</b></p>	<p>A <b>melody</b> is the main tune of a piece.          You can describe a melody as:  <b>ascending</b> (going up)  <b>descending</b> (going down)  <b>repeating</b>  <b>conjunct</b> (moving pitch in steps)  <b>disjunct</b> (moving pitch in leaps)  <b>sequenced</b> (repeating at different pitches)</p>	 <p><b>Pitch</b> is how <b>high</b> or <b>low</b> notes are.</p>									
<p><b>Articulation</b></p>	<p><b>Articulation</b> is a word used to describe the way certain notes can be played. Notes can be:  <b>staccato</b> (short and snappy)  <b>legato</b> (smooth)  <b>accented</b> (emphasised)</p>										
<p><b>Dynamics</b></p>	<p><b>Dynamics</b> is how <b>loud</b> or <b>quiet</b> the music is. They can be described using these Italian words:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="278 735 1349 849"> <tr> <td><b>Pianissimo</b> (very quiet)</td> <td><b>Mezzo forte</b> (quite loud)</td> <td><b>Crescendo</b> (getting louder)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Piano</b> (quiet)</td> <td><b>Forte</b> (loud)</td> <td><b>Diminuendo</b> (getting quieter)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Mezzo piano</b> (quite quiet)</td> <td><b>Fortissimo</b> (very loud)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Pianissimo</b> (very quiet)	<b>Mezzo forte</b> (quite loud)	<b>Crescendo</b> (getting louder)	<b>Piano</b> (quiet)	<b>Forte</b> (loud)	<b>Diminuendo</b> (getting quieter)	<b>Mezzo piano</b> (quite quiet)	<b>Fortissimo</b> (very loud)		
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<p><b>Texture</b></p>	<p><b>Texture</b> is a way to describe the different layers within a piece of music. We can use the following terms to describe texture:  <b>Monophonic</b> (single part playing)  <b>Homophonic</b> (all parts moving at the same time)  <b>Polyphonic</b> (lots of parts playing different things from each other at the same time)</p>	<p><b>Unison</b> (all parts doing the exact same thing)</p>									
<p><b>Structure</b></p>	<p><b>Structure</b> is how a piece of music is built up/constructed.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="278 1141 1349 1243"> <tr> <td><b>AB</b> (Binary)</td> <td><b>Popular Song Structure</b> (Intro-verse-chorus-bridge-outro)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>ABA/AABA</b> (Ternary)</td> <td><b>12 Bar Blues</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>ABACA</b> (Rondo)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>AB</b> (Binary)	<b>Popular Song Structure</b> (Intro-verse-chorus-bridge-outro)	<b>ABA/AABA</b> (Ternary)	<b>12 Bar Blues</b>	<b>ABACA</b> (Rondo)					
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<p><b>Harmony &amp; Tonality</b></p>	<p><b>Harmony</b> is how two notes or more sound together in a piece of music.  <b>Consonant</b> (a combination of pitches which are <i>pleasing</i> sounds to the ear)  <b>Dissonant</b> (pitches when heard together, clash)</p> <p><b>Tonality</b> in music describes whether a piece of music is  <b>major</b> (happy/bright)    <b>minor</b> (sad/dull)    <b>atonal</b> (not major or minor and sounds unusual!)</p>										
<p><b>Instruments &amp; Sonority</b></p>	<p><b>Instruments</b> belong to 4 instrumental families: <b>Strings, Woodwind, Brass and Percussion.</b></p> <p><b>Sonority</b> is the word used to describe the <i>quality of a musical sound</i>. The following are a few you can use: <b>airy, thin, whiny, full, smooth, husky, tinny, clinky, soft, bright, harsh or dull.</b></p>										
<p><b>Rhythm</b></p>	<p><b>Rhythm</b> is created using different note lengths put together to create a pattern. You could use the following terms to describe rhythm: <b>Straight, syncopated, crotchets, quavers, semi-quavers, semi-breves.</b></p> <p><b>Metre</b> is the word use to describe the <b>time signature</b> (the number and type of beats in a bar) for example, <b>4/4, 3/4 or 6/8.</b></p>										
<p><b>Tempo</b></p>	<p><b>Tempo</b> is how <b>fast</b> or <b>slow</b> a piece or section of music is. They can be described using these Italian words: <b>Largo</b> (very slow), <b>Adagio</b> (slow, at ease), <b>Andante</b> (walking pace), <b>Allegro</b> (Fast, cheerful), <b>Vivace</b> (Quick, lively) and <b>Presto</b> (Extremely fast).</p>										