

ensemble

a group of musicians performing with various instruments and/or voices

expressive techniques

the way a performer plays a piece of music; can involve tempo, style, articulation, ornamentation, instrumental techniques and electronic manipulation

falsetto

the upper register of a male's vocal range

forte

loud

forte-piano

notes attacked loudly, then immediately soft

fortissimo

very loud

fugue

a composition for a group of instruments or voices based on a musical subject that is repeated in a polyphonic texture

gamelan

Indonesian percussion orchestra featuring various tuning systems

glissando

a slide from one note to another

gradations

gradual changes from one musical element or one dynamic level to another e.g. gradually getting louder

graphic notation	a way to express patterns in music in a visual or diagrammatic way, as an alternative to traditional music notation
harmonic ostinato	a repeated pattern, usually chordal, played with a melody
harmonic riff	a repeated harmonic pattern
harmonic role	an instrument or voice holding the harmony in a piece of music
harmonics	sound vibrations (usually related to string instruments) whose frequencies create tones that are multiples of the fundamental tone

harmony

two or more pitches
sounding together

hemiola

a pattern of syncopated
beats with two beats played
in the time of three, or
three in the time of two

heterophonic

texture in which two or more
lines are played or sung at the
same time, with different
variations of the same melody

homophonic

texture characterised by
a single melodic line and
a harmony
(accompaniment)

hookline

a 'catchy' section of a
piece of music that
draws in the listener

idiophones

instruments that produce sound through vibration of the entire instrument, usually by shaking; a classification of instruments of world music

imitation

a pattern that is restated by the same or a different instrument as a unifying feature

improvisation

the act of performing music spontaneously and without planning i.e. playing freely rather than following a composed score

indefinite pitch

an untuned sound

layer

one or a combination of musical lines provided by an instrument(s), voice(s) or any other sound source(s)

legato

smooth or played
smoothly
