Grade 5 Music study guide

TEMPO - Tempo is the speed of the music. It tells you how fast or slow to play a song. In music we use the Italian words to indicate the tempo.

Some Italian words we use to show tempo are:

ITALIAN TERMS	ENGLISH MEANING
PRESTO	VERY FAST
ALLEGRO	FAST
ANDANTE	AT A WALKING PACE/SPEED
MODERATO	MEDIUM/MODERATELY
ADAGIO	SLOW
LARGO	VERY SLOW

DYNAMICS – Dynamics show how loud or soft the music is played. Italian words are also used to show the different dynamic markings.

Italian words	Abbreviation	Meaning
Piano	*p*	soft
Mezzo piano	*mp*	Moderately soft
pianissimo	*pp*	Very soft
forte	*f*	loud
Mezzo forte	*mf*	Moderately loud
fortissimo	*ff*	Very loud

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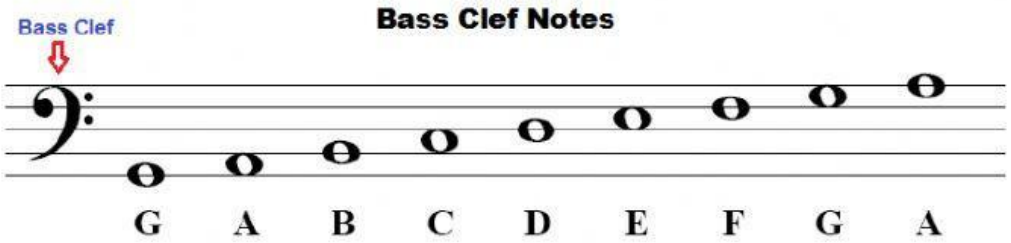
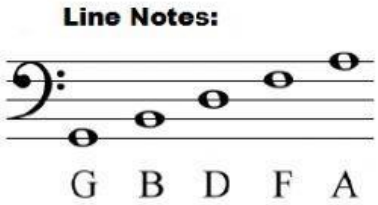
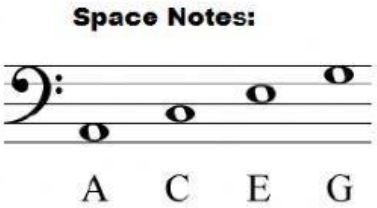
BASS CLEF

The bass clef is used for lower pitched notes; some instruments that use the bass clef are the trombone, tuba, and bassoon. Just like the notes on the treble clef they have letter names. Below are the letter names for the notes on the lines and spaces of the bass clef.







INSTRUMENTS OF THE ORCHESTRA

- There are 4 families of instrument.
- **String family**
- **Brass family**
- **percussion family**
- **Woodwind family**
- The violin, viola, cello and bass are instruments in the **string family** that are in the orchestra. They are usually played with a bow. Other string instrument like the banjo and guitar are also string instruments but are not a part of the orchestra.
- The trombone, French horn, tuba and trumpet are members of the **Brass family**. All brass instruments have a mouthpiece on one end, and a bell shaped opening at the other end. Most brass instruments have 3 buttons called **VALVES**. The trombone is the only brass

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instrument with a slide. The tuba is the largest brass instrument and it has the lowest pitch. The trumpet is the smallest brass instruments and it has the highest pitch. To produce a sound the player blows into the mouthpiece of the instrument.

- The flute, piccolo, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, are members of **the <u>woodwind family</u>**. All woodwind instruments use to be made out of wood. The smallest woodwind instrument with the highest pitch is the piccolo. The saxophone is a woodwind instrument but it is not a part of the orchestra. Most woodwind instruments use a small piece of bamboo called a **reed** on the mouthpiece to produce a sound. The clarinet and saxophone use a single reed, but the bassoon, oboe, and English horn use a double reed. The silver parts on woodwind instruments are called **keys.**
- **<u>Percussion family</u>** is the largest family of instruments. A percussion instrument is any instrument you must hit, shake or beat to produce a sound. All drums are percussion instruments. Some percussion instruments are: triangle, cymbals, tambourine, xylophone, cymbals, drums, sleigh bells, cowbells, and many more.

Instruments of the Orchestra

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