Rock ‘ n’ roll

1950s- early 60s

- A type of pop music originating in the 1950s
- It is a blend of *rhythm and blues* and *country and western*.
- It is generally based upon the twelve-bar blues, the first and third beats in each bar being heavily accented

Key attributes:

- Typically vocals, 2 guitar, bass and drums
- Sometimes harmonic and brass
- Often 12 bar blues chord structure
- Fast tempo
- **Energetic** delivery of vocals (screaming and shouting)

Bill Haley and the Comets– *Rock around the clock*

Little Richard– *Tutti frutti*

Chuck Berry– *Roll over Beethoven*

Jerry lee Lewis– *Great Balls of Fire*

Elvis Presley – All shook up (1957)

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Reggae

1950s- present day

- Reggae started in Jamaica and developed in the late 1960s as a mix of Calypso, Jazz and Rhythm and Blues.
- Songs are usually about the Rastafari religion, love or political issues such as equal rights.
- The music has a laid-back feel/ relaxed groove.
- Features off beat rhythms, staccato chords played by guitar/piano on the off beat
- Bass and drums create the rhythm, with strong accents on the 2nd and 4th beats of a bar. Bass guitar often plays a dominant role.
- It is common for reggae to be sung in Jamaican English
- Vocalists are usually male

Bob Marley and the Wailers– *Get up, stand up*

Bob Marley and the Wailers – One love

Jinny Cliff– *Wonderful world, Beautiful people*

Dennis Brown– *Money in my pocket*

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Rap

Rhyming lyrics that are spoken and performed to a beat. It is popular in hip-hop music.

Eminem - Without Me
Eminem - Lose Yourself

Gospel

Songs written with religious lyrics in a popular style. It is often in praise or thanksgiving to God. Gospel has its origins in Afro-American culture

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Latin American

Dance music from South America. Percussion instruments provide lively off-beat dance rhythms.

Indian Music

Music from India which uses instruments such as the sitar and tabla.

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Celtic Rock

A style of music that mixes Celtic folk music and rock together. This has been achieved by

- The blending of traditional music styles/ dances, (particularly *jigs* and *reels*) with rock instrumentation; by the addition of traditional Celtic instruments, *(e.g. clarsach, tin whistle, Irish/ Highland bagpipes, fiddle)* to conventional rock formats
- The use of lyrics in Celtic languages.
- The use of traditional rhythms in otherwise conventional rock music.

e.g. Highlander Celtic Rock Band - *Bung Knee Jigs*

- Red Hot Chilli Pipers - *We Will Rock You & Eye of the Tiger*

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Musicals

A musical play which has speaking, singing and dancing and is performed on stage

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNEUtN21cuU

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGUmXBgPvrg&spfreload=10

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hA9bEKKxTNU

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrpLayS57cY

Verse and Chorus

A structure/form popular in many songs. The music of the verse is repeated, often with different words, and (between verses) the chorus is normally repeated, featuring different music to the verse.

Middle Eight

In popular music, a section which provides a contrast to the opening section. It is often eight bars long.

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Minimalist

A development in the second half of the 20th century based on simple rhythmic and melodic figures which are constantly repeated with very slight changes each time.

e.g. *Four Organs* – Steve Reich
This is an e.g. of Minimalism in its purest form. Four Organs works out the very gradual elongation of a single chord. This chord is extended one note at a time. There is no change of pitch, timbre, dynamics or harmony. Over the course of the piece the chord grows systematically from a short eighth note to a dense sonic mass. Written for 4 organs and maracas!

Eight Lines – Steve Reich

Philip Glass - Metamorphosis

Atonal

In atonal music every note of the CHROMATIC scale is of equal importance and there is no pull towards any particular tonic note. There is no sense of tonality or key in atonal music. It sounds <u>very chaotic and random – not tuneful in any way!</u>

e.g. Schoenberg *Variations for Orchestra*

Webern – *Five pieces for orchestra*

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