RHYTHM

Irregular Time Signatures

Irregular time signatures occur when the music does not naturally fall into equal groupings. e.g.5/4 where there are 5 crotchet beats in each bar is perhaps the most common of irregular time signatures. It is not possible to divide the grouping of notes equally within the bar. This results in an irregular grouping pattern of 3 and 2, or 2 and 3

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RU4ku-OSdo

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-UA6n7iKeYQ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8KJb8dFo9Qg

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cpbbualA3Ds&list=PLH5cx395pnB5LGFa02j-CZeKBYIw2nrbn

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/irregular-time-signatures

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bt_S8ThbsbE

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/time-changes

	Rhythm/tempo
Higher	irregular time signatures time changes
National 5	ritardando (rit) cross rhythms
National 4	syncopation 2 3 4 6 4 4 4 8 anacrusis accel(erando) rall(entando) a tempo
National 3	accent/accented beat/pulse BPM (beats per minute) 2, 3 or 4 beats in the bar on the beat/off the beat repetition slower/faster pause drum fill

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RHYTHM

Time changes

Composers, particularly in the 20th century often make use of changing time signatures frequently in a piece of music.

e.g. Rite of Spring (Part 4)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZtWAqc3qyk

So So Gary – starts in 6/8 and then changes to 5/4

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1XRKR_Kl3g&t=58s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPcu_SC1ZO8

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3EGH8VLX7Ts

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQ6uU-DXW04

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2, 3 or 4 beats in the bar *(Simple time)*

In simple time we use the time signatures 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4 to display whether the music has 2, 3 or 4 beats in the bar.

The beat subdivides into groups of 2 (the word "coffee" or 'je-nny' fits).

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/2-3-or-4-beats-in-the-bar

Here are songs in 3/4 time:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrVMSNNyEHA&list=PL8b3whPUlVnyjLCTHK5s68MBwVb1G6WIA&ab_channel=LyricsChannelOfficial

- **Quiz**

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n3_beats_in_the_bar.htm

Simple and Compound Time

In compound time (6/8)The beat subdivides into groups of 3 (the word ' 'je-nni-fer fits).

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/simple-time

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/compound-time

Here are songs in 6/8 time:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-3vPxKdj6o&list=PLqnpcPR5O2PgtOT1YDAdTAyt-c2fqtP33&ab_channel=kellyclarksonVEVO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O71fetlkCZo&list=PLjaZo4qOz-mw9gFT-xTc8LjeVy5kd0SO&ab_channel=aughrisbuzz

	Rhythm/tempo
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Quiz https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_simple_compound_time.htm

https://www.liveworksheets.com/xk1637291ip

https://www.liveworksheets.com/zj1639299bo

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On the beat/ off the beat

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/on-the-beat

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/off-the-beat

Rallentando/Ritardando - *Music gradually becomes faster*

Accelerando – *Music gradually becomes faster*

e.g. end of 'In the Hall of the Mountain King'

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzmO2EyQ7bs&ab_channel=musicafeijoo

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/rallentando

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/accelerando

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/dotted-rhythm

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/adagio

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/andante

A Tempo

An instruction to return to the speed that was played before the tempo changed. For example, if the music is allegro, then has a rallentando, followed by the instruction 'a tempo', it means that after the rallentando the music should return to allegro.

e.g. Rigaudon (Grieg) – Watch the score to see the rallentando and following a tempo.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SBap7zvkME&t=81s&ab_channel=ThePochaccos

- **Quiz** https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_rhythm_tempo.htm

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Anacrusis https://mymusiconline.co.uk/anacrusis

The notes which appear before the first strong beat of a musical phrase, particularly at the start of a piece. An anacrusis sounds as an upbeat.

The well-known song 'Happy Birthday to You' has an anacrusis. The word 'Happy' appears before the first beat of the bar (making this the anacrusis), and the word 'birthday' lands on the bar line. The well-known song 'Away in a Manger' has an anacrusis. The first syllable of 'Away' appears before the first beat of the bar (making this the anacrusis), and the second syllable lands on the bar line.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1buvIX9Ibuw&ab_channel=musictheoryguy

- **Quiz**

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_anacrusis.htm

Accent/ accented https://mymusiconline.co.uk/accentaccented

e.g. Stravinsky *Rite of Spring*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZtWAqc3qyk&list=RDwZtWAqc3qyk&start_radio=1&ab_channel=puffthecat

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Syncopation https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_syncopation.htm

Strongly accented notes playing off or against the beat. Syncopation occurs in all kinds of music.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-DjsDxKSmY

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3S3K00qD80g

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3-WDGyDsSA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lGY_W3v0YeE

Cross rhythms https://mymusiconline.co.uk/cross-rhythms

- *Term used to describe the effect of two notes being played against three (eg in piano music it might be groups of two quavers in the right hand and groups of triplets in the left).*



- *The term is also used to describe the effect that occurs when the accents in a piece of music are different from those suggested by the time signature (eg the division of 4/4 time into 3+3+2 quavers)*



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEsD11wFb6g https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9GgmGLPbWU

Drum fill https://mymusiconline.co.uk/drum-fill

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bG3mkXOBLZo

LIVEWORKSHEETS