

Read the text and select the correct answer

There are four groups of instruments in an orchestra. These groups are called families because the instruments are similar. They are made from the same material and you play them in the same way.

String instruments are made of wood and have strings which you use to make sounds. You play instruments like the violin by moving a bow across the strings. You play instruments like the harp by plucking strings with your fingers.

Brass instruments, like French horns, are made of a metal called brass and you use your mouth to play them. You need to press your lips together and make them vibrate when you blow into your mouthpiece. Most brass instruments have got special buttons called valves. You change the sound by opening and closing these valves with your fingers.

Woodwind instruments were made of wood in the past, but many are now made of metal too. Clarinets are made of wood and metal and flutes are made of metal only. Woodwind instruments are long tubes with holes in them. You play a flute by blowing air across the tube and you make different sounds by covering the holes with your fingers. Many woodwind instruments, such as oboes and clarinets, have a thin piece of wood called a reed- This vibrates when you blow on it.

Percussion instruments are very important because they create the rhythm in a piece of music. They are different sizes and are made of different materials. You play a percussion instrument by hitting or shaking it. A tambourine is a percussion instrument which you hit with your hand, but you hit instruments like a triangle or xylophone with sticks or beaters.

Select True or False

- 1.- All string instruments have strings. FALSE ----- TRUE**
- 2.- You press valves to change the sound when you play most brass instruments. FALSE ----- TRUE**
- 3.- All woodwind instruments are made of wood. FALSE ----- TRUE**
- 4.- When you play a clarinet you need to blow. FALSE ----- TRUE**
- 5.- You hit a triangle with your hand. FALSE----- TRUE**