

EYEMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Knowledge Organiser



National 5 Music



Name _____

curriculum for excellence



MELODY / HARMONY	RHYTHM / TEMPO	TEXTURE / STRUCTURE / FORM	TIMBRE	STYLES
Atonal / Cluster	Rutabo	Strophic	Piccolo, oboe, bassoon	Symphony
Perfect Cadence	Ritardando	Binary/AB	(French) horn, tuba	Gospel
Imperfect Cadence	Moderato	Rondo	Viola	Classical
Inverted Pedal	Cross Rhythms	Alberti Bass	Castanets, bongo drums	Pibroch
Chromatic	Compound Time	Walking Bass	hi-hat cymbals	Celtic Rock
Whole-tone scale	6/8 9/8 12/8	Ground Bass	Clarsach	Bothy Ballad
Grace note		Homophonic	Bodhran	Waulking Song
Glissando		Polyphonic	Sitar, tabla	Gaelic Psalm
Modulation		Contrapuntal	Arco	Aria
Contrary Motion		Coda	Pizzicato	Chorus
Trill			Con sordino	Minimalist
Syllabic			Flutter-tonguing	Indian
Melismatic			Rolls	
Counter melody			Reverb	
Decant			Mezzo-soprano	
Pitch Bend			Baritone	
Tone / Semitone			A cappella	

New concepts for NATIONAL 5 LEVEL

Melody & Harmony

Words in this section describe what is happening in the melody or 'tune' and the different ways that notes are formed together to make harmony.

The melody can move in a variety of ways:-

ASCENDING	Moving in an upward direction	<input type="checkbox"/>
DESCENDING	Moving in a downward direction	<input type="checkbox"/>
STEPWISE	Moving by step to the note directly above or below	<input type="checkbox"/>
LEAPING	Jumping between high notes and low notes	<input type="checkbox"/>

The melody can move in patterns:-

REPETITION	Musical idea heard more than once in exactly the same way by exactly that same Instrument / voice	<input type="checkbox"/>
SEQUENCE	A pattern of notes repeated higher or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
QUESTION	An opening phrase in a melody	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANSWER	Reply to an opening phrase or musical answer The melody can be measured in distance:-	<input type="checkbox"/>

The melody / harmony can be measured in distance

SEMITONE	The shortest distance in music - half a tone C to C# or B to Bb, etc	
TONE	An interval of 2 semitones, eg from C to D or F to G etc	<input type="checkbox"/>

**BROKEN CHORD /
ARPEGGIO**

Notes of the chord played separately

☐

OCTAVE

The distance of eight notes

☐

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The melody can be decorated in order to make it more interesting:-

IMPROVISATION

Music made up on the spot

☐

ORNAMENT

A musical decoration in the melody line

☐

GLISSANDO

Sliding rapidly up and down the notes

☐

GRACE-NOTE

A type of ornament played quickly before the note. Used mainly as a decoration

☐

TRILL

A rapid repeated movement between 2 notes

☐

PITCH BEND

Changing the pitch of a note by pushing a string upwards on a guitar or by using a control wheel on a keyboard. Gives a "wonky" effect.

☐

Melodies can be played using different scales:-

CHROMATIC

A scale built entirely on semitones

☐

PENTATONIC SCALE

A scale based on 5 notes. Very popular in folk (Scottish) Music

☐

WHOLE TONE SCALE

A scale built entirely on tones. Popular in 20th Century music and sometimes sounds strange to the ear.

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☐

ATONAL / CLUSTER

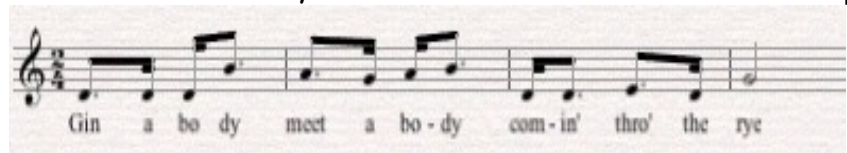
Music based on no particular key. Sounds dissonant and is hard to listen to. Very popular in 20th Cent. when a group of notes, which clash, are played together.

☐

In vocal music we can describe the word setting of melodies as follows:-

SYLLABIC

One note for each syllable.

☐

Harmony can be split into two areas of TONALITY:-

MAJOR	The music sounds in a major key - bright and happy sounding	<input type="checkbox"/>
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MINOR	The music sounds in a minor key - sad and dull sounding	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Melody / Harmony is built in the following way:-

CHORD	Two or more notes sounding together	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CHORD CHANGE	Moving from 1 chord to a different chord	<input type="checkbox"/>
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DISCORD	A chord in which certain notes clash producing an unpleasant sound. Popular in 20 th Century music	<input type="checkbox"/>
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VAMP	A rhythmic accompaniment with a bass note played on the strong beat and a chord played off the beat.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CONTRARY MOTION	Two parts moving in opposite directions Eg one ascending, one descending	<input type="checkbox"/>
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COUNTERMELODY	A melody played against the main melody	<input type="checkbox"/>
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DESCANT	Another melody above the main tune, mainly in <u>vocal</u> music	<input type="checkbox"/>
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PEDAL	A note which is held or repeated continuously in the bass part while the harmony changes over it	<input type="checkbox"/>
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INVERTED PEDAL	A note which is held or repeated continuously in the upper part while the harmony changes below it	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Harmony changes in the following way:-

MODULATION

A change of key

☐

CHANGE OF KEY

Moving from one key to another

☐

Concepts affecting harmony are:-

PERFECT CADENCE

2 chords at the end of a phrase.

Chord V to chord I - the dominant to the tonic.

☐

IMPERFECT CADENCE

2 chords at the end of a phrase.

Chord I to chord V - the tonic to the dominant.

This cadence has an unfinished feel

☐

DRONE

One note held on or repeated in the bass.
Commonly found on a bagpipe.

☐

Rhythm / Tempo

Words in this section describe what is happening in the rhythm and tempo

Rhythm falls into 2 areas:-

SIMPLE TIME	Music with 2, 3 or 4 beats in the bar. Each beat is usually 1 crotchet	<input type="checkbox"/>
COMPOUND TIME	Each beat is divided into groups of 3 pulses 6/8, 9/8, 12/8	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tempo can be described as:-

ADAGIO	Slow	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANDANTE	At a walking pace	<input type="checkbox"/>
MODERATO	At a moderate pace	<input type="checkbox"/>
ALLEGRO	Fast	<input type="checkbox"/>

Speed changes are described in the following way:-

ACCELERANDO	Music gets gradually faster	<input type="checkbox"/>
RALLENTANDO	Music gets gradually slower	<input type="checkbox"/>
RITARDANDO	Music starts to slow down	<input type="checkbox"/>
RUBATO	The performer plays in a very free way and is able to pull the music about to suit the situation	<input type="checkbox"/>
A TEMPO	Music returns to the original speed	<input type="checkbox"/>

Rhythm effects can be described in the following way:-

ON THE BEAT

The main accents are on the beat

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OFF THE BEAT

The main accents are on the weak beat or against the beat

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☐

SYNCOPATION

Accented notes playing off or against The beat. Same as above

☐

SCOTCH SNAP

A rhythmic figure with a short accented note followed by a longer note. Mostly found in a Strathspey

☐

CROSS RHYTHMS

Effect where 2 notes are played against 3

☐

DOTTED RHYTHMS

Long notes followed by short notes and vice versa giving a jolty effect

☐

ANACRUSIS

Notes which appear before the first strong beat of the bar. Almost like a very short lead-in.

☐

DRUM FILL

A rhythmic decoration played on the drumkit

☐

BEAT/PULSE

The basic pulse you hear in music. The pulse may be in groups of 2, 3 or 4 with an accent or stress on the first beat of each bar

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PAUSE

The musical flow / rhythm is held up by a long note or silence

☐

ACCENT / ACCENTED

Notes that are slightly stressed sounding louder than others.

☐

MARCH	Music with a strong steady pulse with two or four beats in the bar	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
STRATHSPEY	A Scottish dance with four beats in the bar featuring dotted rhythms and a Scotch Snap	<input type="checkbox"/>
REEL	A fast Scottish dance in simple time with two or four beats in the bar.	<input type="checkbox"/>
WALTZ	A dance in simple time with three beats in the bar	<input type="checkbox"/>
JIG	A fast Scottish dance in compound time	<input type="checkbox"/>

Texture / Structure / Form

Words in this section describe how a piece of music is put together or constructed

All music falls into one of these categories:-

POLYPHONIC	Texture consisting of two or more melodic lines which weave independently of each other	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONTRAPUNTAL	Similar to above	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOMOPHONIC	Texture where all the parts move together rhythmically - e.g. a Hymn Tune	<input type="checkbox"/>

These categories are either:-

ACCOMPANIED	One or more instruments / voices support the main melody	<input type="checkbox"/>
UNACCOMPANIED	The melody is not supported by any other instruments or voices	<input type="checkbox"/>

Music is constructed in the following ways

SOLO	Single line / performer	<input type="checkbox"/>
UNISON / OCTAVE	Two or more parts performing the same named note at the same pitch or 8 notes apart	<input type="checkbox"/>
IMITATION	Musical idea played by one instrument / voice And then repeated exactly the same way by another instrument / voice	<input type="checkbox"/>

HARMONY	Two or more parts performing different notes at the same time	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CHORD	Two or more notes sounding together	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Music is also constructed using different sections

REPETITION	A section repeated in exactly the same way by exactly the same instrument	<input type="checkbox"/>
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OSTINATO / RIFF	A short musical pattern repeated many times	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BINARY / AB	A form where the music is made up from 2 sections - A & B	<input type="checkbox"/>
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TERNARY / ABA	A form where the music is made up from 3 sections - A B A	<input type="checkbox"/>
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RONDO	A form in music where the first section comes back after each contrasting section A B A C A D A E A etc	<input type="checkbox"/>
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THEME AND VARIATIONS	A form in music where each section changes the main theme through speed, tonality, time signature or rhythm	<input type="checkbox"/>
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ROUND	Each part sings or plays the melody entering one after the other	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CANON	Strict imitation where one part sings or plays the melody with another part entering shortly afterwards with exactly the same melody	<input type="checkbox"/>
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VERSE AND CHORUS	Popular form in many songs - the music of the verse is repeated (with different words) with a chorus, featuring different music, in between.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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MIDDLE 8

Modulating 8 bars connecting 2 related sections

☐

Page | 14**STROPHIC**

Music / song with a recurring verse and Chorus

☐**CODA**

The concluding section at the end of a movement or section to give a final effect.

☐**CADENZA**

A show-off passage in a Concerto where the soloist performs a solo passage showing how well they play the instrument.

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Bass lines can be constructed in different ways

WALKING BASS

A moving bass line with notes of the same value. They usually move in step

☐**GROUND BASS**

A theme repeated in the bass many times while the upper parts are varied

☐**ALBERTI BASS**

Broken chords played in the left hand while the right hand plays the melody. Usually found only on piano

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Timbre

Words in this section describe instruments, ensembles and how they are used

Voices are as follows:-

SOPRANO	The highest range of female voice	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEZZO-SOPRANO	Female voice range lying between a soprano and alto	<input type="checkbox"/>
ALTO	The lowest female voice	
TENOR	A high adult male voice	<input type="checkbox"/>
BARITONE	Male voice range lying between a tenor and a bass	<input type="checkbox"/>
BASS	The lowest male voice	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHOIR	A group of singers who perform together	<input type="checkbox"/>

Concepts describing vocals are:-

A CAPPELLA	Unaccompanied singing	<input type="checkbox"/>
BACKING VOCALS	Singers who support the main singer usually by singing in harmony in the background	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sections of the Orchestra:-

STRINGS

Consisting : Violin, Viola, Cello,
Double Bass and Harp

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WOODWIND

Consisting: Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet,
Saxophone and Bassoon

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☐

BRASS

Consisting: Trumpet, Trombone, Horn
and Tuba

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PERCUSSION

Consisting: Tuned - Glockenspiel,
Xylophone, Marimba, Metalophone etc

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Consisting : Untuned - Drumkit, Timpani,
Triangle, Cymbals, Tambourine etc

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Each section has concepts associated with them:-

STRINGS:-

BOWING

When strings are played with a bow

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ARCO

Another word for Bowing

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PLUCKING

Using fingers to pick the strings

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PIZZICATO

Sound made by plucking the strings
with fingers

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STRUMMING

Sound produced by drawing fingers or
a plectrum across the strings

☐

WOODWIND:-

BLOWING

Sound produced by blowing into or across
the mouth piece

☐

FLUTTER TONGUING

A method of tonguing in which the player
rolls the letter 'r'. It is particularly
effective on flute but also used on brass

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BRASS:-

BLOWING

Sound produced by blowing into or across the mouth piece

☐

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MUTED

Using a device which reduces the volume or alters the sound of an instrument

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CON SORDINO

Musical term for muted

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PERCUSSION:-

STRIKING

Sound is produced by hitting an instrument

☐

Scottish Instruments:-

ACCORDION

Instrument with a keyboard in which the sounds are produced by squeezing bellows with the arms

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FIDDLE

Another name for the violin

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Instrumental effects:-

ROLLS

A very fast repetition of a note on a percussion instrument like snare drum or timpani.

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DISTORTION

An electronic effect used in rock music to colour the sound of the electric guitar

☐

REVERB

An electronic effect which can give the impression of different hall acoustics

☐

General instrumental concepts:-

STACCATO Short, crisp, detached notes

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LEGATO Notes played smoothly

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Dynamics:-

PIANISSIMO Very quiet / soft

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PIANO Quiet / soft

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MEZZO-PIANO Half quiet

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MEZZO-FORTE Half loud

☐

FORTE Loud

☐

FORTISSIMO Very loud

☐

SFORZANDO Suddenly loud

☐

CRESCENDO Getting louder

☐

DIMINUENDO Getting quieter

☐

Individual instruments:-

ELECTRIC GUITAR Guitar which requires an amplifier to produce sound

☐

ACOUSTIC GUITAR A guitar which does not require an amplifier to produce the sound

☐

BASS GUITAR Four stringed guitar.

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DRUMKIT	Percussion instrument were tuned skins are hit with sticks	<input type="checkbox"/>
HARPSICHORD	Early keyboard instrument where strings were plucked. Popular in the Baroque era.	<input type="checkbox"/>
PIANO	Keyboard instrument where the sound is produced by hammers hitting sticks	<input type="checkbox"/>
ORGAN	A keyboard instrument usually found in churches - often more than 1 keyboard	<input type="checkbox"/>
RECORDER	Early woodwind instrument sound produced by blowing - four types, descant, treble, tenor and bass	<input type="checkbox"/>
PAN PIPES	Pipes which are graded in size and bound together with the sound produced by blowing across the top of the pipes	<input type="checkbox"/>
SITAR	A string instrument from India. In addition to melody strings it has a drone and strings which vibrate with each other	<input type="checkbox"/>
TABLA	Two Indian drums tuned to different pitches and often used to accompany a sitar	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLARSACH	Small Scottish Harp	<input type="checkbox"/>
BODHRAN	An Irish wooden drum used in folk music.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bands and ensembles:-		
BRASS BAND	A band containing brass instruments and percussion	<input type="checkbox"/>
STEEL BAND	A West Indian band containing instruments made out of oil drums. Each drum is hammered into panels to make different pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOTTISH DANCE BAND	A band containing fiddle, accordion, piano and drums	<input type="checkbox"/>

WIND BAND

A band containing woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. Usually intended for performance in a Concert Hall

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FOLK GROUP

A group of instrumentalists and singers performing songs from a particular country

☐

Styles

Words in this section describe the original style of the music.

Musical periods:-

BAROQUE

Music written between 1600-1750. Popular composers were Bach and Handel

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CLASSICAL

Music written between 1750-1810. Popular composers were Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven

☐

ROMANTIC

Music written between 1810-1900. Popular composers were Chopin, Schubert and Tchaikovsky

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Vocal styles:-

OPERA

A secular drama set to music featuring vocals with orchestral accompaniment

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ARIA

A song found in an Opera, Oratorio and Cantata usually with orchestral accompaniment

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CHORUS

A group of singers with several voices to each part.
Used in Opera.

☐

MUSICAL

Popular musical play featuring vocals and orchestra

☐

Instrumental styles:-

CONCERTO	A work for solo instrument and orchestra	<input type="checkbox"/>
SYMPHONY	A large work for orchestra in four movements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish styles:-		
BOTHY BALLAD	Folk song with many verses telling a story of rural or farming / working life	<input type="checkbox"/>
GAELIC PSALMS	Unaccompanied songs sung in gaelic. One member of the congregation starts and the rest follow	<input type="checkbox"/>
MOUTH MUSIC	Gaelic nonsense words sung in imitation of the sound of bagpipes as an accompaniment to dancing	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOTS BALLAD	A slow Scottish song telling a story	<input type="checkbox"/>
WAULKING SONG	Gaelic work song sung by women. One woman leads and the others follow. The sound of the tweed being 'waulked' or hit against the work surface is heard in the background	<input type="checkbox"/>
PIBROCH	Classical (type) music for the solo bagpipe usually in variation form	<input type="checkbox"/>

20th Century styles:-

BLUES

Music written in 4/4 time and mostly patterned in a 12-bar structure and on a scale where some notes are flattened - the blues scale

☐

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RAGTIME

A style of dance music popular at the end of the 19th Century. Often played on the piano and featuring a strongly syncopated melody in the right hand against a steady vamp in the left hand

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SWING

A jazz style started in the 1930's usually performed by Big Bands

☐

JAZZ

Music from the early 20th C featuring syncopation and improvisation.

☐

MINIMALIST

A 20th Century development where simple rhythmic and melodic figures are repeated with very slight changes each time

☐

INDIAN

Music from India using instruments such as the sitar and tabla

☐

POP

Popular music performed by a group of musicians. Usually music that has been in the charts

☐

ROCK

Popular music with a steady driving beat

☐

ROCK 'N' ROLL

1950's popular American music

☐

LATIN AMERICAN

Dance music from South America featuring percussion instruments and lively off-beat dance rhythms.

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REGGAE	Originates from Jamaica with strong off-beat rhythms and a dominant strong bass line. Can feature singers	<input type="checkbox"/>
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AFRICAN MUSIC	Music from Africa featuring voices and/or African Drums.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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RAPPING	Rhyming lyrics that are spoken and performed in time to a beat	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CELTIC ROCK	A style of music that mixes Celtic folk music and rock together.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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GOSPEL	Music written with religious lyrics, often in praise or thanksgiving to God usually performed by choirs or congregations.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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