A Level Music Terminology List.

Melody

- Conjunct

- Disjunct

- Sequence

- Repetition

- Imitation

- Contrast

- Chordal

- Intervals e.g. tritone

- Fragmented

- Portamento

- Ornamentation

- Phrasing

- Passing notes

- Auxiliary notes

- Essential/Unessential notes

- Augmentation

- Diminution

- Episodic work

- Idée Fixe/leitmotif/motto theme

- Thematic transformation

- Phasing

- Diatonic and chromatic intervals (up to an octave)

- Arpeggios/broken chords

- Scalic

- Chromatic movement

- Pentatonic

- Blues/blue notes

- Guide tones

- Chromatic

- Whole tone

- Modal

- 12 tone

- Klangfarbenmelodie

- Octatonic

- Range

- Syllabic

- Melismatic

- Riffs

- Licks

Harmony

- Primary chords

- Secondary chords

- Dominant 7th

- Major 7th

- Minor 7th

- Diminished chords

- Neapolitan 6th

- Augmented 6th

- Ninth chords

- Secondary sevenths

- Sus4 chord

- Added 6th

- Power chord

- Inversions

- Appoggiaturas

- Tierce de picardie

- Added note chords

- Jazz chord extensions and use of guide tones

- Essential and unessential notes

- Cadences: perfect, imperfect, plagal, interrupted, phrygian

- Modulations

- Suspensions

- Quartal Harmony

- Diatonic

- Functional Harmony

- Non-functional harmony

- Concords/Consonance

- Discords/Dissonance

- Clusters

- Chromatic harmony

- Parallel harmonies

- Consecutive chords

- Harmonic rhythm

- Circle of fifths

- Higher dominant discords

- Drone

- Pedal

Tonality

- Major

- Minor

- Modal

- Atonal

- Bitonal

- Polytonal

- Tonic

- Dominant

- Relative minor

- Modulation

- Tonicisation

- Transposition

- Enharmonic

Form and structure

- Binary

- Ternary

- Rondo

- Theme and variations

- Strophic

- Sonata Form

- Tone/Symphonic poem

- Sonata Rondo

- Minuet and Trio/Scherzo

- Through composed

- Cyclic

- Verse and chorus

- Pre-chorus

- 32 bar song/AABA

- 24 bar structures

- 12 bar blues

- Introduction

- Exposition

- Development

- Recapitulation

- Coda

- Outro

- Middle eight/release

- Programmatic forms

- Fugue

- Ostinato

- Ground bass

- Repetition

- Bridge

- Loop

- Riff

- Break

- Jazz chorus

- Head

- Cadenza

- Inversion

- Retrograde

- Retrograde inversion

- Improvisation

- Call and response

- Echo

- Integration

- Aleatoric

Sonority

- All orchestral instruments

- Acoustic instruments

- Electronic instruments

- Pit orchestra/band

- Underscoring

- Rock and pop bands

- Jazz combos and associated performance techniques, e.g. mutes, growls, walking bass, drum kicks and fills, comping, stab chords

- Front-line, Rhythm section

- Articulation e.g. legato, staccato

- Vocal combinations e.g. Solos, duets, trios ensembles and choruses

- Vocal qualities e.g. speech-like, belt, twang and falsetto

- Scat

- Performance techniques associated with areas of study, e.g. sul ponticello, stride, scat

- Music technology e.g. distortion, feedback, tremolo, effects such as wah-wah pedal

- Unusual instruments e.g. theremin

- Pointillism

Texture

- Monophonic

- Homophonic

- Polyphonic

- Contrapuntal

- Heterophonic

- Unison

- Chordal

- Imitation

- Melody dominated homophony

- Countermelody

- Counterpoint

- Descant

- Round

- Canon

- Drone

- Layering

- Stretto

- Antiphony

- Fugal

- Multi layered improvisation

Rhythm and metre

- All note values and associated rests

- Regular

- Irregular

- Simple time (duple, triple and quadruple, etc.)

- Compound time (duple, triple, quadruple 7/8 etc.)

- Additive meters

- Cross-rhythms

- Rubato

- Dotted rhythms

- Divisions of beat, such as triplets etc

- Syncopation

- Accents

- Free rhythm

- Isorhythm

- Hemiola

- Polyrhythm

- Swung quavers

- Groove

- Kicks

- Double time

- Rests

Tempo

- Terms for speeds from very slow to very fast

- All terms linked with set works/ individual repertoire

Dynamics

- Terms from very soft to very loud

- Signs/symbols in common usage

- All terms linked with set works/ individual repertoire

- Accents

- Subito

- Sforzando