

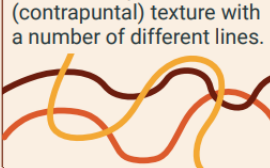


Music for Ensembles

A. Texture

MONOPHONIC	A single melodic line. 
HOMOPHONIC	A chordal style or melody and accompaniment: moving together. 
POLYPHONIC	A more complex (contrapuntal) texture with a number of different lines. 
Melody and accompaniment	A tune with accompaniment (e.g. chords).
Unison	All parts play/sing the same music at the same time.
Chordal	The music moves in chords (e.g. like a hymn/chorale).
Descant	A decorative, higher pitched line.
Counter melody	A new melody, combined with the theme.
Round	A short (vocal) canon.
Canon	The melody is repeated exactly in different parts but starting at different times, with parts overlapping.
Drone	Long held notes.
2-3-4 part texture	Textures which have 2/3/4 different lines.

B. Jazz and Blues

Scat: vocal improvisation using wordless /nonsense syllables.

Improvised: music made up on the spot.

Blue notes: flattened 3rd, 5ths and 7ths.

Syncopation: off-beat accents.

Call and Response: a phrase played/sung by a leader and repeated by others.

Walking bass: bass line that 'walks up' and down the notes of a scale/arpeggio.

Swing style: 'jazzy' rhythm with a triplet/dotted feeling.

A jazz ensemble may contain:

Rhythm section

Drums

Bass (guitar or double bass)

Piano/guitar

'Horn section'

- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Saxophone

Some groups use a wider range of instruments e.g. clarinet, violin

12 Bar Blues in C

C	C	C	C
F	F	C	C
G	F	C	C/G

C. Musical Theatre

Musical numbers may include:

Solo: a song for one singer.

Duet: a song for two singers.

Trio: a song for three singers.

Ensemble: a song sung by a small group.

Chorus: a large group (usually the full company/cast).

Recitative: a vocal style that imitates the rhythms and accents of speech.

Overture: an orchestral introduction to the show, which usually uses tunes from the show.

The orchestra /band is used to **accompany** the voices and **underscore**.

D. A piece of music for:

Soprano – high female voice

Alto – low female voice

Tenor – high male voice

Bass – low male voice



A piece of music for:

DUET	2 performers
TRIO	3 performers
QUARTET	4 performers
QUINTET	5 performers
SEXTET	6 performers
SEPTET	7 performers
OCTET	8 performers

