

Year 9: Film Music

Key Words

genre – the style of a film / book / piece of music, eg. horror or romantic comedy.

Mickey Mousing – a technique where the music of a film is precisely synchronised with the action on screen.

orchestra – an ensemble containing strings, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments.

consonance – a type of harmony where all the notes ‘fit together’.

dissonance – a type of harmony where the notes ‘clash’.

staccato – a type of articulation where notes are short, spiky and detached.

legato – a type of articulation where notes are played smoothly.

major key – when music uses notes from a major scale (will sound positive / happy).

minor key – when music uses notes from a minor scale (will sound sinister / sad / mysterious).

dynamics – how loud or quiet the music is.

Using Spotify or YouTube, listen to some film music. You could try John Williams (*Harry Potter*, *ET*, *Superman*), Hans Zimmer (*Pirates of the Caribbean*) or Danny Elfman (*Batman*).