Year 9: Bhangra

Key Words

bhangra – a musical style that is a fusion of traditional folk music from the Punjab region of India and modern pop/club dance music

Typical Indian features include:

- Lyrics in Punjabi
- Shouts of hoi
- Indian instruments, eg. dhol and sitar

Typical pop/club dance features include:

- Riffs
- Pop instruments, eg. synth, drum machine and bass guitar,
- Use of music technology, eg. sampling, looping, scratching and amplification

dhol – a double-headed Indian drum played with sticks

chaal – a typical bhangra rhythm in 4/4 time signature

scratching – a music technology technique involving moving a record back and forwards on a turntable

sampling – taking a portion of one sound recording and reusing it in a different song or piece

looping – when a short piece of music is repeated over and over again

Sitar – an Indian string instrument, with a long neck and frets, a little like a large guitar

melody - the tune

riff – a short, catchy musical idea which repeats over and over again

range - the distance between the highest and lowest note

repetition – when something repeats...!