



Knowledge Organiser: Stone Age

Topic Background

There is a school of thought that says that 'all sound is music'. In that case, music has existed since sound waves have travelled through the air. However, music is more than that, it is a way of communicating emotion and sharing emotional experiences through sound.

Human beings have expressed themselves through art for thousands of years, the oldest cave paintings date back to more than 64,000 years ago. It is fair to also presume that music would have been a fundamental part of social life, gathering around the fire to express and share experiences in sounds other than simple communication.

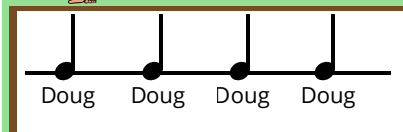
The earliest surviving musical instrument dates back to 40,000 years ago, a bone flute capable of producing melodies over a small range of notes. If these instruments existed at that point in history, then music must have been a part of society long before that time. The pounding of stone tools would have created pulse and rhythms and the sounds of the environment such as bird song would have influenced the development of expressing emotions and the enjoyment of sharing sound in what we now recognise as music.

Musical Knowledge

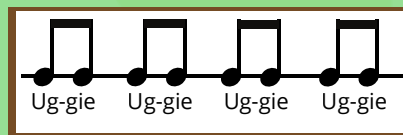
note values



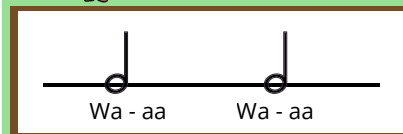
= 1 beat note:
crotchet



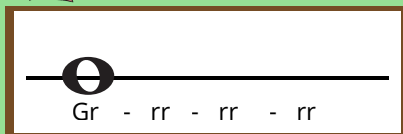
= 1/2 beat notes:
paired quavers



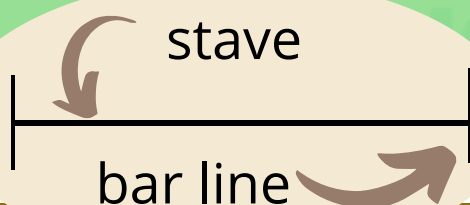
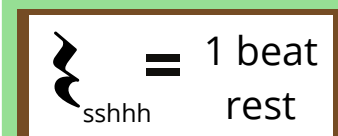
= 2 beat note:
minim



= 4 beat note:
semibreve



= 1 beat
rest



Key Vocabulary

bar: a segment of time corresponding to a specific number of beats

crotchet: a note worth one beat, represented by a stem with a solid dot

crotchet rest: a silent note worth one beat

duet: when two musicians perform together

ensemble: a group of performers

graphic score: images or a mark used to write music down that is not traditional music notation

minim: a 2 beat note

notation: symbols used to write down a musical sound

paired quavers: two 1/2 beat notes

pulse: the heartbeat of the music

quartet: a group of four performers

rhythm: patterns of sound consisting of shorter and longer notes

semibreve: a 4 beat note

solo: a section of music played or sung alone by one performer

stave: the five lines that notes are placed on to indicate pitch

unison: playing or singing together

Western notation: a way of writing music that uses symbols and words, informing the musician of what to play and how to play



solo



duet



quartet

