

# Musical Elements

## Melody/ Pitch

Major/ minor  
 High/ Low  
 Chromatic notes  
 Steps/ hops/ leaps/ repeats  
 Phrases

## Accompaniment/ Harmony

Thick/ Thin  
 Rough/ smooth  
  
 Ostinato/ incidental  
 Chords (Major/ minor/ 7<sup>th</sup>)  
 Countermelody  
  
 Consonant/ Dissonant

## Form

Repetition/ Contrast/ Variation  
  
 Simple/ Complex

## Dynamics

Very Loud..... *ff*  
 Loud..... *f*  
 Medium loud..... *mf*  
 Medium quiet..... *mp*  
 Quiet..... *p*  
 Very Quiet..... *p*

Get louder



Get quieter



## Rhythm/ Tempo


Fast/ medium/ Slow  
  
 Calm/ peaceful  
 Busy/ Exciting  
 Wild/ Crazy  
 Skipping  
 Gallop  
 Syncopated  
  
 Meter – 2/ 3/ 4/ 6

## Timbre

### Percussion/ String/ Woodwind/ Brass

|            |               |         |            |                |      |
|------------|---------------|---------|------------|----------------|------|
| Hard/ Soft |               |         |            | Bold/ Delicate |      |
|            | Harsh/ Gentle |         | Warm/ Cool |                |      |
| Scratchy   | Wobble        | Buzz    | Boom       | Groan          | Purr |
|            | Moan          | Screech | Honk       | Hoot           |      |

# How would I compose the theme for my teacher?

- Timbre
- What family? Any particular instruments?
- Rhythm
- Meter: 2?                    3?                    4?                    6?
  - Tempo: very slow  very fast
  - Rhythm: Calm? Busy? Frantic? Skipping? Gallop? Syncopated?
- Melody
- Major or minor?
  - Treble clef or Bass clef?
  - Steps, hops, leaps, repeats?
  - Chromatic notes (extra sharps and flats)?
- Dynamics
- Loud, quiet? Crescendo? Decrescendo?
- Form
- Lots of repetition? Variation? Contrast?
- Harmony/  
Accompaniment
- Consonance or dissonance? Major chords, minor chords, 7<sup>th</sup> chords?
  - Ostinatos/ countermelodies?