

Max's Musical Instrument Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and categorize musical instruments into string, woodwind, brass, percussion, and electronic families.

Max the monkey is putting together a band! Help him organize his instruments by answering these ten quick questions. Read each question carefully and circle the best answer.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.String, 4.B, 5.False, 6.Percussion, 7.A, 8.True, 9.Woodwind, 10.B. Max says: Great work! You are ready to join the band!

Word bank: Percussion · String · Woodwind · Brass · Vibration · Pitch · Tempo · Orchestra

1. 1. Which of these is a brass instrument? A) Flute B) Violin C) Trumpet* D) Drum (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: A guitar creates sound when you pluck its strings. (1 mark)

3. 3. What instrument family does a cello belong to? (1 mark)

4. 4. Which material was traditionally used to make woodwind instruments? A) Metal B) Wood* C) Plastic D) Glass (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: You play a xylophone by blowing air into it. (1 mark)

6. 6. What is the name for the family of instruments that you hit, shake, or scrape? (1 mark)

7. 7. How do you play a clarinet? A) Blowing air* B) Plucking C) Hitting D) Strumming (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: A piano is often considered a percussion instrument because hammers hit the strings inside. (1 mark)

9. 9. Is a recorder a percussion instrument or a woodwind instrument? (1 mark)

10. 10. Which sound describes a high note? A) Deep B) Shrill* C) Quiet D) Slow (1 mark)

Draw: Draw your own imaginary musical instrument! Give it a name and tell Max which family it belongs to (e.g., is it a string, brass, or percussion instrument?).



Extension challenge: Research one unusual instrument from another country, such as the Kora or the Didgeridoo. Write two sentences explaining how the sound is made.