

## Max's Musical Elements Fact-File

*Learning objective: To identify and describe the inter-related dimensions of music: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, and structure.*

Help Max the monkey solve the musical puzzle! Choose a piece of music you enjoy listening to. Listen to it carefully and fill in the fact-file below by describing what you hear using the musical vocabulary provided.

*Word bank: Crescendo · Diminuendo · Staccato · Legato · Tempo · Pitch · Dynamics · Timbre · Texture · Rhythm*

**1. Tempo and Rhythm: How would you describe the speed of the music? Is it fast or slow? Does the rhythm feel steady or changing? (2 marks)**

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**2. Dynamics: Does the volume change throughout the piece? Look for moments of a crescendo (getting louder) or diminuendo (getting quieter). (2 marks)**

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**3. Pitch: Are the notes generally high, low, or a mix of both? How does the pitch make you feel? (2 marks)**

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**4. Timbre and Texture: Which instruments or voices can you hear? Does the music sound 'thick' (many layers) or 'thin' (only one or two sounds)? (2 marks)**

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**5. Structure: Can you hear any patterns? Does the music repeat a section (like a chorus) or does it change as it progresses? (2 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: If you were composing your own piece of music, which two musical elements would you focus on to make it sound exciting? Explain your reasons in your exercise book.*