

World Music Explorers with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify and describe musical traditions from around the world and understand the cultural significance of diverse instrumentation and rhythm.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of global musical styles. Finn the Dolphin has travelled the world's oceans to bring you these fascinating facts. Read the front of the card, then check the answer on the back to see if you were correct!

What is a Gamelan?

A traditional ensemble from Indonesia, consisting primarily of bronze percussion instruments like metallophones, gongs, and drums.

Which West African instrument is a goblet-shaped drum played with bare hands?

The Djembe.

Define 'Polyrhythm'.

The simultaneous use of two or more conflicting rhythms that are not readily perceived as deriving from one another.

What type of scale is frequently used in traditional Chinese and Japanese music, consisting of five notes per octave?

A Pentatonic scale.

Which stringed instrument, famous in Indian classical music, has a long neck and sympathetic strings?

The Sitar.

What is the Koto and where does it originate?

A traditional Japanese stringed musical instrument, often described as a zither, played by plucking strings.

Which instrument from Trinidad and Tobago is created from repurposed oil drums?

The Steel Pan (or Steel Drum).

What is the Didgeridoo and which culture is it associated with?

A wind instrument developed by Indigenous Australians of northern Australia, traditionally made from eucalyptus wood.

What is 'Timbre' in the context of world music?

The unique quality or 'colour' of a sound that distinguishes one instrument or voice from another.

Why is it important to learn about the 'Cultural Heritage' of music?

It helps us understand the history, values, and traditions of people from different parts of the world.

Explain the difference between a pulse and a rhythm.

A pulse is the steady beat (like a heartbeat), while a rhythm is the pattern of different note lengths layered over that pulse.

What does the term 'folk music' generally refer to?

Music that is passed down orally through generations within a specific community, often reflecting local customs.