

Global Rhythms: Music Explorer Fact-File

Learning objective: To research and analyse a specific style of music from a different region of the world, identifying key instruments, rhythmic patterns, and cultural significance.

Choose a specific country or region you wish to study. Conduct research into its traditional music. Fill in the boxes below to build your own fact-file. Use your musical vocabulary to explain the unique characteristics of the sound.

Word bank: rhythm · tempo · pitch · texture · timbre · ensemble · percussion · cultural significance · syncopation · melody

1. Geographical Origin: Identify the region or country you have chosen and describe the historical or cultural context of its music. (2 marks)

2. Instrumentation: List the primary instruments used in this style. Explain how the materials used to make them affect the timbre of the sound. (3 marks)

3. Rhythmic Analysis: Describe the typical pulse and tempo of this music. How does the use of syncopation or polyrhythms create a unique 'feel'? (3 marks)

4. Comparative Reflection: Compare and contrast the music you have researched with traditional British folk music. What are the key similarities and differences? (4 marks)

5. Justification: Why is it important to preserve traditional world music in our modern, globalised society? Justify your opinion with examples. (4 marks)

6. Speculation: What might happen to the distinctive sound of this music if modern electronic instruments were introduced? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Compose a short rhythm pattern (4 bars) inspired by the region you studied. Use standard notation or graphic scores to show how you would incorporate the instruments identified in your fact-file.