



Key Vocabulary

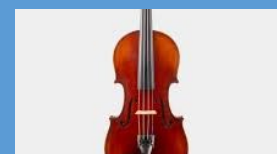
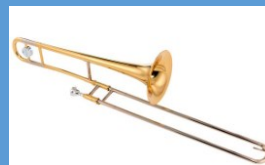
pulse	the beat in a piece of music.
composer	a person who writes music
represent	to show or be a symbol of something
tempo	how fast or slow something sounds
dynamics	how loud or quiet the music is
pitch	how high or low the notes sound
rhythm	a pattern of sounds that are different lengths
forte <b>f</b>	a dynamic in music that means 'loudly' and 'strong'
pianissimo <b>pp</b>	a dynamic in music that means 'softly'

Listening skills

In an orchestra, there are four instrument families. These are groups of instruments that are put together based on something they all have in common. These are called **brass**, **string**, **woodwind** and **percussion**. Instruments can be played at different **tempos**, **pitches** and **dynamics** to change the way they sound.

Benjamin Britten

Benjamin Britten was an English composer, conductor and pianist who was born in 1913. He wrote lots of music. He initially wrote the piece **The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra** for the British Ministry of Education so that it could be used in an educational film.



**Brass** instruments are called this because they are made out of metal. Originally, they were made of brass but now they are made of lighter metals. **Brass** instruments are played by blowing into a mouthpiece. **Trombones** are part of the **brass** family.

A **string** instrument is a musical instrument that makes sound by vibrating the strings on it. A **string** instrument plays soft notes. The **violin** is part of the **string** family.

**Woodwind** instruments all have a tube made from wood or metal on them. They have reeds in the mouth hole which vibrate and make sound when blown on. A **flute** is part of the **woodwind** family.

**Percussion** instruments are played by shaking or hitting part of the instrument. These are often used to show the rhythm in a piece of music. **Drums** are part of the **percussion** family.