

The percussion family includes a wide variety of instruments, and is arguable the most diverse of all the instrument families. Percussion instruments include anything that is struck, shaken, or scraped. Percussion instruments can be struck with drumsticks, mallets, hands, or another instrument. Percussion instruments fall into 2 major categories: pitched (or tuned) and non-pitched (non-tuned). Below is an example of how those would be categorized. Pitched percussion is anything that can be tuned or is tuned to specific pitches in the Treble or Bass Clefs. Non-pitched percussion is anything that cannot be tuned or does not have a specific pitch.

These lists are not extensive (more can be added to them)

Pitched	Non-pitched
Xylophone	Cymbals
Marimba	Triangle
Vibraphone	Gong (tam-tam)
Glockenspiel	Wood block
Metallophone	Snare drum
Timpani drums	Bongos
Tone Chimes	Bass drum
	Djembe drum
	Shakers
	Scrapers (i.e. guiro)

The **Vibraphone** is a pitched percussion instrument.

- The vibraphone is made of metal and is played with soft mallets.
- The vibraphone has a motor that turns a series of fans that give it its characteristic vibrating/wavy sound.

The **xylophone** is a pitched percussion instrument

- The xylophone is made of wood and played with hard mallets.
- The xylophone can be heard even in the thickest of orchestral textures.

The **Marimba** is a pitched percussion instrument

- The marimba is made of wood and played with soft mallets

The **glockenspiel** is a pitched percussion instrument

- The glockenspiel is made of metal and played with hard mallets
- The glockenspiel can also be heard well over the entire orchestra

The **timpani** are a set of 4 tunable drums.

-Each timpani drum can be tuned using a foot pedal which tightens and loosens the drumhead (making the pitch higher and lower).

-Timpani drums are the bridge between the percussion section and the bass section of the orchestra.

Parts of the drum: drumhead, rim, body or resonator.



Be able to identify the following non-pitched percussion instruments:

- Bass drum
- Tam-tam
- Snare drum
- Conga drums
- Wood block
- Tambourine
- Guiro
- Maracas
- Triangle

1. The percussion family is arguably the most _____ of all the instrument families.
2. Percussion instruments include anything that is:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
3. Percussion instruments can be struck with a:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
4. The 2 major categories of percussion instruments are:
 - a.
 - b.
5. What is the definition of pitched percussion?
6. What is the definition of non-pitched percussion?

Instrument	It is made out of: (wood/metal)	Mallets used: (hard/soft)
Vibraphone		
Xylophone		
Marimba		
Glockenspiel		

7. The vibraphone also has a _____ that turns a series of _____ that give it its characteristic _____ sound.

8. The timpani are: _____ percussion.
(pitched/non-pitched)

9. How does the timpani player change the pitch on the drums?

10. A snare drum has a series of _____ on the bottom of the drum that give it its characteristic, raspy sound.

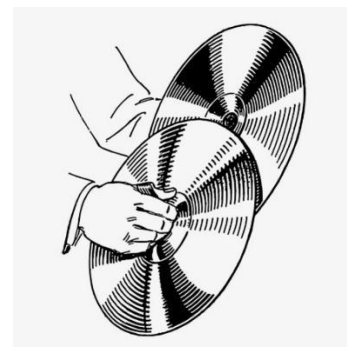
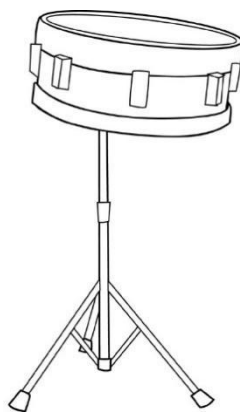
11. Label the parts of the instrument:



Identify the following instruments:

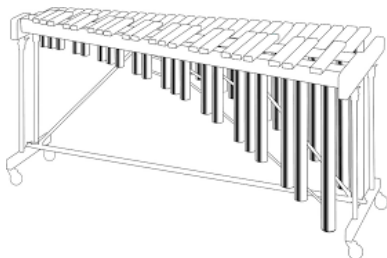
Word Bank:

Snare Drum	Djembe	Bongos
Xylophone	Congas	Triangle
Cymbals	Tam-tam	Tambourine
Woodblock	Guiro	
Timpani	Bass Drum	
Tubular bells		

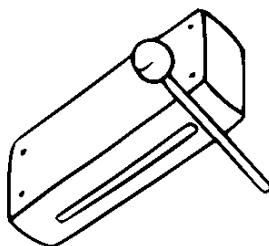


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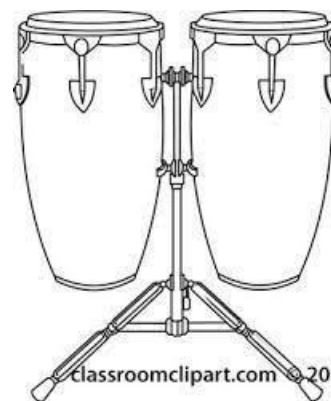


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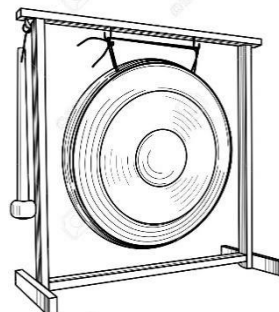
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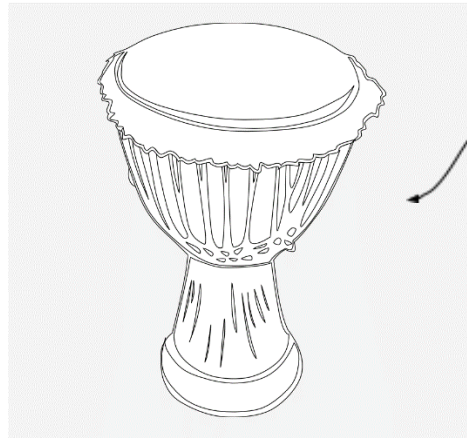
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