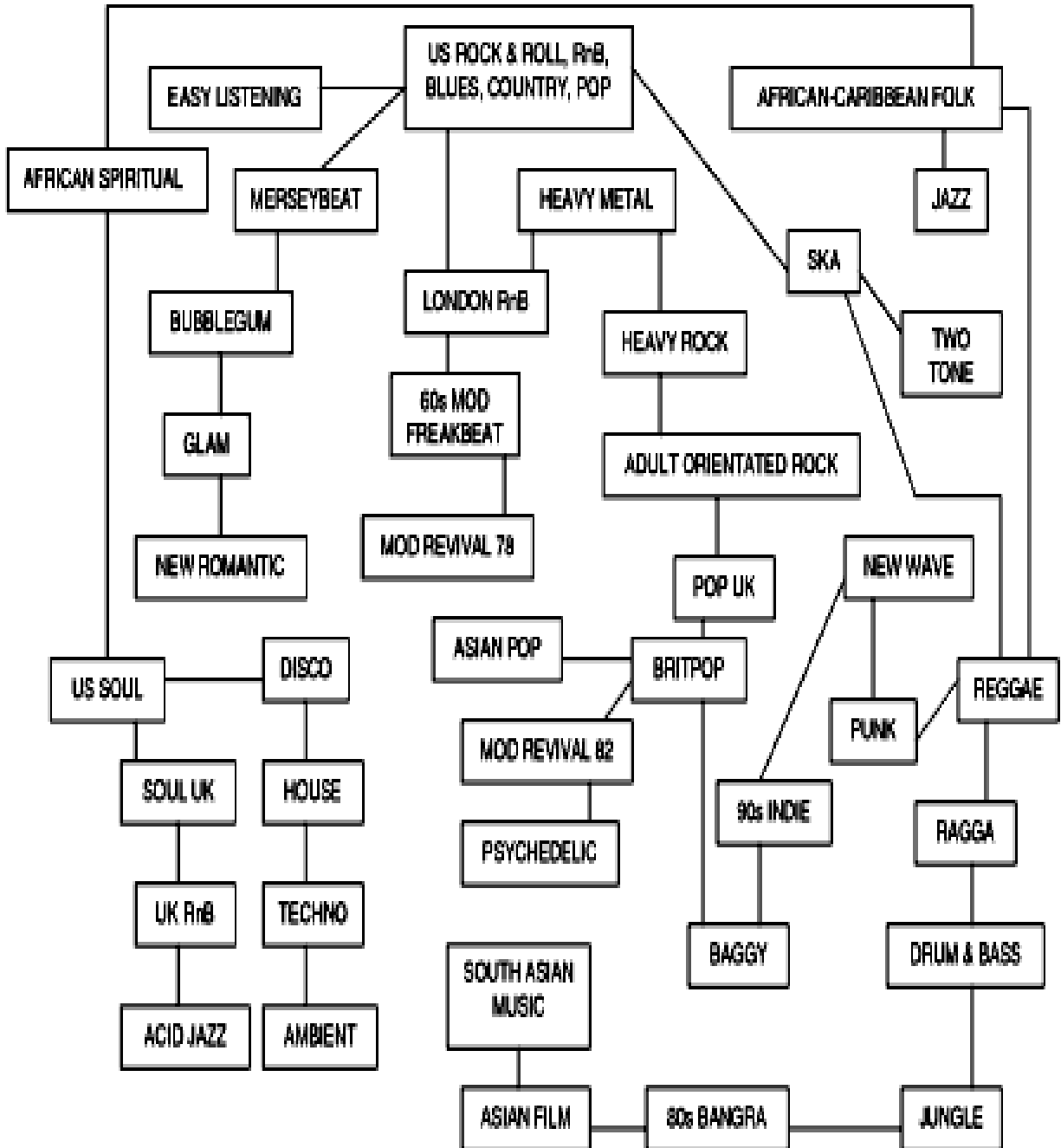


Vocabulary on Music





Useful phrases to describe your favourite music

Preferences, likes and dislikes

Are you **into** music?

to be into something

=What you like, what you enjoy...

e.g. He's really "**into**" that new rock group...

He's really "**into**" baseball...

I can't stand...

I can't bear....

I don't mind...

I absolutely adore...

I'm not too keen on...

I fancy

I feel like...

It gets on my nerves...

A, a

album

1. A book with blank pages for the insertion and preservation of collections, as of stamps or photographs.
2.
 - a. A phonograph record, especially a long-playing record stored in a slipcase.
 - b. A set of musical recordings stored together in jackets under one binding.
 - c. The bound set of jackets for such a set.
 - d. A recording of different musical pieces.
3. A printed collection of musical compositions, pictures, or literary selections.
4. A tall, handsomely printed book, popular especially in the 19th century, often having profuse illustrations and short, sentimental texts.

C, c

cassette

=cinta, cassette

concerts

concert =concierto

musical =comedia musical

gig =(colloquial) actuación, concierto musical

recital =(de música clásica, por un solista) recital

L, l

LP

=A long-playing phonograph record. Elepé, disco de larga duración.

M, m

MC

= **abbreviation for master of ceremonies**, that is a **rapper**
=cantante
de rap. A performer of rap music.

O, o

obras de música

compose =componer

composer =compositor (**an opera composer** =un compositor de opera)

composition =composición
one of his late compositions
=una de sus últimas composiciones

symphony =sinfonía

concerto (singular) =concierto
concertos / concerti (plural)=conciertos
a violin concerto
=un concierto para violín

overture =obertura

1. *Music*

a. An instrumental composition intended especially as an introduction to an extended work, such as an opera or oratorio.

b. A similar orchestral work intended for independent concert performance.

2. An introductory section or part, as of a poem; a prelude.

3. An act, offer, or proposal that indicates readiness to undertake a course of action or open a relationship.

tr.v. **o-ver-tured, o-ver-tur-ing, o-ver-tures**

1. To present as an introduction or proposal.

2. To present or make an offer or proposal to.

1. (Music / Classical Music) *Music*

a. a piece of orchestral music containing contrasting sections that is played at the beginning of an opera or oratorio, often containing the main musical themes of the work

b. a similar piece preceding the performance of a play

c. Also called **concert overture** a one-movement orchestral piece, usually having a descriptive or evocative title

d. a short piece in three movements (**French overture** or **Italian overture**) common in the 17th and 18th centuries

2. (*often plural*) a proposal, act, or gesture initiating a relationship, negotiation, etc.

3. (Literary & Literary Critical Terms) something that introduces what follows
vb (tr)

1. to make or present an overture to

2. to introduce with an overture

song =canción

piece =[término general para cualquier composición musical] pieza

S, s

P, p

pitch-perfect voice

= **voz de tono perfecto**

e.g. With her stunning looks and amazing **pitch-perfect** voice, the singer sold an incredible 170 million CDs, singles and videos in the course of a glittering 30-year career.

single

=single, sencillo

speaker

=altavoz

T, t

tape

=cinta

turntable

=plato giratorio

1. CD player
 2. classical
 3. concert
 4. country
 5. dance
 6. disco
 7. download music
 8. good beat
 9. heavy metal
 10. jazz
 11. lyrics
 12. mp3 player
 13. music
 14. pop
 15. radio
 16. rap
 17. rock
 18. stereo
- be crazy about / love / like
 - dislike / hate / can't stand

Now, complete the sentences below with the best answer:

1. There are many music clubs on the Internet where you can _____ mp3 files legally

for a small fee.

A. dance B. dislike C. download

2. The reason why she loves this rock group is because the music has _____.

A. a good beat B. a concert C. a mp3 player

3. If you read and understand the _____ of the song, you can better understand its message.

A. stereo B. music review C. lyrics

Answers:

1. download

2. a good beat

3. lyrics

Fill in the blanks with a word from the exercise above, make sure to conjugate the verbs.

1. Don't you think the Maestro _____ the orchestra well?
2. He beat the _____ like a madman!
3. John Lenon _____ the lyrics to many of the Beatles's best songs.
4. You can tell when Peter is in a good mood, she _____ one of her favorite tunes.
5. The most famous opera _____ by Mascagni was "Cavalleria Rusticana".
6. Jazz musicians almost always _____ their solos.
7. The _____ always tune their instruments before they begin the concert.
8. I can remember the time when President Clinton got up on MTV to _____ his horn - the saxophone.
9. Would you please not tap your _____ in time to the music?
10. Some of the best rock singers don't _____ their songs, they shout them!

Match the verb in the column on the left with the correct noun from the column on the right

Music Vocabulary

VERB	NOUN
compose	tune
conduct	drum
write	horn
play	instrument
blow	piece of music
tap	orchestra
improvise	lyrics
sing	song
hum	solo
beat	foot

Answers

1. Don't you think the Maestro **conducted** the orchestra well?
2. He beat the **drums** like a madman!
3. John Lennon **wrote** the lyrics to many of the Beatles's best songs.
4. You can tell when Peter is in a good mood, he **hums** one of her favorite tunes.
5. The most famous opera **composed** by Mascagni was "Cavalleria Rusticana".
6. Jazz musicians almost always **improvise** their solos.
7. Most professional musicians **play** their instruments up to five hours a day!
8. I can remember the time when President Clinton appeared on MTV to **blow** his horn - the saxophone.
9. Would you please not tap your **foot** in time to the music?
10. Some of the best rock singers don't **sing** their songs, they shout them!
 - compose - **piece of music**
 - conduct - **orchestra**
 - write - **lyrics**
 - play - **instrument**
 - blow - **horn**
 - tap - **foot**
 - improvise - **solo** >(to play it by one's ears)

- sing - **song**
- hum - **tune**
- beat - **drum**

More words and phrases about music:

1. a public performance
2. a collection of songs
3. the words of a song
4. one song from a collection
5. a classification of the most popular songs
6. work on a project
7. not recorded
8. a song with no words
9. number of times a radio station plays a song
10. most recent
11. the singing in a song
12. easy to remember and sing
13. the music of a song
14. recorded music at a concert
15. the music for a film
16. copy music to disc or cassette
17. the most popular song in a classification
- 18.

album

single

top ten

number one
lyrics
vocals
melody
catchy
record
live
concert
backing track
collaborate
soundtrack
latest
airplay
instrumental

- accordion
- alto
- banjo
- baritone
- bass
- bassoon
- beat
- cello
- chord
- clarinet
- clef

- composer
- composition
- cymbal
- drum
- flat
- flute
- guitar
- harmonica
- harp
- horn
- instrument
- lyrics
- mandolin
- melody
- musician
- notes
- oboe
- octave
- opera
- organ
- piano
- piccolo
- rhythm
- saxophone
- sing
- singer

- song
- soprano
- tempo
- tenor
- trombone
- trumpet
- tuba
- tune
- viola
- violin
- xylophone

Resources:

Word Selector Inglés-Español Diccionario temático de inglés contemporáneo. CUP (1995)

<http://www.lyricstraining.com/>

<http://english.specialist.hu>

<http://www.musicalenglishlessons.com/index-ex.htm>

<http://www.esl-lounge.com/student/vocabulary/3v23-musical-vocabulary.php>

<http://drewsesfluencylessons.com/2-vocabulary-worksheets/music/matching-worksheet-for-esl-music-vocabulary>

<http://esl.about.com/od/vocabularyintermediate/a/Gap-Fill-Music.htm>

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com>

More vocabulary practice about Music:

<http://www.dmcclure.org/voc-mus.htm>

<http://www.saberingles.com.ar/lists/music.html>

http://www.eflnet.com/vocab/music_vocabulary.php

<http://www.esolcourses.com/content/topics/songs/various-artists/stand-by-me.html>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-2100025/Whitney-Houston-news-Star-reportedly-partied-heavily-eve-death.html>

Idioms about music

[\(http://www.usingenglish.com/reference/idioms/cat/23.html](http://www.usingenglish.com/reference/idioms/cat/23.html)

<http://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/music>)

And all that jazz

This idiom means that everything related or similar is included.

arrange some music for something

to prepare or adapt music for particular instruments or for a particular musical key. Paul arranged the piece for piano. This piece was arranged for the guitar by Frank's brother.

Bells on

(USA) To be somewhere with bells on means to arrive there happy and delighted to attend.

Blow your own horn

If you blow your own horn, you boast about your achievements and abilities. ('Blow your own trumpet' is an alternative form.)

Blow your own trumpet

If someone blows their own trumpet, they boast about their talents and achievements. ('Blow your own horn' is an alternative form.)

Call the tune

The person who calls the tune makes the important decisions about something.

Change your tune

If someone changes their ideas or the way they talk about them, they change their tune.

Chin music

Fig. Inf. talk; conversation. Whenever those two get together, you can be sure there'll be plenty of chin music. Bill just loves to hear himself talk. He'll make chin music for hours at a time.

Clear as a bell

If something is as clear as a bell, it is very clear or easy to understand.

Elevator music (*American*)

pleasant but boring recorded music that is played in public places You can't get away from elevator music in some shopping malls.

Face the music

If you have to face the music, you have to accept the negative consequences of something you have done wrong.

Fiddle while Rome burns

If people are fiddling while Rome burns, they are wasting their time on futile things while problems threaten to destroy them.

Fine tuning

Small adjustments to improve something or to get it working are called fine tuning.

Fit as a fiddle

If you are fit as a fiddle, you are in perfect health.

For a song

If you buy or sell something for a song, it is very cheap.

Hit the right note

If you hit the right note, you speak or act in a way that has a positive effect on people. ('Strike the right note' is also used.)

It takes two to tango

This idiom is used to suggest that when things go wrong, both sides are involved and neither side is completely innocent.

Make chin music

Fig. to talk or chatter. We sat around all evening making chin music. You were making chin music when you should have been listening.

March to the beat of your own drum

If people march to the beat of their own drum, they do things the way they want without taking other people into consideration.

Music to my ears

If something someone says is music to your ears, it is exactly what you had wanted to hear.

A: Here's your paycheck for this month. B: Ah, that's music to my ears!

Play by ear

If you play by ear, you deal with something in an impromptu manner, without guidelines or rules. It refers to playing music without using written notation.

Play second fiddle

If you play second fiddle, you take a subordinate role behind someone more important.

Pull out all the stops

If you pull out all the stops, you do everything you possibly can to achieve the result you want.

See you on the big drum

A good night phrase to children.

Set something to music

to write a piece of music to accompany a set of words. The musician set my lyrics to music. The rock band set the poem to music.

Strike a chord

If strikes a chord, it is familiar to you, reminds you of something or is connected to you somehow.

Stop the music and stop the presses

Inf. Stop everything!; Hold it! (*Presses* refers to the printing presses used to print newspapers. This means that there is recent news of such magnitude that the presses must be stopped so a new edition can be printed immediately.) John (entering the room): Stop the music! There's a fire in the kitchen! Mary: Good grief! Let's get out of here! "Stop the presses!" shouted Jane. "I have an announcement."

Toot your own horn

If someone toot their own horn, they like to boast about their achievements.

Whistle for it

If someone says that you can whistle for something, they are determined to ensure that you don't get it.

Whistle-stop tour

A whistle-stop tour is when someone visits a number of places quickly, not stopping for long.

Whistling Dixie

(USA) If someone is whistling Dixie, they talk about things in a more positive way than the reality.

Whistling in the dark

If someone is whistling in the dark, they believe in a positive result, even though everybody else is sure it will not happen.

You can't unring a bell

This means that once something has been done, you have to live with the consequences as it can't be undone.