

Grade 4 Instrumental Music Vocabulary

Embouchure -	Lip and mouth formation used to play an instrument
Ensemble -	A group of musicians performing together
Fermata -	Hold note or rest longer than its usual value
1st and 2nd Endings -	Play the 1 st ending the first time, skip to the 2 nd ending on repeat
Flat -	Lowers the pitch of a note one half step
Forte -	Loud
Half Note -	Two beats of sound in common time signatures
Half Rest -	Two beats of silence in common time signatures
Harmony -	Two or more notes played at the same time
Key Signature -	Indicates pitches to be sharp or flat
Ledger Lines -	Short lines to extend the staff
Legato -	To perform notes that are smooth and connected
Major -	Tonality of a composition based on a scale formula of two whole steps, one half step, three whole steps, one half step
Measure -	Space between two bar lines
Melody -	A succession of musical tones creating the main theme in a composition
Minor -	Tonality of a composition based on a scale formula of one whole step, one half step, two whole steps, one half step, two whole steps
Moderato -	Medium tempo
Monophonic -	Type of music in which all voices move in the same rhythm, thus producing a succession of intervals (2 part) or chords (3 part)
Multiple Measure Rest-	A music symbol indicating two or more consecutive measures of silence
Note -	The symbol used to indicate sound
Percussion -	Instruments that are sounded by shaking, scraping or striking one object with another
Phrase -	A division of the musical line, a musical thought or sentence
Piano -	Soft
Pizzicato -	Pluck the string
Quarter Note -	One beat of sound in common time signature

(4th Grade vocabulary – cont.)

Quarter Rest -	One beat of silence in common time signature
Repeat Sign -	Repeat from beginning or repeat section of music between repeat sign
Rests -	The symbols used to indicate silence
Round -	Musical form where performers play the same melody and enter at different times
Sharp -	Raises the pitch of a note ½ step
Soli -	A unison section performed by two or more performers but not everyone
Solo -	Performing alone or with an accompanist
Staccato -	Shortened note, detached
Staff -	Five lines and four spaces on which music symbols are written
Strings -	Instruments that produce sound by plucking or bowing a stretched string
Tempo -	Speed of music
Tied Notes -	Curved line connecting notes of the same pitch, rhythmic values are added together for a single longer note
Time Signature -	The number at the beginning of a piece of music that shows how many beats are in each measure and which note gets one beat
Tonality -	The term used to describe the organization of the melodic and harmonic elements to give a feeling of a key center or a tonic pitch
Tone Color -	The unique sound of each instrument or voice
Treble Clef -	The clef used by high sounding instruments, also known as the G clef because the end of the clef encircles and indicates the 2nd line as the pitch G
Tutti -	Everyone plays
Unison -	Everyone plays same notes and rhythms (Sounding as one)
Up Bow -	Move bow toward your body to the left
Whole Note -	Four beats of sound in common time signature
Whole Rest -	Four beats of silence in common time signature
Woodwind -	Instruments such as Flute, Clarinet and Saxophone

Grade 5 Instrumental Music Vocabulary

Accidentals -	Naturals, sharps or flats not in the key signature. They remain in effect for the full measure.
Adagio -	Slow tempo
Andante -	Moderately slow tempo
Chord -	Three or more pitches sounded at the same time
Chromatic -	Notes moving by half steps
Crescendo -	Gradually play louder
D.C. al Fine -	Go back to the beginning and play to the Fine
Decrescendo -	Gradually play softer
Dotted Quarter Note -	One and one half beats of sound in common time signatures
Eighth Rest -	One half beat of silence in common time signatures
1st and 2nd Endings -	Play the 1 st ending the first time, skip to the 2 nd ending on repeat
Half Step -	Smallest distance between two notes
Interval -	Distance between two notes
Mezzo Forte -	Medium loud
Mezzo Piano -	Medium soft
Natural Sign -	Cancels a flat or sharp until the next bar line
Octave -	Two notes with the same letter name that are eight notes apart
Ritardando -	Gradually slow the tempo
Scale -	Sequence of notes in ascending or descending order
Slur -	Curved line that connects two or more notes of different pitches indicating that they are played legato with one stroke of the bow or with one breath on wind instruments
Theme and Variations -	Musical form where a main melody is played and repeated slightly changed in some way from the original