

Year 8 – Musical Theatre – Knowledge Organiser



Section 1

Musical Theatre	A drama characterised by storyline, plot and characters interspersed with dialogue and different musical numbers including solos, duets and chorus numbers and including scenery, costumes and choreography
Opera	A play, set to music, sung and acted, with scenery, costumes and lighting.
Solo	A song for a single voice, with or without instrumental accompaniment
Chorus	as well as being a part of a song, a “chorus number” in an opera or musical is a song performed by the whole cast or a number of voices together.
Bass Line	The lowest sounding layer in a piece of music played by a bass instrument e.g. bass guitar, double bass, piano (left hand part)
Chord	a group of two or more pitched notes played at the same time.

Section 2

Soprano	The highest type of female voice
Alto	The lowest female voice
Tenor	A high adult male voice.
Baritone	A male voice whose range lies between that of a tenor and bass voice
Bass	The lowest male voice.

Section 3

Ensemble	A small group of singers or a piece of music written for a small group.
Melody	a tune or succession of notes, varying in pitch, that have an organised and recognisable shape
Riff	A melodic phrase, repeated over changing harmonies, throughout part or all of a piece.
Duet	A song for a two voices, with or without instrumental accompaniment
Accompaniment	The musical support or background provided for the solo voices or instruments in the musical texture.

Section 4: Treble Clef and Bass Clef notes on the staff

Treble Clef Notes

Line Notes: E G B D F
Space Notes: F A C E

Bass Clef Notes

Line Notes: G B D F A
Space Notes: A C E G



Pasek and Paul



Sara Bareilles

You could listen to some music written by the artists above whilst doing your homework