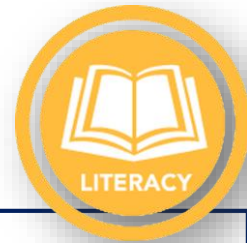


Music – Musical Theatre

What you will learn about?

- **Prologue:** The opening dialogue/song which explains the generic plot of the story (Prologue/Little Shop of Horrors)
- **Action song:** a song which tells the story, helps to move the story forwards (da-doo/Skid Row/Feed Me)
- **Character song:** a song which explains the personality or the specific emotions of the character performing it (Dentist)
- **Comedy song:** A song designed to make the audience laugh
- **Duet/Trio:** sung by 2 or 3 characters
- **An ensemble:** A group performance



Key words and Vocabulary

Musical Theatre - a stage production where the story is told through acting, singing and dancing

MD (Musical Director) - the person responsible for rehearsing the music with the band/orch and the cast

Band/Orchestra pit - An area below the stage where the band/orchestra play

Book musical - a musical where the songs have been written especially for the show

Jukebox musical - a musical where the songs have been pre-recorded

Call and response - a 'conversation' sung between 2 parts

Part singing - More than one group of singers singing at the same time or separately (Skid Row/Dentist)

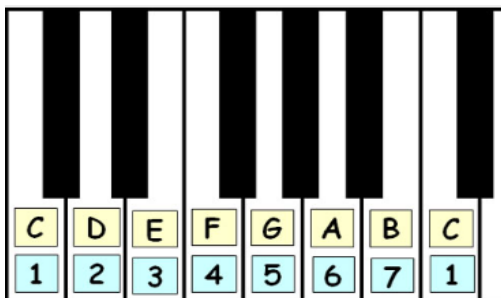
Motown - A style of music from 1960s America, a popular style of soul music. Would often include backing singers such as the street urchins (Ronnette/Chiffon/Crystal) E.g. Diana Ross and the Supremes) Lead singer with backing vocals/clear beat as it was primarily made to dance to.

RnB - Rhythm and Blues, came out of the 12 bar blues but now has a verse/chorus structure, features keyboards/synths/strong bass lines, soulful singing, backing vocals. Famous RnB artists are Usher, Beyoncé, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, John Legend

Doo-Wop - a style of Rock n Roll, popular in the 1950/60s. Originally performed by black musicians who rehearsed on street corners/subway station for good acoustics. More emphasis on vocals with nonsensical words such as doo-wop, sha-la-la, do-be-do etc. Popular as it was an inexpensive hobby

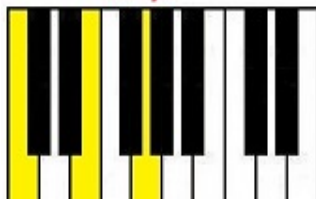
Doo-Wop chord progression - 1 6 4 5 (see diagram)

Blues Chord progression C C C C F F C C G F C C



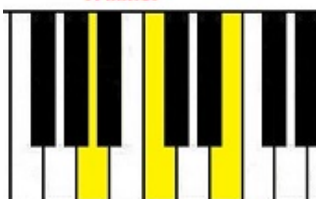
Chord 1

C Major



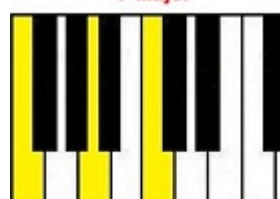
Chord 6

A Minor



Chord 4

F Major



Chord 5

G Major

