

A Glimpse of the Musical Elements

*Phase 1: The first element of music is **Tone**. Tone is one of the element we hear. One way it is studied is by learning the letter names of different tones (notes) and being able to identify them on paper. Concepts include treble clef, bass clef, middle C, reading music, listening.*

*Phase 2: The second element of music is **Rhythm**. Rhythm creates order in most musical composition. It is important that this element is understood, because rhythm is the time accounting method for all musical pieces. Concepts include time signatures, (2/4 3/4 4/4 etc.) meter, tempo, syncopation, reading music and extensive listening.*

*Phase 3: The third element of music is **Melody**. Melody is the focal point of most musical compositions. A person does not need to be trained in order to recognize this element. However, melody is one of the first elements needed to learn how to play by "ear". Concepts include playing by ear, circle of fifths, basic intervals, and ear training.*

*Phase 4: The fourth element of music is **Harmony**. Harmony is the arrangement of two or more notes played at the same time. This element is a support systems for many melodies. Concepts include chromatic intervals, chord construction, leading tones, and color.*

*Phase 5: The fifth element of music is **Texture**. Texture helps reflect emotion. It encompasses a dynamic range from a soft wisper to a full orchestra. It embodies expression and quality of sound. Concepts include monophonic, homophonic, polyphonic, non melodic, timbre, arrangements, orchestration, style, and history.*

*Phase 6: The sixth element of music is **Dynamics**. Dynamics creates expression. Dynamics take allof the elements and uses them to reflect a mood. A seed has been planted. How a person harvests their crop of musical expression in in fact expression. Concepts include volume, intensity, presence, separation, properties of sound, masking, direction, and intuition.*

I look forward to a positive and everlasting musical experience

www.giftedchildmusic.com