

Music Vocabulary Word Searches, Free Sample

2 topics · 4 puzzles · two levels · answer keys

- Level 1, word bank, words run forward only. Grades 3 to 5 or a quick bell ringer.
- Level 2, clue search. Students work out each word from a short definition, then find it in any direction. Grades 6 to 9.
- Every clue is a real definition, so the puzzle teaches the vocabulary instead of just filling time.
- No prep. Print and hand out. Ready for a substitute who does not read music.

How to use this pack

Two levels of the same topic

Every topic comes twice. Level 1 prints the word bank under the grid and keeps the words running left to right, top to bottom, or diagonally down to the right, which is about right for eight and nine year olds. Level 2 hides the word bank. Students read a clue, work out the word, write it on the dashes, and only then go looking for it. Words can run backwards and upwards.

Give Level 1 and Level 2 of the same topic to one mixed class and everyone is on the same vocabulary.

For a substitute

Nothing here needs a music background. Hand out the sheet, set a timer for 20 minutes, and collect. The answer keys at the back show every word highlighted in the grid, and list the Level 2 answers in order.

Checked grids

Every word appears exactly once in its grid, so no student finds a second copy and argues about it. The filler letters were checked by software in all eight directions for rude words, and any grid that spelled one by accident was thrown out and rebuilt.

Topics

1. The String Family

2. Dynamics, Loud and Soft

The String Family

Level 1 · Word Bank

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Find all 14 words. They run across, down, or diagonally down to the right. Tick each word in the bank when you find it.

R	A	R	C	O	S	U	S	Q	K	L	J	K	Z
P	H	B	O	W	J	C	U	H	H	T	M	B	E
L	I	F	D	E	V	U	R	P	B	H	W	N	O
R	S	Z	P	O	B	G	P	O	U	R	R	W	T
R	O	J	Z	Z	U	R	B	H	L	B	A	V	F
E	N	C	U	I	L	B	I	J	A	L	X	I	V
P	E	A	Y	W	C	G	L	D	Y	R	S	O	I
U	T	V	C	V	Z	A	O	E	G	J	P	L	O
A	J	Y	E	X	G	P	T	R	B	E	G	I	L
M	S	T	L	P	G	U	C	O	O	A	K	N	A
L	T	Y	L	E	B	F	I	Y	U	S	S	G	G
Y	A	P	O	G	B	M	C	T	L	V	I	S	Q
U	K	P	I	S	Z	Z	Z	U	A	K	I	N	J
W	R	E	F	R	E	T	S	O	I	R	X	G	R

☐ arco

☐ bow

☐ bridge

☐ cello

☐ double bass

☐ frets

☐ guitar

☐ harp

☐ pegs

☐ pizzicato

☐ rosin

☐ scroll

☐ viola

☐ violin

The String Family

Level 2 · Clue Search

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Work out each answer from its clue and write it on the line. Then find it in the grid. Words can run in any of eight directions, including backwards.

N	O	N	V	O	L	R	P	O	Z	L	A	B	O	V
P	N	R	L	O	Z	Z	I	O	S	O	A	C	L	I
L	E	L	P	A	O	D	I	S	S	B	P	L	N	O
R	E	I	R	I	G	U	A	P	O	P	I	H	O	L
C	I	C	I	U	F	B	W	C	A	A	Z	O	R	A
L	O	C	I	O	E	R	W	O	A	I	Z	W	F	O
I	L	T	R	L	I	D	E	L	B	T	I	R	E	R
T	A	O	B	R	O	N	B	T	Z	O	C	S	G	H
R	N	U	R	L	R	W	G	X	S	A	A	B	D	N
S	O	A	G	C	N	I	L	O	I	V	T	I	I	S
D	G	C	R	H	S	L	G	N	R	P	O	Y	R	Z
W	E	E	O	O	C	H	N	R	P	R	I	Q	B	S
O	N	C	P	S	S	G	W	X	R	P	P	M	U	G
A	B	Y	O	H	I	I	I	P	A	Z	B	C	C	O
A	U	L	D	P	D	D	N	U	H	J	S	E	C	A

- The smallest and highest member of the orchestra string family (6)

- Slightly bigger than a violin, with a darker, lower sound (5)

- Played sitting down, held between the knees (5)

- The largest and lowest string instrument in the orchestra (10)

- A tall string instrument with 47 strings, plucked with the fingers (4)

- Six strings, frets, and often played with a pick (6)

- The stick with horsehair that is drawn across the strings (3)

- Tree resin rubbed on the bow hair so it grips the string (5)

- The small wooden piece that holds the strings up off the body (6)

- The curled carving at the very top of a violin (6)

- Turned to tighten or loosen the strings when tuning (4)

- Metal strips across a guitar neck that mark the notes (5)

- Plucking the strings with a finger instead of using the bow (9)

- The instruction to play with the bow again after plucking (4)

Dynamics, Loud and Soft

Level 1 · Word Bank

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Find all 14 words. They run across, down, or diagonally down to the right. Tick each word in the bank when you find it.

V	A	V	R	R	W	H	V	E	J	T	P	R	D
S	F	O	R	Z	A	N	D	O	H	Y	I	G	X
Z	S	U	B	I	T	O	Q	B	A	P	A	P	O
K	C	Q	O	D	S	W	I	O	I	P	N	I	F
Q	A	M	O	I	C	Y	O	X	R	M	I	A	O
S	C	N	C	M	D	R	P	K	P	E	S	N	R
V	C	X	V	I	D	Y	E	J	I	Z	S	O	T
Y	E	K	X	N	K	O	N	S	N	Z	I	U	I
M	N	O	C	U	A	F	L	A	C	O	M	N	S
D	T	I	E	E	O	O	O	C	M	E	O	F	S
M	Q	X	R	N	P	R	I	R	E	I	N	C	I
X	A	P	N	D	E	C	W	W	T	R	C	D	M
V	U	I	I	O	T	S	V	K	O	E	U	S	O
V	O	L	U	M	E	A	O	B	B	L	F	K	T

☐ accent

☐ crescendo

☐ diminuendo

☐ dolce

☐ dynamics

☐ forte

☐ fortissimo

☐ hairpin

☐ mezzo

☐ pianissimo

☐ piano

☐ sforzando

☐ subito

☐ volume

Dynamics, Loud and Soft

Level 2 - Clue Search

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

Work out each answer from its clue and write it on the line. Then find it in the grid. Words can run in any of eight directions, including backwards.

E	S	V	N	I	P	R	I	A	H	O	M	W	G	T
F	O	A	S	U	B	I	T	O	D	A	C	S	H	A
O	D	M	F	O	O	V	A	N	I	R	E	S	F	E
D	Y	Z	I	O	I	U	E	F	D	S	L	R	S	O
N	N	M	M	S	R	C	F	J	C	I	M	F	M	M
E	A	N	D	I	S	T	O	B	C	C	O	O	Z	P
U	M	M	R	E	D	I	I	Z	Q	R	Z	P	U	I
N	I	I	R	R	R	I	N	S	Z	S	S	D	A	A
I	C	C	D	O	W	C	Z	A	S	E	E	I	P	N
M	S	Z	D	V	E	N	N	O	I	I	M	I	L	O
I	Z	E	O	O	Z	D	O	M	O	P	M	S	E	I
D	J	T	L	L	O	V	O	M	Q	I	C	O	R	S
H	P	R	C	U	S	I	S	P	J	T	Q	Q	I	C
N	I	O	E	M	O	B	D	E	I	U	D	E	E	E
M	M	F	V	E	L	I	A	C	C	E	N	T	I	I

1. Italian for loud, written f (5)

2. Italian for soft, written p (5)

3. Means medium, as in mf and mp (5)

4. Very loud, written ff (10)

5. Very soft, written pp (10)

6. Gradually getting louder (9)

7. Play sweetly and gently (5)

8. Gradually getting softer, the opposite of a crescendo (10)

9. A sideways V over a note that means play it with extra force (6)

10. A sudden strong accent on one note, written sfz (9)

11. Means suddenly, as in subito piano (6)

12. Nickname for the wedge-shaped crescendo and decrescendo signs (7)

13. The musical word for how loud or soft music is (8)

14. Everyday word for how loud a sound is (6)

Answer Keys

Puzzle 1, The String Family, Level 1

R	A	R	C	O	S	U	S	Q	K	L	J	K	Z
P	H	B	O	W	J	C	U	H	H	T	M	B	E
L	I	F	D	E	V	U	R	P	B	H	W	N	O
R	S	Z	P	O	B	G	P	O	U	R	R	W	T
R	O	J	Z	Z	U	R	B	H	L	B	A	V	F
E	N	C	U	I	L	B	I	J	A	L	X	I	V
P	E	A	Y	W	C	G	L	D	Y	R	S	O	I
U	T	V	C	V	Z	A	O	E	G	J	P	L	O
A	J	Y	E	X	G	P	T	R	B	E	G	I	L
M	S	T	L	P	G	U	C	O	O	A	K	N	A
L	T	Y	L	E	B	F	I	Y	U	S	S	G	G
Y	A	P	O	G	B	M	C	T	L	V	I	S	Q
U	K	P	I	S	Z	Z	Z	U	A	K	I	N	J
W	R	E	F	R	E	T	S	O	I	R	X	G	R

Puzzle 2, The String Family, Level 2

N	O	N	V	O	L	R	P	O	Z	L	A	B	O	V
P	N	R	L	O	Z	Z	I	O	S	O	A	C	L	I
L	E	L	P	A	O	D	I	S	S	B	P	L	N	O
R	E	I	R	I	G	U	A	P	O	P	I	H	O	L
C	I	C	I	U	F	B	W	C	A	A	Z	O	R	A
L	O	C	I	O	E	R	W	O	A	I	Z	W	F	O
I	L	T	R	L	I	D	E	L	B	T	I	R	E	R
T	A	O	B	R	O	N	B	T	Z	O	C	S	G	H
R	N	U	R	L	R	W	G	X	S	A	A	B	D	N
S	O	A	G	C	N	I	L	O	I	V	T	I	I	S
D	G	C	R	H	S	L	G	N	R	P	O	Y	R	Z
W	E	E	O	O	C	H	N	R	P	R	I	Q	B	S
O	N	C	P	S	S	G	W	X	R	P	P	M	U	G
A	B	Y	O	H	I	I	I	P	A	Z	B	C	C	O
A	U	L	D	P	D	D	N	U	H	J	S	E	C	A

1. violin 2. viola 3. cello 4. double bass 5. harp 6. guitar 7. bow 8. rosin 9. bridge 10. scroll 11. pegs 12. frets 13. pizzicato 14. arco

Puzzle 3, Dynamics, Loud and Soft, Level 1

V	A	V	R	R	W	H	V	E	J	T	P	R	D
S	F	O	R	Z	A	N	D	O	H	Y	I	G	X
Z	S	U	B	I	T	O	Q	B	A	P	A	P	O
K	C	Q	O	D	S	W	I	O	I	P	N	I	F
Q	A	M	O	I	C	Y	O	X	R	M	I	A	O
S	C	N	C	M	D	R	P	K	P	E	S	N	R
V	C	X	V	I	D	Y	E	J	I	Z	S	O	T
Y	E	K	X	N	K	O	N	S	N	Z	I	U	I
M	N	O	C	U	A	F	L	A	C	O	M	N	S
D	T	I	E	E	O	O	O	C	M	E	O	F	S
M	Q	X	R	N	P	R	I	R	E	I	N	C	I
X	A	P	N	D	E	C	W	W	T	R	C	D	M
V	U	I	I	O	T	S	V	K	O	E	U	S	O
V	O	L	U	M	E	A	O	B	B	L	F	K	T

Puzzle 4, Dynamics, Loud and Soft, Level 2

E	S	V	N	I	P	R	I	A	H	O	M	W	G	T
F	O	A	S	U	B	I	T	O	D	A	C	S	H	A
O	D	M	F	O	O	V	A	N	I	R	E	S	F	E
D	Y	Z	I	O	I	U	E	F	D	S	L	R	S	O
N	N	M	M	S	R	C	F	J	C	I	M	F	M	M
E	A	N	D	I	S	T	O	B	C	C	O	O	Z	P
U	M	M	R	E	D	I	I	Z	Q	R	Z	P	U	I
N	I	I	R	R	R	I	N	S	Z	S	S	D	A	A
I	C	C	D	O	W	C	Z	A	S	E	E	I	P	N
M	S	Z	D	V	E	N	N	O	I	I	M	I	L	O
I	Z	E	O	O	Z	D	O	M	O	P	M	S	E	I
D	J	T	L	L	O	V	O	M	Q	I	C	O	R	S
H	P	R	C	U	S	I	S	P	J	T	Q	Q	I	C
N	I	O	E	M	O	B	D	E	I	U	D	E	E	E
M	M	F	V	E	L	I	A	C	C	E	N	T	I	I

1. forte 2. piano 3. mezzo 4. fortissimo 5. pianissimo 6. crescendo 7. dolce 8. diminuendo 9. accent 10. sforzando 11. subito 12. hairpin 13. dynamics 14. volume

The full packs, same 16 topics

Every pack below uses the same topics and the same definitions, so a class can meet the words in a puzzle one day and in a game the next.

Music Vocabulary Word Searches, 5 USD

32 puzzles on 16 topics, at two levels. Level 2 replaces the word list with clues.

thibaudlepan.gumroad.com/l/music-vocabulary-word-searches

Music Vocabulary Crosswords, 4 USD

16 crosswords with a word bank you can fold under for a harder version.

thibaudlepan.gumroad.com/l/music-vocabulary-crosswords

Music Vocabulary Bingo, 5 USD

6 games, 30 different cards each. You read the clue, students find the word.

thibaudlepan.gumroad.com/l/music-vocabulary-bingo

Escape the Music Room, 6 USD

Six puzzles, six locks, paper only. Teams race to open the music cabinet before the concert.

thibaudlepan.gumroad.com/l/music-escape-room

Escape the Music Room Junior, 5 USD

The grades 1 to 3 version. Four puzzles, rhythm sums, soft or loud, instrument families.

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Questions or a mistake to report, write to thibaudlepanpro@gmail.com. Every report gets read and fixed.