

1st 9 weeks Vocabulary Sheet
Piano I and II
Valenzuela

Staff – horizontal lines on which music is written

Bar line – vertical lines that divide the staff into measures

Measure – the space between two bar lines

Time Signature – the numbers that appear at the beginning of a piece. The top number indicates the number of beats in a measure, and the bottom number indicates the type of note that gets one beat

Key Signature – the sharps or flats written at the beginning of the piece to indicate the key.

Treble Clef – or the “G” clef, top staff of the grand staff

Bass Clef – or the “F” clef, bottom staff of the grand staff

Grand staff – the combination of the treble and bass clefs joined together by a brace.

Brace – a heavy curved line that is used to join the treble and bass clefs to form the grand staff.

Pitch – the sound frequency of a note

Beat – a steady pulse

Rhythm – the pattern of long and short note values in music.

Melody – an organized sequence of single notes.

Dynamics – the degree of how loud or how soft.

piano – *p* = soft

mezzopiano – *mp* = medium soft

mezzoforte – *mf* = medium loud

forte – *f* = loud

largo – tempo marking meaning slow and broad.

Andante – tempo marking meaning a walking paced tempo

Moderato – tempo marking meaning a moderate tempo, a little faster than *andante*

allegro – tempo marking meaning a lively fast tempo

articulation – the degree to which notes are separated or connected

slur – a curved line connecting two or more notes, indicating they are to be played *legato*

legato – smooth and connected

tie – a curved line connecting two notes of the same pitch, indicating they are to be played as one note, held or sustained.

Interval – the space or distance between two pitches

dissonance – A harsh combination of sounds creating a feeling of tension needing to be resolved.

Consonance - The simultaneous sounding of two or more tones which produce an effect of stability. (opposite is dissonance)

Chord - The simultaneous sounding of three or more notes

Scale – an ascending or descending series of pitches.