

Music Year 9 Spring Term

Listening Describing Music/Music Theory/Music History

The Beatles



The Beatles were the most successful and innovative band of the 1960s. Their early albums were influenced by rock 'n' roll and country styles, and they had very successful record sales and films. The band began in school in Liverpool. They had great early success when touring in Europe and this is where they learnt their skills as a live band. They gradually became disillusioned with the level of noise from screaming fans at live shows so decided to only work in the studio

The Band



From top left clockwise.
 John Lennon – guitar /vocals/ songwriting
 Paul McCartney – bass guitar/vocals/songwriting
 George Harrison – lead guitar
 Ringo Starr – drums
 Their Producer - George Martin
 Their manager – Brian Epstein

Music Technology



Music Technology
 Much of their music was recorded at Abbey Road studios. Tracks were recorded on a four track tape machine. The Beatles experimented with recording techniques, including slowing down and speeding up tape during recording and adding studio effects such as delay/echo and reverb.

Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band



Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band
 This album was recorded at Abbey Road in 1967. It is a concept album, as there is a theme which links all the songs together – the fictional band in the title. The artwork for the album is amazing and was created by Peter Blake. Songs on the album include 'With a Little Help from My Friends' and 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds'

Time signature



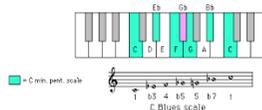
Some of the songs on the album change time signature part way through. 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds' has a verse in 3/4 time and a chorus in 4/4 time.

Indian Music



The Beatles were influenced by Indian Classical music and the song 'Within You, Without You' features the sitar (Indian guitar) and the tabla (Indian drums). Indian scales are called ragas. Musicians use the notes of the raga to improvise melodies. Indian rhythm patterns are called talas.

Blue Notes



Compared with the major scale, some notes, known as **blue notes** may be flattened by a semitone or 'bent' by a smaller interval. Blue notes are usually found on the third, fifth or seventh degree of the scale.