

KS2 Instrumental lessons: Indonesia

Vocabulary

Gamelan Gamelan melodies are 8 notes long, then they repeat themselves in a cycle; in music this structure is called 'cyclical'.

Java

Bali

Gamelan music comes from Java and Bali.

Key facts

In gamelan music, all the different instruments play versions of the same tune at different octaves and using different note lengths.

Gong

Metallophone

Slendro A type of pentatonic (5 note) scale that is traditionally used in gamelan music.

1 2 3 4 5

Each Slendro pitch has a number, 1-5, and performers sing these numbers to help them learn the melody.

Octave An octave is the 8-note distance between two notes with the same letter name.

Low

High

One 'C' sounds lower and one 'C' sounds higher.

The highest octave of a tuned percussion instrument is on the right hand side, and the lowest octave on the left hand side

