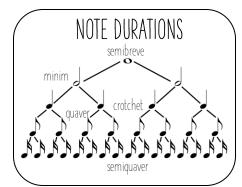
KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

MUSICAL THEATRE

YEAR 7, UNIT 1



'HAMILTON' BY LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

Hamilton: An American Musical is a sung-and-rapped-through musical by Lin-Manuel Miranda. It tells the story of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton. The show draws heavily from hip hop, as well as R&B, pop, soul, and traditional-style show tunes; and casts non-white actors as the Founding Fathers and other historical figures. Miranda described Hamilton as about "America then, as told by America now".

Listen out for: Lin-Manuel Miranda's characteristic hip-hop rap style

KEY WORDS

solo, duet, tutti, ensemble, chorus, rock opera, libretto, protagonist, recitative, aria, interlude, leitmotif, rap, accompaniment, syncopation, staccato



'WICKED' BY WINNIE HOLZMAN AND STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Wicked is a retelling of The Wizard of Oz, told from the perspective of the witches of the Land of Oz. It tells the story of two unlikely friends, Elphaba (the Wicked Witch of the West) and Galinda (later called Glinda the Good Witch), who struggle through opposing

personalities and viewpoints, rivalry over the same love-interest, reactions to the Wizard's corrupt government, and, ultimately, Elphaba's fall from grace.

Listen out for: how different musical styles, and motifs are used to capture each character







ABOUT THIS UNIT

Theme: Musical Theatre

Facts/info:

- Musical theatre uses song, dance and dialogue to tell a story.
- Book Musical: a strong story with songs fully integrated into the plot.
- Jukebox Musical: links together songs by a particular band or artist.

Wider Listening:

- The Sound of Music by Rogers and Hammerstein
- Les Miserables by Claude— Michel Schoenberg
- Songs for a New World by Jason Robert Brown