



## Performance Questions

- ⇒ Am I holding the beater/stick properly?
- ⇒ Am I kneeling, sitting with good posture?
- ⇒ Am I muting the bars correctly?
- ⇒ Am I in time with the pulse?
- ⇒ Am I listening carefully and blending my part with the other players?
- ⇒ Am I playing the cyclic note patterns accurately with no pauses or gaps?
- ⇒ Am I treating the instruments with due respect (for example, not stepping over them).

# YEAR 7 UNIT 5: INDONESIAN GAMELAN

# KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



## GAMELAN MUSIC

- ⇒ The word 'gamelan' means 'to hammer'. Gamelan music is found mainly on Indonesian Island's of Bali and Java, the two styles differ but are based on the same principles.
- ⇒ Gamelan music has political and religious roots and plays an important part in sustaining traditional life.
- ⇒ It is heard at celebrations and theatre performances.
- ⇒ It is used to accompany shadow puppet plays, poetry and drama.
- ⇒ Gamelan is not normally written down but passed on through oral tradition – players learn by mastering techniques and memorising the music
- ⇒ It is played together as a group and emphasises community over individual values

TERM	DEFINITION
<b>GAMELAN</b>	A set of instruments consisting mainly of gongs, metallophones (instruments with rows of tuned metal bars that are struck with mallets) and drums. Some gamelans include bamboo flutes (suling), bowed strings (rebab) and vocalists. Each gamelan has a different tuning and the instruments are kept together as a set. No two gamelans are the same.
<b>BALUNGAN</b>	The core melodic line
<b>HETEROPHONIC</b>	A texture where a main melody, and decorated/varied versions of the same melody, are played at the same time
<b>TEXTURE/LAYERS</b>	The lower the pitch, the longer the note values The highest layers are for virtuoso solo instruments played very fast The lowest gongs are often played by beginners.
<b>KETEG</b>	The music is divided into four beat groups called keteg. Gongs of different sizes are used to mark cycles of music known as the gongan