



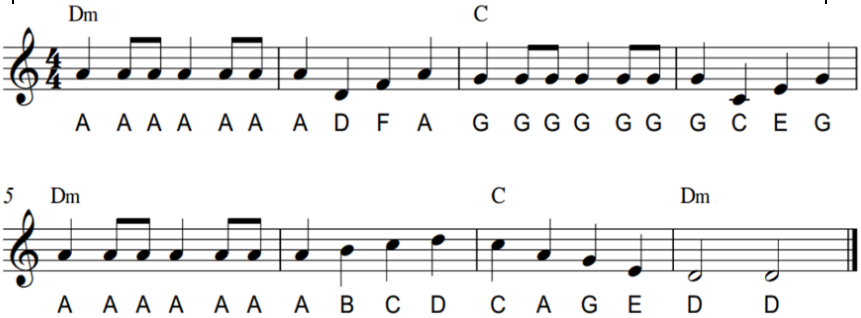
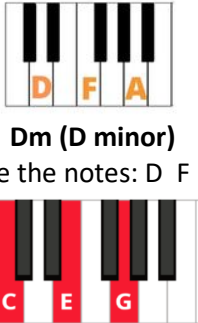


Year 8 - Variations Knowledge Organiser

Musical Conventions	Classical Examples	Ideas for Variations:		Useful Links
<p>Theme and Variation is a popular form (structure) in which a composer states a melody and then repeats it several times with changes to create more interest and variety.</p> <p>Theme: the original melody/tune that the piece is based on. Heard at the start of the piece.</p> <p>Variation: the next section after the Theme is played. The variation is based on the theme but will have some changes to make it sound different.</p> <p>There are 3 main ways to make variations to the theme:</p> <p>Add things to the theme</p> <p>Subtract things from the theme</p> <p>Change things to the theme</p> <p>Theme and Variation was used by many classical music composers, including Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Elgar, Handel and Tchaikovsky.</p> 	<p>Edward Elgar</p>  <p>Variations on an Original Theme, Op. 36, popularly known as 'Enigma Variations'. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLNLvcBmoqo</p> <p>Beethoven</p>  <p>Piano Sonata Op. 26, first movement. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JM1dw6BfPs</p>	<p>Major – when the theme is based on notes from the major scale. This gives a bright and happy sound.</p> <p>Minor – when the theme is based on notes from the minor scale. This gives a more solemn sound.</p> <p>Round (Canon) – The same melody is heard in 2 different parts, but with different starting points.</p> <p>Drone – a sustained (held), or repeated note or notes.</p> <p>Ostinato – short repeating musical pattern. This can be rhythmic or melodic.</p>	<p>Add:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a counter melody. echo effect – copying part of the melody, quieter. some new notes (to decorate the melody). chords to make an accompaniment. a bassline Repeat some of the notes. <p>Change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the length of some notes. where the tune is heard – split between instruments. the pitch of some notes. <p>Octaves – 8 notes apart (like playing in different places on the keyboard).</p>	<p>Check out some great examples of Variations in Music using these links:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2yrptmBem8</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CluxBITaZDc</p> <p>Learn more about Variations in Music and expand your knowledge:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=raqO_Yw5kRdc</p> 
	<p>Test Yourself</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the 'theme'? What is a 'variation'? What are the 3 main ways you can alter the original melody to make a variation? What is a 'round'? What's the difference between a rhythmic ostinato and a melodic ostinato? What's a 'drone'? 	<p>Drunken Sailor</p> 		<p>Chords</p>  <p>Dm (D minor) Use the notes: D F A</p> <p>C (C major) Use the notes: C E G</p>