

## Comprehensive Music Theory Series 1

An Excerpt from the UBS (Universal Basic Series) by Focus Solomon

### EXCERPT FROM COMPREHENSIVE MUSIC THEORY SERIES 1

#### UNIVERSAL BASIC SERIES (UBS 1)

This excerpt includes key highlights from the Universal Basic Series (UBS 1), a comprehensive

training for music beginners to intermediate learners.

#### TOPICS COVERED IN UBS 1

##### Section 1:

- Introduction to music and features of music
- Fundamentals of Sound
- Tonic solfa of songs1
- Staff, clef and Great staff
- Musical Notes and their values
- Musical Alphabet Identification on Piano
- Description of notes on the keyboard

- Keyboard and Enharmonic

- Recorder

- Forms

- Dance

Section 2:

- Singing and Breath control

- Factors affecting good singing

- Tonic solfa of songs<sup>2</sup>

- Music and the ear

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- Recorder practice (Key C and G)

- Construction of major scale (sharp & flat)

- Construction of minor scale

- Johann Sebastian Bach

- Western musical instruments

- Musical terms and signs 1

Section 3:

- Singing with the right tune

- Identification of notes and other signs on the staff

- Tonic solfa of songs3

- Key signature

- Dotted notes

- Folk songs

- Introduction to sight reading 1 & 2

- Playing the recorder

- African traditional instruments

- Musical signs and terms

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Lesson 1: Introduction to Music and Features of Music

Music has played an important role in the life cycle of humans perhaps even before we could speak.

Primitive flutes made from bones, and percussion from stones and wood, suggest its early significance. Voice likely served as the first instrument of expression.

Music is the art of producing pleasing or expressive combinations of tones, especially involving

melody, rhythm, and harmony. It is the organized combination of sound that is pleasing to the ear.

Main source of music: **SOUND**.

When sound is well-organized, it results in good music. Otherwise, it leads to noise or dissonance.

Features of Musical Sound:

1. Pitch or Frequency: The sensation of how high or low a sound is. While frequency is measurable,

pitch is subjective.

2. Intensity or Loudness: Defines whether a sound is soft or strong (volume).

3. Quality or Timbre: The characteristic tone of a sound that differentiates one instrument or voice

from another.

Reviewed Questions:

1. In what ways has music played an important role in the life cycle of humans?
2. In your own words, what is music?
3. Outline three features of sound.
4. What is the main source of music?
5. State the difference between pitch and frequency.

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Lesson 2: Fundamentals of Music

The elements of music form its foundation and include:

1. Sound: Includes overtone, timbre, pitch, amplitude, and duration.
2. Melody: A series of pitches organized into phrases.
3. Harmony: Simultaneous combination of notes forming chords.
4. Rhythm: Organization of sound in time.
5. Texture: Thickness or thinness of musical layers.

6. Structure or Form: How sections of music are arranged (e.g., ABA, Rondo).

7. Expression: Includes dynamics, tempo, and articulation.

These fundamentals are vital for understanding Western music and effective performance.

Reviewed Questions:

1. List out seven musical elements that form the fundamentals of music.

2. Differentiate between melody and harmony.

3. Which element defines the structure of a piece?

4. What is articulation in music?

5. Differentiate between dynamics and tempo.

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**GET THE FULL BOOK**

To explore deeper lessons, solfa practices, scales, instruments, and more, get the full version of

'Comprehensive Music Theory Series 1: From Beginners to Expert' by Focus Solomon.

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