



MUSIC

Today you will learn all about the string section of the orchestra.

THE ORCHESTRA - WHAT DO YOU ALREADY KNOW?

An orchestra is a large group of instruments. The instruments are placed in four categories; strings, woodwind, brass and percussion.

Write down all of the instruments that you can think of that might be found in an orchestra.

Watch this video to see if you can add any more.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2oGHSesih7M&list=PL7SijlHyQmVU7Jvr0CnB-hlWXpRQmSvJE>

Can you arrange them into the four groups of the orchestra?

THE STRING SECTION

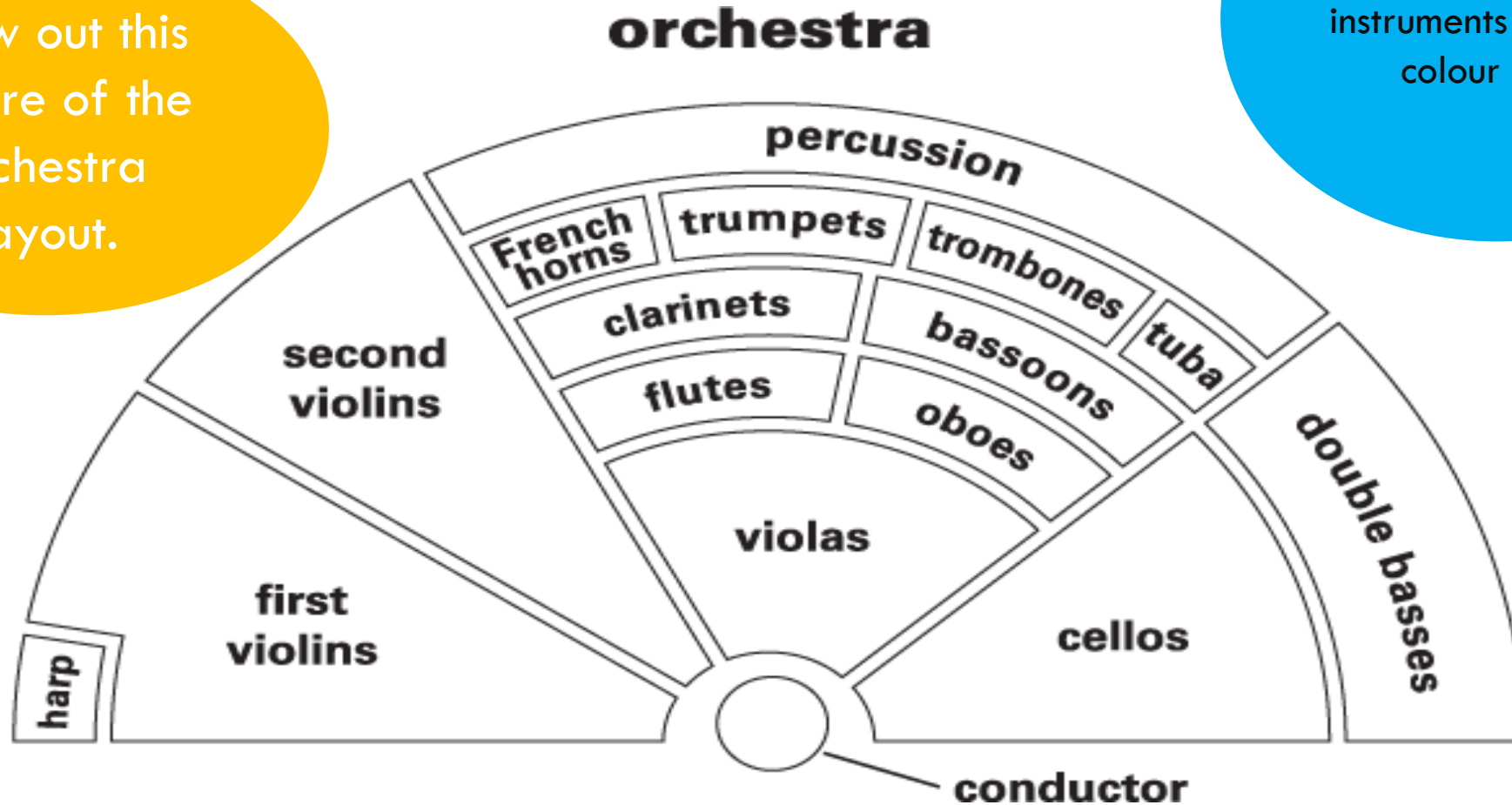
Watch this video to learn about the sounds of the string section instruments.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MP2_6OLummA

THE ORCHESTRA LAYOUT

Draw out this picture of the orchestra layout.

Shade the string instruments using the colour blue.



LISTENING TO THE STRINGS

ELGAR - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=NG6SS11DLQE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NG6SS11DLQE)

KARL JENKINS - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=TDYFSLY1VLY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDYFSLY1VLY)

Name of Piece:

Composer/Artist:

Words that describe the sound of this music:

I liked/disliked this piece of music because:

From the two pieces you listened to, which piece did you prefer and why?

[2Cellos – playing ‘Thunderstruck’ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uT3SBzmDxGk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uT3SBzmDxGk)

READING (AND LISTENING)

Stringed instruments are usually played with a bow (this is called arco), but can also be plucked with fingers (this is called pizzicato). There are four main stringed instruments: violin (high pitch), viola (medium pitch), cello (low pitch) and double bass (very low pitch). Each instrument has four strings. The string section is the largest group of instruments in the orchestra. The violins are split into two groups: 1st violins and 2nd violins. Stringed instruments have a very smooth, tuneful sound, and this is why they are often used to describe romance in music. Sometimes they play one or two notes very quickly – this creates a shimmery effect and is called tremolando. It is often used to create suspense in music. Other orchestral stringed instruments which have more strings are the piano and the harp.

A pizzicato example <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBs53SIEkso>

A romantic sound example <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAJIMBqIGWo>

Tremolando (Tremolo) strings <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzC-QdahtBs>

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER IN FULL SENTENCES. USE THE READING PAGE TO HELP YOU.

1. Describe the two different ways of playing stringed instruments.
2. How many strings does each stringed instrument have?
3. Which instrument splits into two groups?
4. What can stringed instruments describe very well in music?
5. What effect creates suspense?

Now read your work again and check that you have used a capital letter at the beginning of each sentence. Have you got a full stop at the end of every sentence?



LET'S CHECK THE NAMES OF THE STRING INSTRUMENTS BY UNJUMBLING THESE WORDS.

LIVION

LAIVO

PHAR

SLEDABUBOS

LOCEL

ONPAI

STRING SECTION QUIZ!

1. How many different stringed instruments are used regularly in the orchestra?
2. Which stringed instrument is divided into two groups in the orchestra?
3. Which stringed instruments sounds very low?
4. 'Arco' is a string direction to play using the what?
5. How many strings does a viola have?
6. True or False - The string section is the smallest group of instruments in the orchestra.
7. What type of music are strings often used for?
8. True or False - The string players can play very quickly to produce a shimmering sound.
9. True or False - A tremolando is often used to create suspense in music.
10. True or False - A harp has only 4 strings.
11. What does 'pizzicato' describe?

STRING SECTION QUIZ ANSWERS!

1. 6
2. violins
3. double basses
4. Bow
5. 4
6. False
7. Romance
8. True
9. True
10. False
11. The plucking of the strings