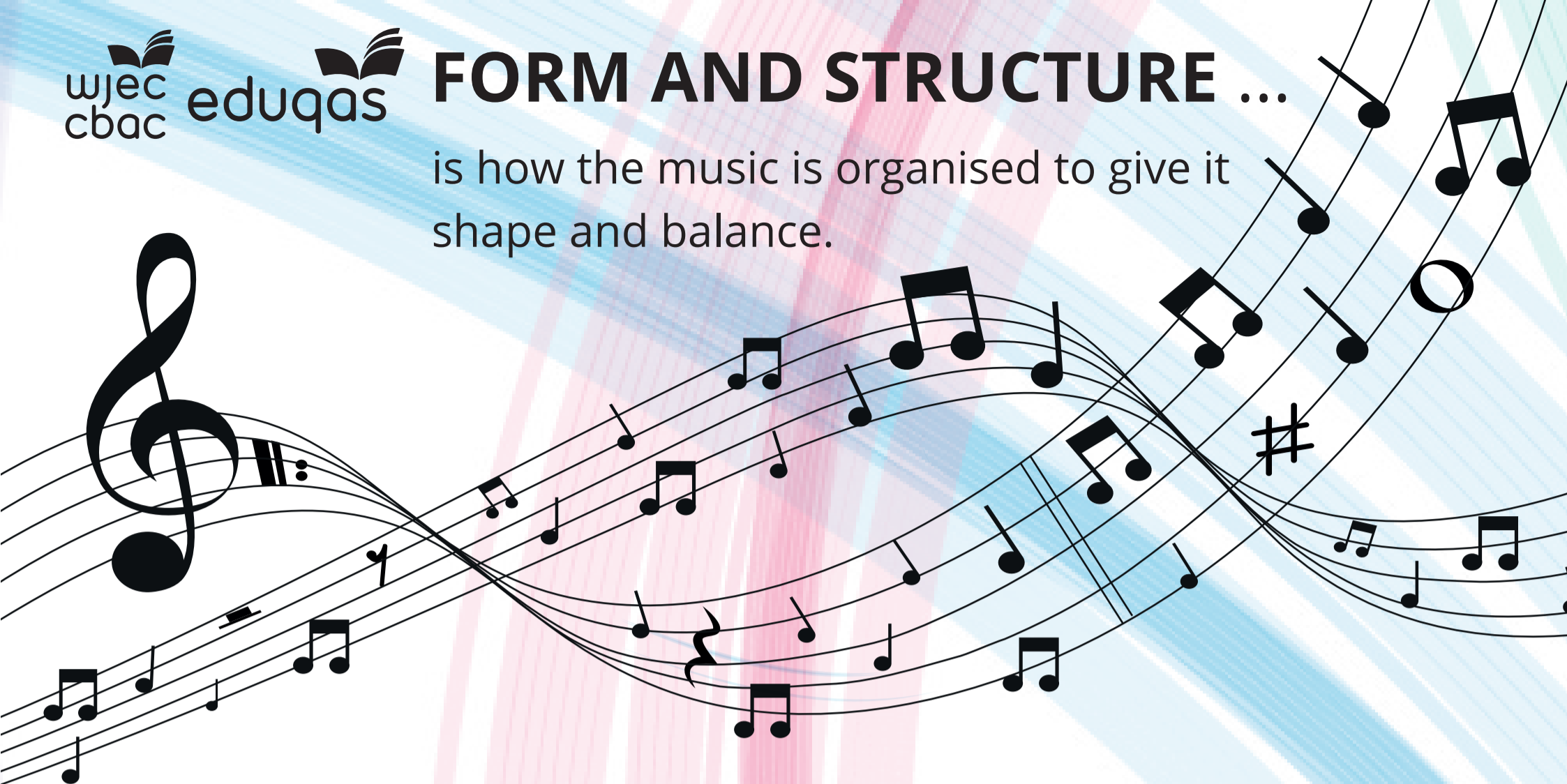


FORM AND STRUCTURE ...

is how the music is organised to give it shape and balance.



Each section in the music is usually labelled with a capital letter, i.e. A, B, C, and so on.

Binary: A B

Strophic: A A A

32 bar song:
A A B A

Ternary: A B A

Theme and Variation:

Minuet and Trio:

Rondo:

12 bar Blues:

Main theme
Variation 1
Variation 2
Variation 3
etc.

||: A B :||: C D :|| A B

A B A C A

A repeated chordal pattern

I	I	I	I
IV	IV	I	I
V	IV	I	I

Some structural sections:

Introduction (Intro) - Opening of a piece which introduces the main ideas.

Outro - Last part of a piece used in 'pop' music.

Coda - Final section of a piece of music.

Bridge - Piece of music that links two other sections together.

Break - Section that offers a contrast or 'break' from the rest of the piece/song.

Verse - Section of a song which has the same music but different lyrics when repeated.

Chorus - Section of a song which has the same music and lyrics when repeated.

Middle 8 - Eight bars in the middle of a song which provide a contrast.

Some structural devices:

Regular phrasing - Melody divided up into balanced, symmetrical phrases.

Irregular phrasing - Melody divided up into unbalanced phrases.

Riff - Catchy idea in 'pop' music which is repeated.

Fill - Idea that fills in the 'gaps' at the end of phrases.

Ostinato - Continuously repeated phrase or idea.

Call and response - Short musical idea followed by an answering phrase.

Loop - An idea continuously repeated by technical means.

Repetition - When an idea is repeated.

Contrast - A change in the music which offers a difference in the musical elements to provide contrast to the initial material.