

## Competency 6.0

Ability to apply theoretical and practical knowledge of the rudiments of music.

### Competency Level 6.8

Identifies and describes terms and signs used in music.

#### 6.8.1

Using dynamics in music

### Using dynamics in music



- Let's listen to two musical compositions.
- While you are listening to the compositions pay attention to the sound levels of the music.
- Use the following links to listen to the musical compositions.
  - Hungarian Dance No.5 by Brahms - <https://youtu.be/3o551FLEX1U>
  - Symphony No.1 by Beethoven - <https://youtu.be/x-ILsPFUeAI>
- What do you think about the sound of the music of the two compositions?
  - Was the music played at a same sound level?
  - Was the music loud from the beginning to the end of the composition or soft from the beginning to the end of the composition?
  - Were there any changes of the sound levels of the music?
  - Did the sound get gradually louder or gradually softer in some sections?

- **The two compositions were not played at a same sound level. There were changes of the sound levels of the music.**
- **The changes in loudness and softness of a musical composition are called “DYNAMICS”.**
- Markings added to the music to indicate the changes in loudness and softness are known as dynamic markings.
- Traditionally, dynamic markings are based on **ITALIAN** words.
- Composers used abbreviations or signs to indicate dynamic markings in music notations.
- **The main dynamics used in music are,**

**Piano**                      and                      **Forte**

- ***Piano*** means “SOFT”.

Abbreviation for ***Piano***



***p***

- ***Forte*** means “LOUD”.

Abbreviation for ***Forte***



***f***



You will understand the terms piano and forte by watching this video.

Use the given link below.

<https://youtu.be/lUYEvCly8Fo>

- **There are two dynamics which are used for a gradual change of the sound from loud to soft or from soft to loud.**
- They are,
 

**Crescendo** (cre-shen-doe)      and      **Decrescendo** (decre-shen-doe)
- Crescendo means “**Gradually becoming louder**”.
- Decrescendo means “**Gradually becoming softer**”.

Abbreviation for Crescendo

Abbreviation for Decrescendo

***cresc.***

***decresc.***

Sign for Crescendo

Sign for Decrescendo



Piano

Piano

- You will understand the terms crescendo and decrescendo by watching this video.

Use the given link below.

<https://youtu.be/Y7CFftv3AuI>

- Diminuendo is another Italian term which has the same meaning as decrescendo.

Abbreviation for diminuendo is dim. or dimin.

## **Evaluation**

(01) Match the Italian term with its meaning by drawing a line across.

Crescendo

Soft

Piano

Gradually becoming softer

Forte

Loud

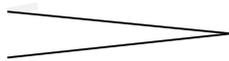
Decrescendo

Gradually becoming louder

(02) Match the sign with its corresponding Italian term by drawing a line across.

*p*

Forte



Piano

*f*

Crescendo



Decrescendo

(03) Write answers for the following questions.

1. What are dynamics in music?
2. What does 'forte' mean?
3. Give the Italian term for 'soft'?
4. What is the sign for decrescendo?
5. What does Crescendo mean?