Y4: SOUND

Vocabulary

decibels (dB) – the units that sound is measured in

ear canal – the passage between the ear and the ear drum

ear drum – the thin skin within the ear that transmits vibrations to the middle ear

frequency – the number of times a sound wave vibrates in a second

high pitch – fast, high frequency vibrations give high pitched sounds

low pitch – slow, low frequency vibrations give low pitched sounds

muffle – to insulate a sound to make it quieter

note – a clear, pure sound e.g. a note played on a piano

percussion instruments – instruments that vibrate to make a sound when they are hit, tapped, banged or shaken e.g. drum, tambourine

pitch – the frequency of a note

sound insulator – a material that muffles sounds

sound source – the origin of a sound e.g. a musical instrument, a crying child

sound waves – the vibrations produced by a sound source

string instruments – instruments that make a sound when strings vibrate after they are hit, drawn or plucked e.g. violin, guitar

tension – a measure of how tight a string or skin is

tuning – the alteration of a sound producer such that the notes it makes are higher or lower pitched e.g. tightening the drum skin makes the sound higher pitched

vibration – the movement backwards and forwards of different sound producers e.g. a violin string, a drum skin, the column of air in a recorder

volume – how loud or soft a particular sound is

wind instruments – instruments that produce sounds when a column of air vibrates e.g. recorder, flute

Percussion instruments

String instruments

Wind instruments

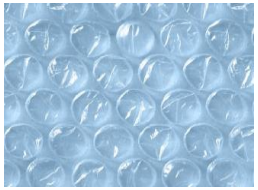
(dB)

Sound is measured in **decibels** = **dB**

Sound travels in **sound waves. Lower pitched** sounds vibrate with less **frequency** than **higher pitched** sounds

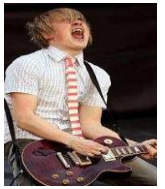
Tuning a guitar changes the **tension** of the strings, to change the **pitch**, making it **higher** or **lower**

Sound insulators can be used to **muffle** sound



Notes

The string **vibrates** to make a sound



Sound sources are where a sound comes from. The **volume** is the loudness of a sound