

Spelling list: GCSE Music: Harmony and Tonality 2

Key words for GCSE Music.

diatonic	Diatonic refers to notes in a key.
chromatic	A piece that ascends or descends in semitones is called chromatic .
tonic	The tonic is the first note in a scale.
dominant	The dominant is the fifth note in a scale.
perfect	Perfect cadence uses the chords V-I and makes a piece sound like its ending.
cadence	Imperfect cadence ends on the chord V and makes a piece sound unfinished.
imperfect	Imperfect cadence ends on the chord V and makes a piece sound unfinished.
interrupted	Interrupted cadence is when a surprise minor chord is used in place of the expected perfect cadence.
plagal	A plagal cadence uses the chords IV-I and makes a piece sound finished.
modulation	Modulation is when a piece changes key and has a new tonal centre.
modal	Music that uses a mode is called modal .