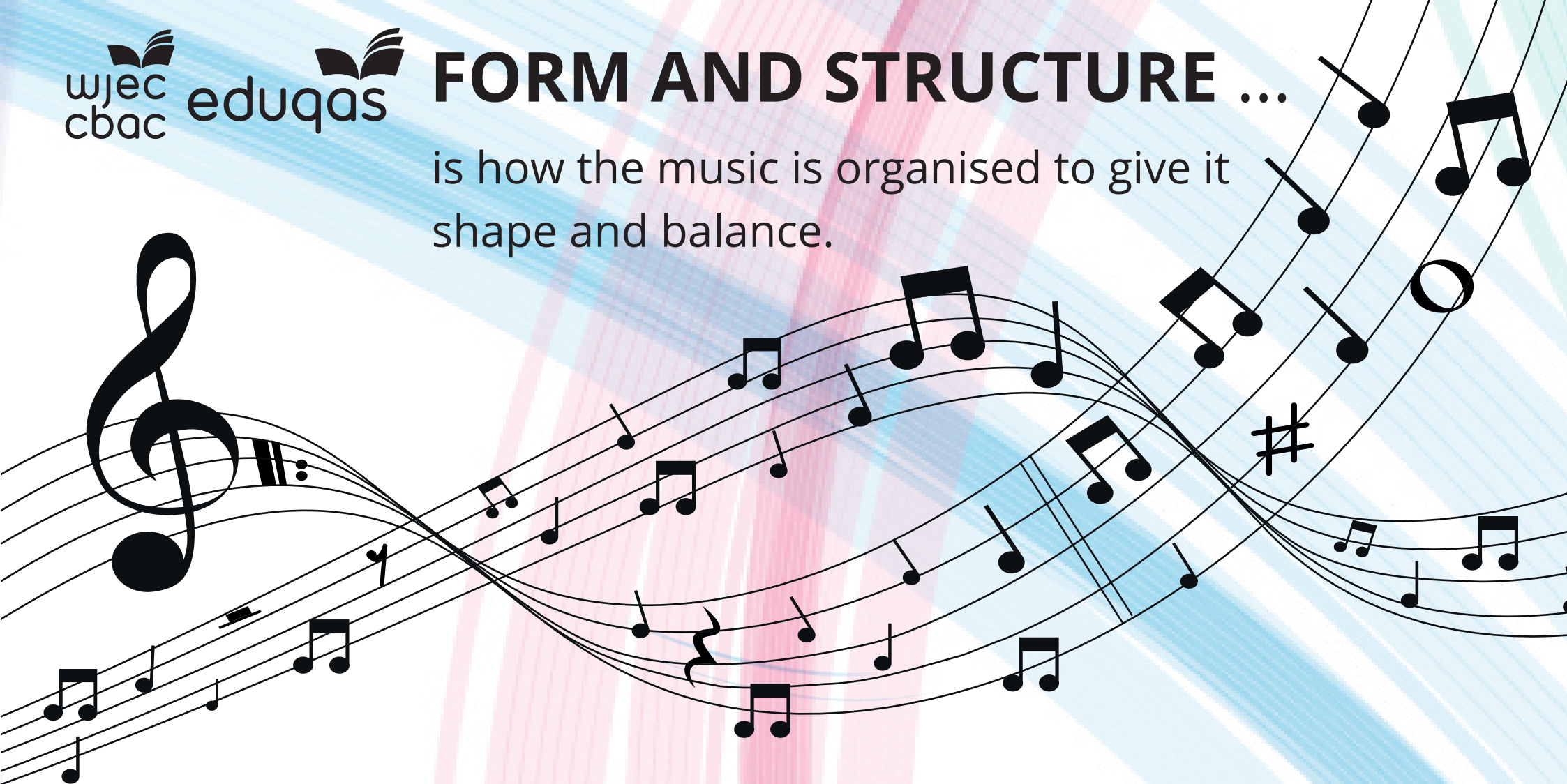


# FORM AND STRUCTURE ...

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.