

Tonality

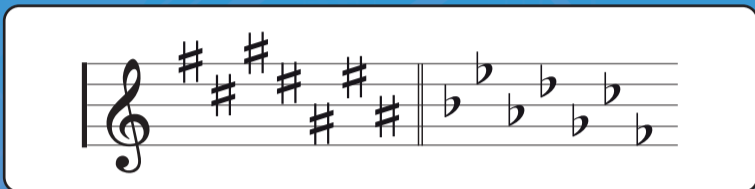
is... the key of the music – it depends on the types of scales used.

You must know the key signatures in all the major and minor keys up to four flats and four sharps. These scales are what the music is based on.

A **MODE** is also a type of scale, originating from ancient times. This tonality may be found in church music, folk music, blues and jazz. You may be expected to recognise when a piece of music is **MODAL**.

order of sharps

order of flats



D dorian:



order of sharps →



← order of flats

THE PENTATONIC SCALE

For example:



This type of scale is made up of five notes within the range of an octave.

MODULATION is when the music changes key.

Modulation to the dominant is when the music moves from the tonic to the dominant key. The dominant key is based on chord V of the original key, e.g. from C major to G major.

Modulation to the relative minor key is when the music moves from the tonic major key to the relative minor key. The relative minor key is the minor key which shares the key signature with the home key, e.g. the relative minor of C major is A minor.

Modulation to the relative major key is when the music changes from the tonic minor key to the relative major key. The relative major key is the major key which shares the key signature with the home key, e.g. the relative major of A minor is C major.

Key signature	Major keys	Minor keys
No flats or sharps	C major	A minor
1 sharp (F#)	G major	E minor
2 sharps (F#, C#)	D major	B minor
3 sharps (F#, C#, G#)	A major	F# minor
4 sharps (F#, C#, G#, D#)	E major	C# minor
1 flat (Bb)	F major	D minor
2 flats (Bb, Eb)	Bb major	G minor
3 flats (Bb, Eb, Ab)	Eb major	C minor
4 flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db)	Ab major	F minor