

Features of Minimalism

Steve Reich	Rhythm	Philip Glass	Ostinatos	Cells
Melody	Short	Syncopated	Cross rhythms	Layered
Contrapuntal	Static	Texture	Gradually	Polyrhythmic
Repeated	Polyphonic	Motifs	1960s	Harmony
Polyrhythms	John Adams	Long		

1. Minimalism is a style of music which developed in the _____.
2. Important composers of Minimalist music include _____, _____ and _____.
3. Minimalist music is constructed from musical ideas (melodies and rhythms) which are very _____ in length, known as _____ or _____.
4. These motifs/cells are _____ many times, creating _____ (repeating patterns in music). This often makes the length of each piece very _____.
5. In Minimalist music, repeating patterns are often _____ (played at the same time as each other, one on top of another) creating a _____ or _____ texture (a texture with two or more simultaneous, independent melodic lines). When rhythms (instead of melodies) are layered, this can also be known as _____.
6. In Minimalist music, interest is created more often through variety in r_____ and t_____ than through m_____ and h_____.
7. Rhythms in minimalist music are often complex and _____ (off-beat).
8. Layering multiple complex rhythms results in _____ (rhythms which emphasise different beats in the bar) and _____ (rhythms which sound like they are in different time signatures).
9. In minimalist pieces the harmony is often _____ (it does not change very often).
10. In Minimalist pieces, change usually happens _____ over a long period of time.