

## African Music

Drums are probably the most widely played instrument in Africa. Drums are used to play an accompaniment for \_\_\_\_\_, dancing and even working. They are also used to call people together for important community events like \_\_\_\_\_ and funerals.

There are several different ways to play African drums. The most obvious is using a \_\_\_\_\_. Another way is by using your hands. Drummers can also rest one hand on the drum skin, whilst hitting it with the other. This is known as \_\_\_\_\_. You can change the pitch as you're playing, by tightening the \_\_\_\_\_. To get a contrasting sound, African drummers strike the \_\_\_\_\_ of the drum, instead of the skin.

In African drum ensembles, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ drummer. The master drummer plays a rhythmic signal which sets the \_\_\_\_\_ and rhythm for the other players. The master drummer also controls the build up and release of tension.

The rhythms in African music are very complex. When there are lots of different rhythms going on, it is known as \_\_\_\_\_. When you get rhythms that don't fit together, creating tension, it is known as cross-rhythm. You get a \_\_\_\_\_ effect when you emphasise notes that don't fall on a strong beat.

### WORD BANK

weddings	tempo	singing	master	wood
skin	dampening	syncopated	polyrhythm	stick

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