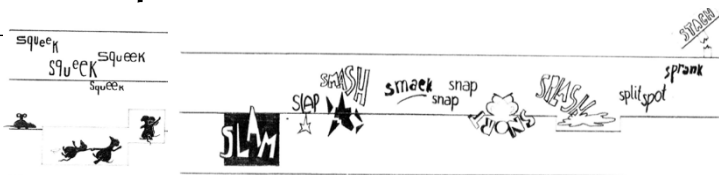


# Vocalise - Knowledge Organiser

## HISTORY AND CONTEXT

- "Vocalise" comes from the French word 'vocaliser' which means to produce sounds with your voice.
- A 'vocalise' is a piece of music that uses the voice in interesting and demanding ways.
- Vocalises can be found in various types of music, ranging from classical to modern, and they can be used as exercises for singers to practice and improve their vocal skills.



## FEATURES OF VOCALISE

- Twentieth Century Vocalise are often a type of experimental music – music that tries new things
- Vocalise use a wide range of vocal timbre along with extreme pitch, dynamics and interesting rhythms (including silence!)
- Examples of vocalise we study are: 'Aria' by John Cage and 'Stripsody' by Cathy Berberian
- Vocalise often use a graphic score:



## BLUES KEY TERMS

Vocalise	Vocal music where the voice is used as an instrument to be 'shown off'
Pitch	High and low
Timbre	'Unique sound' – two notes of the same pitch can sound different when using different tone qualities e.g.: 'bright and clear' versus 'breathy'
Dynamics	Loud and quiet
Vocables	Wordless sounds e.g.: 'Oooo'
Avant-guard music	Music that tried to be 'ahead of its time'. It broke the 'rules' of traditional music and tried to change how people thought about music
Experimental music	Music that explores what can be done, or what happens when you make music in unusual ways