Lindsey-Steiner	6th Grade Words	Music Definitions
1	Theme	an important melody that occurs several times in a piece of music
2	Countermelody	a second melody that is against the main melody
3	Melodic contour	the shape of a musical phrase
4	Downbeat	the strong off-beat in music;the first beat in a measure
5	Backbeat	the strong off-beat in a measure, counts 2 7 4
6	Syncopation	accented rhythms that occur off of the beat
7	Tie	a musical symbol that connects two notes of the same pitch to make the sound longer
8	Timbre	the tone color, or unique sound, of an instrument or voice
9	Harmony	tow or more notes sounding at the same time
10	Dynamics	the softness or loudness of a note
11	Crescendo	gradually get louder
12	Decresendo	gradually get softer
13	Sforzando	a sudden accent on a note or chord
14	Legato	describes notes that are connected to each other and played or sung smoothly
15	Staccato	describes notes that are performed short and separated from each other
16	Improvise	this means to make up music as it is being performed
17	Power chords	chords containing only the root and the 5th (no third) often used by rock guitarists
18	Accompaniment	the musical background, such as chords and rhythm, that supports the melody
19	Interval	in music, the distance between two notes
20	Sight reading	the ability to read music accurately the first time
21	Canon	a form in which each part performs the melody, entering at different times on the same or different pitches
22	Round	a composition in which two or more parts enter in succession with the same melody
23	Time signature	musical symbol that shows how many beats are in a measure and wheat kind of note gets the beat

24	Tonic	the home note of a scale or "Do"
25	Minor	this type of scale starts on "La" and sounds sad
26	Duple meter	meter that has two beats in each measure
27	Triple meter	meter that has three beats in each measure
28	Accelerando	a gradual increase in tempo
29	Ritardando	a gradual decrease in tempo
30	Chromatic scale	a scale with consecutive half steps