

Grade 5 Theory of Music

TERMS AND SIGNS

DYNAMICS

Italian Term	Abbreviation	English Meaning
a niente	N/A	to nothing
morendo	N/A	dying away
perdendosi	N/A	dying away
smorzando	smorz.	dying away
rinforzando	rinf. rf. rfz	reinforcing
sotto voce	N/A	in an undertone (literally 'under the voice')

TEMPO

Italian Term	Abbreviation	English Meaning
largamente	N/A	broadly

EXPRESSION

Italian Term	Abbreviation	English Meaning
cantando	N/A	singing
con dolore	N/A	with grief
con spirito	N/A	with spirit
doloroso	N/A	sorrowful
sonoro	N/A	resonant, with a rich tone (like the word 'sonorous')

GENERAL

Italian Term	Abbreviation	English Meaning
ad libitum	ad lib.	at choice
attacca	N/A	go straight on (to the next part of the music)
quasi	N/A	as if, resembling

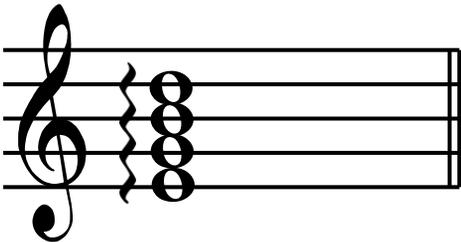
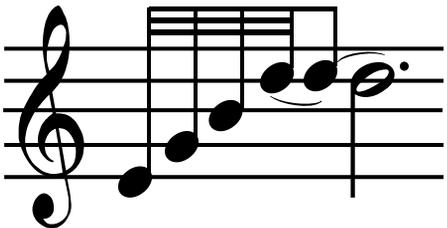
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GERMAN TERMS

Italian Term	Meaning	Similar Italian	Similar French
langsam	slow	adagio/lento	lent
lebhaft	lively	vivace	
mässig	at a moderate speed	moderato	modéré
ruhig	peaceful	tranquillo	
schnell	fast	allegro/presto	vite
traurig	sad	mesto	

THE PIANO – Terms and Signs

Italian Term	Abbreviation	English Meaning
ped.  ped. _____	N/A	press the right pedal (the sustain pedal); release it at  or the vertical line
con pedale	N/A	with the right pedal
senza pedale	N/A	without the right pedal
una corda	N/A	press the left pedal
mano sinistra	m.s.	with the left hand
mano destra	m.d.	with the right hand
	N/A	spread the chord from the bottom Played like this:  also appears in harp music