

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

Medieval Music and Monophonic Texture



Monophonic texture is a _____ of music where only one melodic line is played or sung. In the _____ period, this texture was very common. Instruments like the lute and the _____ were often used to play these melodies. Unlike modern music, there were no _____ or background chords. Monophony creates a simple yet _____ effect.

Most medieval music was _____. Monks in _____ sang Gregorian chants, which are perfect examples of monophonic texture. These chants were _____ and very important in daily monastic life. Instruments were sometimes seen as distractions from _____ focus. Therefore, many monastic orders preferred vocal music without instrumental accompaniment.

However, outside of religious settings, instruments played a significant _____. Minstrels and troubadours used instruments like the vielle and the _____ to entertain. Their music, though sometimes monophonic, began to introduce early forms of _____.

The _____ of music was also developing during this time. It was quite _____ compared to modern standards. This simplicity reflected the monophonic nature of the _____. Without the need for complex harmony, musical notation focused mainly on _____.

Understanding monophonic texture in medieval music helps us appreciate the _____ of Western music. From these simple beginnings, complex harmonies and textures eventually emerged, shaping the music we enjoy _____.

vocal	powerful	shawm	monasteries	basic	form	music	Medieval	harmonies
melodies	evolution	spiritual	polyphony	harp	role	religious	notation	today