



unit

# 2

## Singing, playing and dancing

Movement is closely related to sound and music. Instruments and voices produce sound through vibrations, which are small movements. And listening to good music makes us want to move our bodies. The performing arts are artistic activities which combine singing, speaking and instruments with dance.

### **Let's listen**

Listen to these performance genres. Do you recognise them? Which is your favourite?

### **Let's speak**

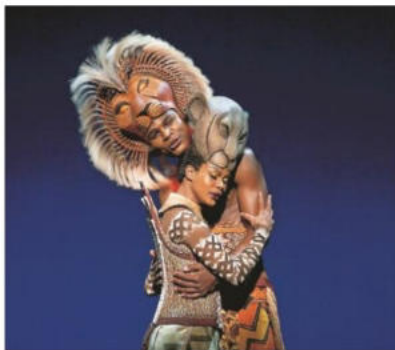
Have you ever seen a performance with music and dance? Discuss it with your classmates.



The **performing arts** are theatrical performances. They can combine vocal and instrumental music with dance. The main types are **opera**, **zarzuela**, **oratorio**, **ballet** and **musicals**.

### Dance

- **Dance suites** (16th–17th centuries) were collections of music for four dances. Over time, they developed into the movements of a symphony.
- **Ballet** or classical dance (18th–19th centuries) is a type of performance that tells a story through dance.
- **Modern dance** (20th–21st centuries) uses freer movements than classical dance.



### Other performing arts

Some musical genres combine singing, orchestral music, theatre and dance.

- **Opera** is a play where the actors sing, accompanied by an orchestra. It first appeared in Italy in the 17th century.
- **Oratorio** is similar to opera, but the subject matter is religious.
- **Zarzuela** is a play that has a combination of singing and speaking. It is a Spanish genre of comic opera, also known as light opera.
- **Musicals** are a modern genre of plays or films that combine singing with acting. They use popular music.

### Tonadilla escénica

A *tonadilla escénica* is a short piece of music. It dates from before the *zarzuela*. It was performed during the interval at theatre plays in the 18th and 19th centuries in Spain and Spanish America. The songs became very famous.



Listen and identify these musical excerpts.



- Find videos of the Spanish *tonadilla escénica* on the Internet.





Spain has a wide variety of traditional dances. Discover some of the most typical dances from the different autonomous communities.



1 Research a regional dance from your area.







# Musical language. **Accidentals. Short rhythmic effects**

- ▶ The interval between two consecutive notes can be a **tone** or a **semitone**. There is a semitone between the notes **mi-fa** and **si-do**. The other notes are separated by a tone.
- ▶ The pitch of a natural note can be changed using **accidentals**:
  - A **sharp sign #** raises it one semitone.
  - A **flat sign b** lowers it one semitone.
  - A **natural sign ♮** cancels the effect of a sharp or a flat on a note.



- ▶ An accidental (**#, b, ♮**) affects all identical notes within the same bar.
- ▶ Short rhythmic effects:

### Short syncopation



ti - ri - i - ti    ti-ri\_\_-ti

### Dotted quaver



ti - i - ri    ti\_\_-ri

- 2 Find the semitones in this passage. You will need to sing it with the help of an instrument.



- 3 Read these two passages. Are they the same or different?



- 4 Decipher the code. Then play this piece. Don't forget the repetitions.



Fine

D. C. al Fine

