

**The Ultimate List of Music Words Every Moonbeam 3 Should Know! (96!)**  
**(\* needed for RCM Theory Exam)**

<b>SIGN</b>	<b>LESSON #</b>	<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
	14	*a tempo	return to the original speed
accel.	6	*accelerando	getting faster
	1	*accent	play the note strongly
	11	accidentals	sharps & flats not found in the key signature
	2	*adagio	very slow, slower than andante but not as slow as slow as largo
	13	*allegretto	fairly fast but slower than allegro
	2	*allegro	quick & lively, fast
	3	*andante	slow walking pace
	13	*andantino	a little faster than andante
	3	*cantabile	singing style
	29	chromatic half step	same letter half steps
<b>C</b>	13	common time	4/4
	13	con grazia	with grace
	28	con moto	with movement
<b>C</b>	14	cut time	2/2
	10	*con pedale (or Ped)	with pedal

	19	*crescendo (cresc)	getting louder
D.C.	18	*da capo	repeat from the beginning
D.S.	19	*dal segno	repeat from the sign
	21	*decrescendo (decresc)	getting quieter
	30	diatonic semitone	different letter semitones
dim.	21	*diminuendo	getting quieter
	2	*dolce	sweetly
V	27	dominant	5 <sup>th</sup> note of scale or chord
	3	*espressivo	with expression
	6	*fermata	hold the note or rest longer than its written value
	9	*fine	the end
	29	flat	lowers note one semitone
f	21	*forte	loud
	22	forte-piano	loud then suddenly quiet
ff	21	*fortissimo	very loud
	19	grace note	an extra note added as embellishment, not part of the melody or harmony
	23	grave	the slowest tempo
	5	*grazioso	gracefully
	25	half step	the smallest possible step on the piano
	23	harmonic interval	two notes placed one on top of the other

	26	harmonic minor scale	the natural minor scale with the 7 <sup>th</sup> note raised
	1	interval	distance between two notes
	5	key signature	sharps or flats at beginning of song that indicate the key
	13	*larghetto	not as slow as largo
	10	*largo	very slow and broad
	10	*legato	smoothly
	17	*leggiero	lightly
	23	lentement	slow
	10	*lento	slow
	7	loco	return to the normal octave (location)
	9	*maestoso	majestically
	27	major intervals	2, 3, 6, 7
m.d.	7	*mano destra	right hand
m.s.	7	*mano sinistra	left hand
	17	*marcato	accented, with emphasis
	23	melodic interval	two notes placed beside each other
	26	melodic minor scale	natural minor scale with the 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> raised on the way up and lowered on the way down
	14	meno	less
mf	22	*mezzo forte	medium loud
mp	22	*mezzo piano	medium quiet

	27	minor intervals	2, 3, 6, 7 lowered one semitone
	3	*moderato	medium tempo
	15	*molto	much
	11	natural	cancels flat or sharp
	26	natural minor scale	starts 3 semitones down from its relative major and shares the same key signature but has no accidentals
	9	octave	distance of 8 notes
	25	perfect intervals	1, 4, 5, 8
	18	phrase	musical sentence or idea indicated by a slur
pp	22	*pianissimo	very quiet
p	22	*piano	quiet
	15	piu	more
	15	*poco	little
	5	*prestissimo	as fast as possible
	5	*presto	very fast
	28	primo	top part of a piano duet
rall.	11	*rallentando	getting slower
: :	9	*repeat signs	repeat the notes between the signs
rit.	11	*ritardando	getting slower
	19	*rubato	playing with expression. Usually means the tempo is very free (not strict)

	28	secondo	lower part of a piano duet
	14	sempre	always
	15	senza	without
sf	21	sforzando	a sudden strong accent
#	11	sharp	raises note one semitone
	18	simile	continue in a similar style
	17	*slur	a curved line meaning to play smoothly
	6	spiritoso	spirited
	1	*staccato	play note sharply detached
IV	27	subdominant	4 <sup>th</sup> note of scale
	2	tranquillo	tranquil, quiet
	6	*tempo	speed at which music is performed
	17	*tempo primo	return to the original tempo
	1	tenuto	slight accent
	18	*tie	hold for the value of the combined notes
I	27	tonic	1 <sup>st</sup> note of scale
	25	una corda	use the soft pedal on the left (one string)
	11	vivace	lively, brisk
	28	vivo	lively
	25	whole step	two half steps
	7	*8va/ottava	play one octave higher