

Killer Queen Glossary

Dynamics Rhythm Tonality
 Structure Melody
 Instrumentation Texture
 Harmony



Keyword	Definition/Explanation
Members of Queen	Freddie Mercury, Brian May, Roger Taylor, John Deacon
Year Composed	1974
Jukebox Musical	A musical that is written using pre existing material
Tenor	A high male vocal range
Multi tracking	Recording instruments separately and layering the recordings on top of one another
Overdubbing	The process of adding additional musical parts to an existing recording.
Falsetto	When a Male vocalist uses the high end of his register (Also known as head voice)
Distortion	A guitar effect from deliberately using too much gain. Sounds crunchy!
Wah Wah	A guitar effect where the player can change the sound using a foot pedal
Panning	A music technology device where different instruments are shifted to the left or right of the stereo mix.
Conjunct	When a melody moves stepwise (to the notes either side of it)
Sequence	When a melody repeats itself but moves the starting point up (ascending) or down (descending) in pitch each time
Unusual Phrase Lengths	When a melody has a phrase length (the number of bars it lasts for) that isn't a nice round multiple of 2 (to fit with the lyrics)
Anacrusis	When a melody starts before beat 1 of a bar.
Verse Chorus Form	A form common with pop music, verse-chorus-verse-chorus-bridge-chorus.
Homophonic	Chordal texture, where all the parts are playing the same chords in a similar rhythm
Imitation	Where one part copies another shortly after it
Melody dominated homophony	A clear main melody with an accompaniment that is chordal
Key signature	The sharps/flats at the beginning of a piece to indicate the key KQ: Cm/Eb major
Moderato	Tempo Marking – playing at moderate speed
Syn copation	Emphasising the off beat.
Triplets	Playing three notes in the space of two of the same value.
Compound Quadruple Metre	Essentially a 12/8 time signature. Compound (the metre is divided into 3s and is counted in quavers) and quadruple, there are 4 of these groups of 3.

Chord Position	Root position, 1 st inversion, 2 nd inversion etc. changing the lowest note in the chord so for C major, C –E- G having a C lowest is Root position, having an E is
Pedal Note	A long held or repeated note played on the tonic or dominant (first or fifth note of scale)
Dissonance	Notes that clash!