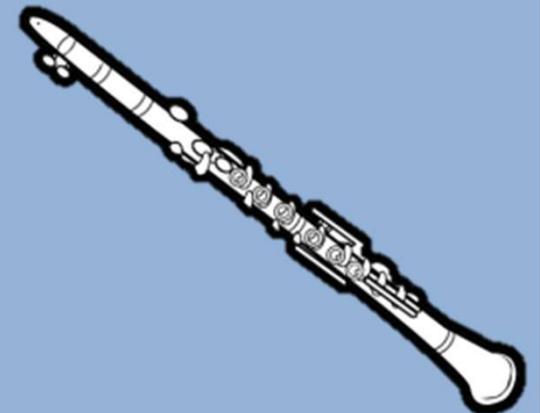


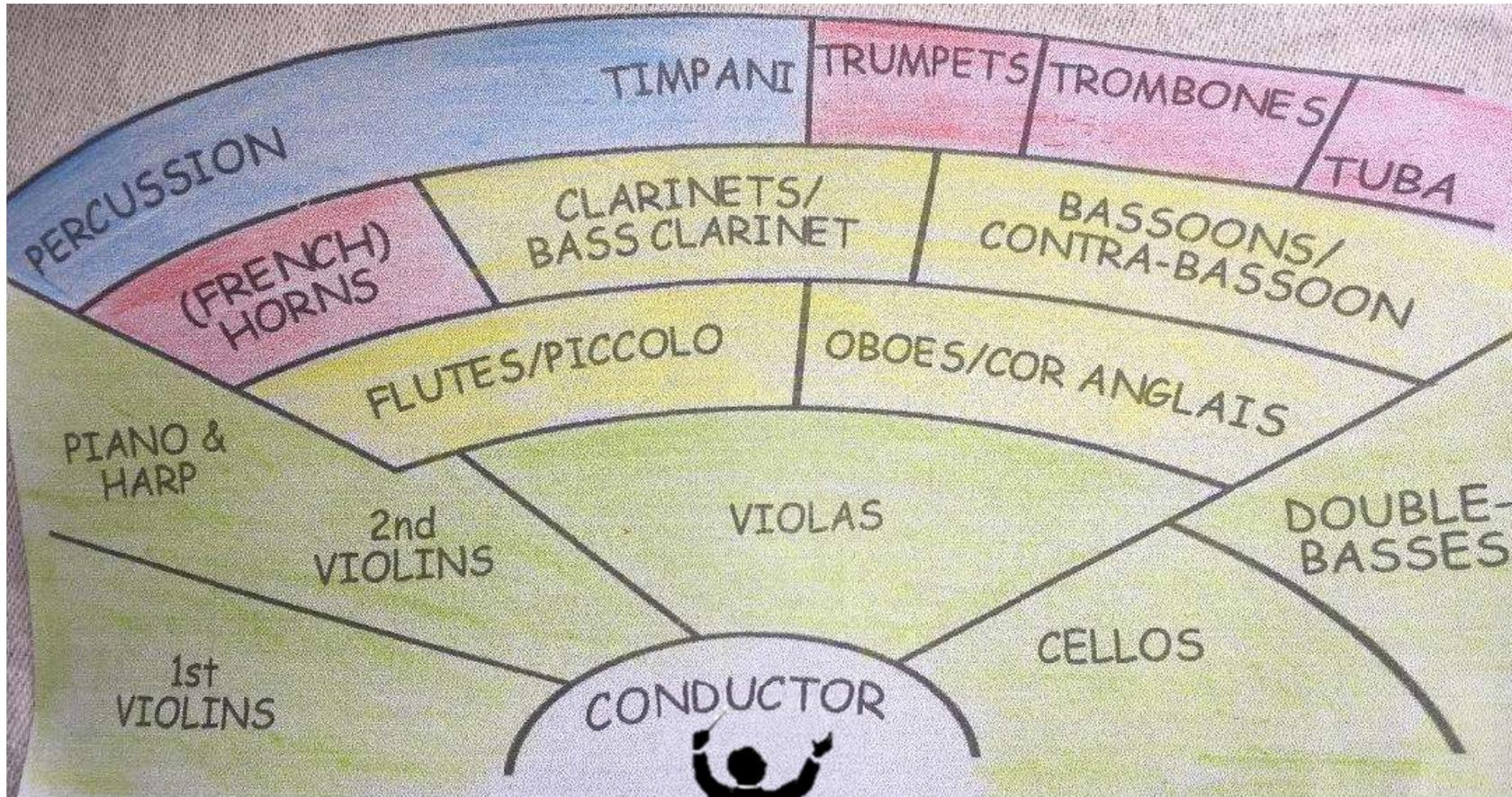
# Musical Instruments



# Instrument Families

- Strings (Bowed/Struck/Plucked)
- Brass
- Woodwind
- Percussion (Tuned/Untuned)

# Classical Orchestra



# Strings (Bowed)

The double bass is a transposing instrument – the note that you hear is an octave lower than what is read by the player.



Violin



Viola



Cello



Double bass



These instruments are played using a bow, which makes the strings vibrate. The sound goes into the body of the instrument and is amplified. The pitch is changed by placing a finger on the string to change its length, which will change the pitch of the note. The strings can also plucked (*pizzicato*).

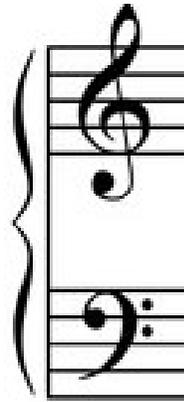
# Strings (Plucked/Struck)



Piano



Harp



Guitar



The piano is played by pressing the keys, which makes hammers strike the strings.

The harp is played by plucking the strings, which produces a note. The pitch of the strings can be adjusted using the four pedals, which controls the pitches E, F, G and A.

The guitar is played by plucking the strings, which resonates through the body of the instrument, like the violin. However, the guitar has frets on the body, which tells you how far up the string to press to play a note.



# Woodwind (Single/No reed)

Single Reed



Eb, Bb, A  
Clarinet



Bb



Eb



Bass Clarinet  
(in Bb)



The sound is produced by blowing through a single reed and pressing down on a combination of keys and holes.

The clarinet and bass clarinet are transposing instruments, which means that the notes they read are different from what is heard.



Flute/Piccolo

Unlike the rest of the woodwind instruments, sound is produced from the flow of air across the top of the instrument. Pressing different keys will change the pitch of the note. The piccolo, used in an orchestra is usually played by one of the flute players rather than needing a separate player.

# Woodwind (Double Reed)



Oboe



Cor Anglais  
(in F)



Bassoon



Contrabassoon



The sound is produced by blowing through a double reed and pressing down on a combination of keys or holes.

**The cor anglais and contrabassoon are transposing instruments, which means that the notes they read are different from what is heard.**

# Brass

Brass instruments are transposing instruments, which means that the notes they read are different from what is heard.



Trumpet  
(in Bb)



French Horn  
(In F)



Trombone  
(in Bb)

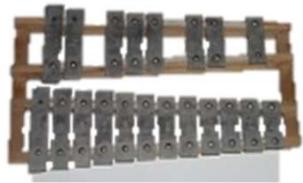


Tuba



Sound is produced by blowing air through closed lips, which produces a buzzing sound. The sound moves through the instrument, and the pitch can be changed by the use of the valves and the lip position (embouchure).

# Percussion (Tuned)



Glockenspiel



Vibraphone



Xylophone



Tubular  
Bells



Marimba



Timpani



Sound is produced by hitting the instrument with mallets. The notes on the glockenspiel, vibraphone, xylophone, marimba and tubular bells are arranged like on a piano. To change the note of the timpani, you use the pedals to alter the tension in the membrane covering the timpani, allowing you to play different notes.

# Percussion (Untuned)



Triangle



Bass Drum



Bongo Drums



Snare Drum



Cymbals



# Challenge

Listen to Ravel's Bolero and see if you can identify the instruments.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s\\_pSJOkmYBA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_pSJOkmYBA)

