

STUDENT'S WORKSHEETS

FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR LITERACY,
NUMERACY AND SKILLS

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

GRADE 8

TITLE OF CARD: TAAL AND NOTATION SYSTEM

STUDENT'S CARD 1

**MOE
MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE
2025**

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GRADE 8

STUDENT'S WORKSHEETS

CARD 1

Title of Card: Taal and Notation System



Introduction

In this activity, you will be introduced to **taal**, a foundational rhythmic system in Indian music. You will:

- Explore what taal is and understand its **structure and components**.
- Learn how to read and notate simple taal cycles accurately.
- Practise **clapping, padhant (reciting bols)**, and simple **instrumental patterns** to apply your understanding.

By completing these tasks, you will begin to **internalise rhythmic patterns**, develop better **coordination**, and build confidence in **recognising and performing** basic taal cycles.

Part 1 - Definition

- Listen attentively as your teacher defines and explains the term Taal.
- List few Indian musical instruments that provide Taal.



Tabla



Pakhawaj



Mridangam



Khol



Manjira

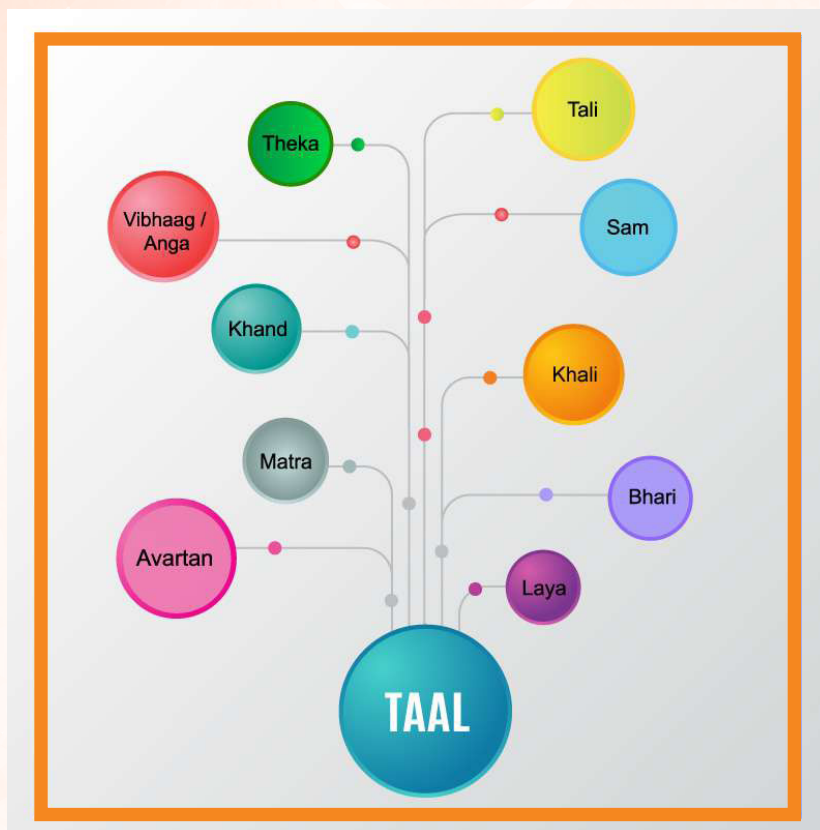
NOTE

Taal can also be provided by the clapping of hands.

Part 2 - Components of Taal

- Name each component of a taal and explain its meaning, adding the correct signs or symbols where appropriate.

COMPONENTS OF TAAL



Part 3 - Notation System and Padhant

- Pay attention as your teacher explains Bhatkhande's notation system and interpret the signs and symbols used in it.
- Notate, recite and count the following Talas:
- Dadra Taal, Roopak Taal, Kaherwa Taal and Teentaal.

SYMBOL	PURPOSE
X	To denote <i>Sam</i>
0	To denote <i>Khali</i> .
	Line dividing the <i>vibhaag-s</i> (Sections).
⌒	Combines two or more syllables in one beat.
2,3,4	To show other accented beats in a taal (<i>Tali</i>).
∫	Known as <i>Avgraha</i> used to show space or pause.



ACTIVITY 1

MATCHING

1. Match each padhant action to its correct hand and finger movement.



1ST FINGER COUNT

SAM

KHALI

2ND FINGER COUNT

3RD FINGER COUNT



ACTIVITY 2

WORD SEARCH

2. Find the words given in brackets in the grid below:

(avartan, matra, khand, vibhaag, theka, tali, sam, khali, bhari, laya)

a	f	d	r	n	i	m	t	t	z
f	b	n	w	q	f	b	h	d	b
b	m	j	g	t	j	k	e	b	b
t	h	n	a	m	k	k	k	h	q
b	k	n	v	i	b	h	a	a	g
h	h	n	a	j	m	a	w	r	t
m	a	t	r	a	g	l	k	i	n
h	n	o	t	a	l	i	p	k	m
n	d	s	a	m	a	j	m	k	r
t	h	n	n	l	ȳ	k	g	ȳ	e
a	g	o	l	r	a	r	o	l	n



ACTIVITY 3

DO YOU REMEMBER




3. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate number in column B.

A	B
TAAL	NUMBER OF BEATS
TEENTAAL	
ROOPAK	
DADRA	
KAHERWA	



STUDENT SELF-ASSESSMENT

Rate yourself by ticking only one box out of the 3 options provided

PROFILLING: (Tick Appropriately) Lesson 1 - MY PROGRESS?			
			
	Good	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement
What have I Learned?			
1. Define the term Taal			
2. Indian Instruments that Provide Taal			
3. List the components of Taal			
4. Understanding Notation system (signs and symbols)			
5. Notating Talas (Dadra, Roopak, Kaherwa, Teentaal)			
6. Padhant (Reciting bols with correct counting)			



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