

Write your NAME and the DATE at the top of your work! Please do not write on this printed sheet.

String Instruments

Task 1 – Copy the spider diagram below

The Violin is the smallest and highest pitched of all the String instruments.

The order of the String instruments from highest pitched to lowest pitched is: Violin, Viola, Cello and Double bass.

The Double Bass is the biggest and lowest pitched of all the String instruments.

String instruments can be played in two ways. They can either be plucked or bowed.

String Instruments

The Double Bass actually sounds an octave (8 notes) lower than the notes written for it.

The Double Bass has a low pitch because it is a large instrument and there is lots of space for sound to vibrate.

The bow that is used to play a String instrument is usually made of horse hair.

There are usually more Violins in an Orchestra than any other instrument.

A difficult technique used by string players is double stopping. This is when a string player plays more than one note at a time.

Task 2 – Answer the following questions in full sentences

- 1. Which is the smallest String instrument?
- 2. What material is used to make the bow?
- 3. Which String instrument has the lowest pitched sound and why?
- 4. Which String instrument features more than any other instrument in an orchestra?
- 5. What is double stopping?
- 6. How many notes lower than written does a Double Bass sound?
- 7. In which two ways can a String instrument be played?
- 8. What are the four most common String instruments? Start with the LOWEST pitched first.

Task 3 – Complete the following extension activities

- A. Attempt to copy and enlarge the image of the Violin (right)
- B. Research and write down a list of
 String instruments that you would not find in an
 Orchestra and that have not been mentioned above.

