What is Music?

- Music is "the science or art of ordering tones or sounds in succession, in combination, and in temporal relationships to produce a composition having unity and continuity." Webster's Dictionary
- Sound = the human perception of vibrations (transmission of energy) in a medium
- Science: "a department of systematized knowledge as an object of study." Webster's Dictionary
  (Generally involves objective observation)
- Art: "the conscious use of skill and creativity esp. in the production of aesthetic objects." Webster's Dictionary
  (Generally involves subjective impression)
- Aesthetic: "a pleasing appearance or effect: beauty." Webster's Dictionary
  But is all music “beautiful”? No!

- Communicate: "to transmit information, thought or feeling so that it is satisfactorily received or understood" Webster's Dictionary
- Art: "the conscious use of skill and creativity esp. in the production of objects that communicate thought or feeling."
- Music = sound intended as art

- Line of Communication: Composer -> Performer -> Listener
- objective observations (what one hears) -> the resulting subjective impressions (what one feels)

Examples of sound that claims to be music:
- Beethoven's 6th (from 0:40) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcSuSk4d6Gs
- Flo Rida I Cry http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvemBmcVQYc
- Metallica http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aAITxlCsj4Y
- Shakuhachi Flute music http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RxWD7V3V21c
- Lovesick Blues (Hank Williams) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xu7i89xvs
- Ives: Fourth of July (from 4:00) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Z3U2oWFyok
- John Cage: 4’33” – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OovYr0w7BMA

Any sound, succession or combination of sounds can be music if you want it to be. Music is what ever you let it be (even if you don’t like it or don’t find it interesting, someone else might - one person’s music is another person’s noise, and visa-versa). We must all respect each others culture, likes and dislikes, for we are all individuals

- Subjectivity: "peculiar to a particular individual: personal." Webster's Dictionary

But please, have an open mind, the World is a very big, diverse place with all kinds of music. It’s all out there for your taking.