

ancient (adjective)

Meaning: from a very long time ago

In **ancient** Rome, they had many gods.

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inspiration (noun)

Meaning: someone or something that gives you ideas for doing something

Some of Holst's music was **inspiration** for the original Star Wars music.

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ominous (adjective)

Meaning: a suggestion that something unpleasant is about to happen

There was an **ominous** silence in the room.

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evoke (verb)

Meaning: to call upon a memory or something from the past

Some of the music is more relaxing to **evoke** peacetime.

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eager (adjective)

Meaning: wanting very much to do something, especially if it is interesting or enjoyable

People were **eager** to please the king.

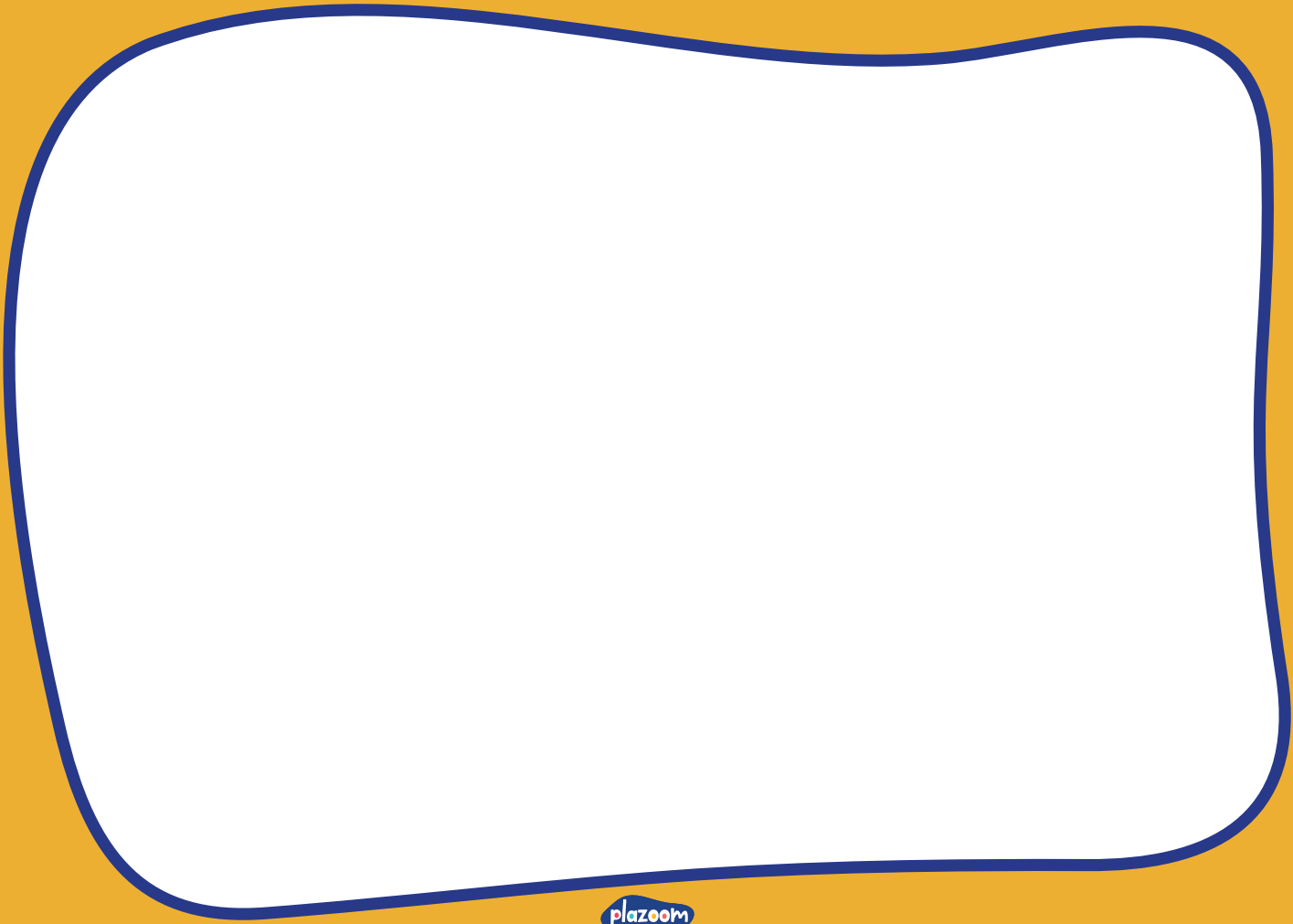
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ebb and flow

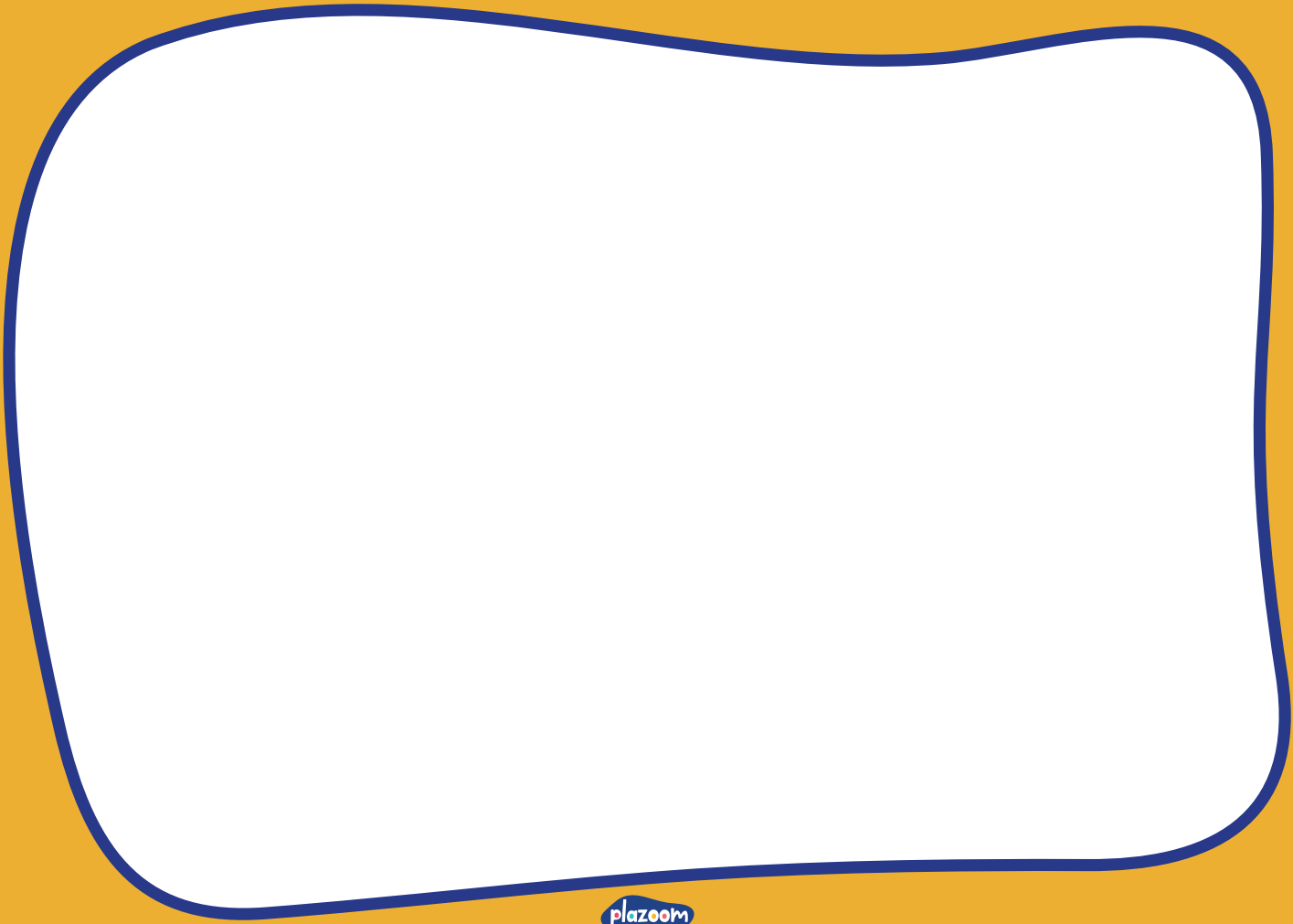
Meaning: the way the level of things changes regularly, becoming higher or lower

The **ebb and flow** of the music sounds like the magician is casting a spell.

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composer (noun)

Meaning: a person who writes music

Gustav Holst was a British **composer**.

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astronomy (noun)

Meaning: the study of the universe and objects in space

Gustav Holst was interested in **astronomy**.

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astrology (noun)

Meaning: the study of the movements and positions of the moon, planets and stars in the belief they affect people and their lives

He was also interested in **astrology** and meditation.

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composition (noun)

Meaning: a piece of music that someone has written

‘The Planets’ was Holst’s most famous **composition**.

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solar system (noun)

Meaning: the Sun and the planets that orbit it

The music guides us through the **solar system**.

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movement (noun)

Meaning: (in music) one of the main parts of a piece of classical music

The first **movement** in Holst's composition is 'Mars'.

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tempo (noun)

Meaning: the speed that a piece of music is played

Venus has a slower, more relaxing **tempo**.

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pitch (noun)

Meaning: (in music) how high or low a sound is

The flute and glockenspiel both have a high **pitch**.

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chord (noun)

Meaning: (in music) a group of, usually three or more, notes played together

In Saturn, two **chords** are played that sound like plodding footsteps.

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orchestra (noun)

Meaning: a group of musicians who play different instruments together, led by a conductor

They enjoy playing in the **orchestra** together.

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Mercury (noun)

Meaning: the closest planet to the sun in our solar system

Mercury is named after the Roman winged messenger god.

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Venus (noun)

Meaning: the second closest planet to the sun in our solar system

Venus is the second movement in Holst's music.

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Earth (noun)

Meaning: the third closest planet to the sun in our solar system

Holst did not include **Earth** in his music 'The Planets'.

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Mars (noun)

Meaning: the fourth closest planet to the sun in our solar system

The planet **Mars** is named after the Roman god of war.

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Jupiter (noun)

Meaning: the fifth closest planet to the sun in our solar system

Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system.

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Saturn (noun)

Meaning: the sixth closest planet to the sun in our solar system

The music for **Saturn** is much slower.

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Uranus (noun)

Meaning: the seventh closest planet to the sun in our solar system

In **Uranus**, the music slows to an eventual silence.

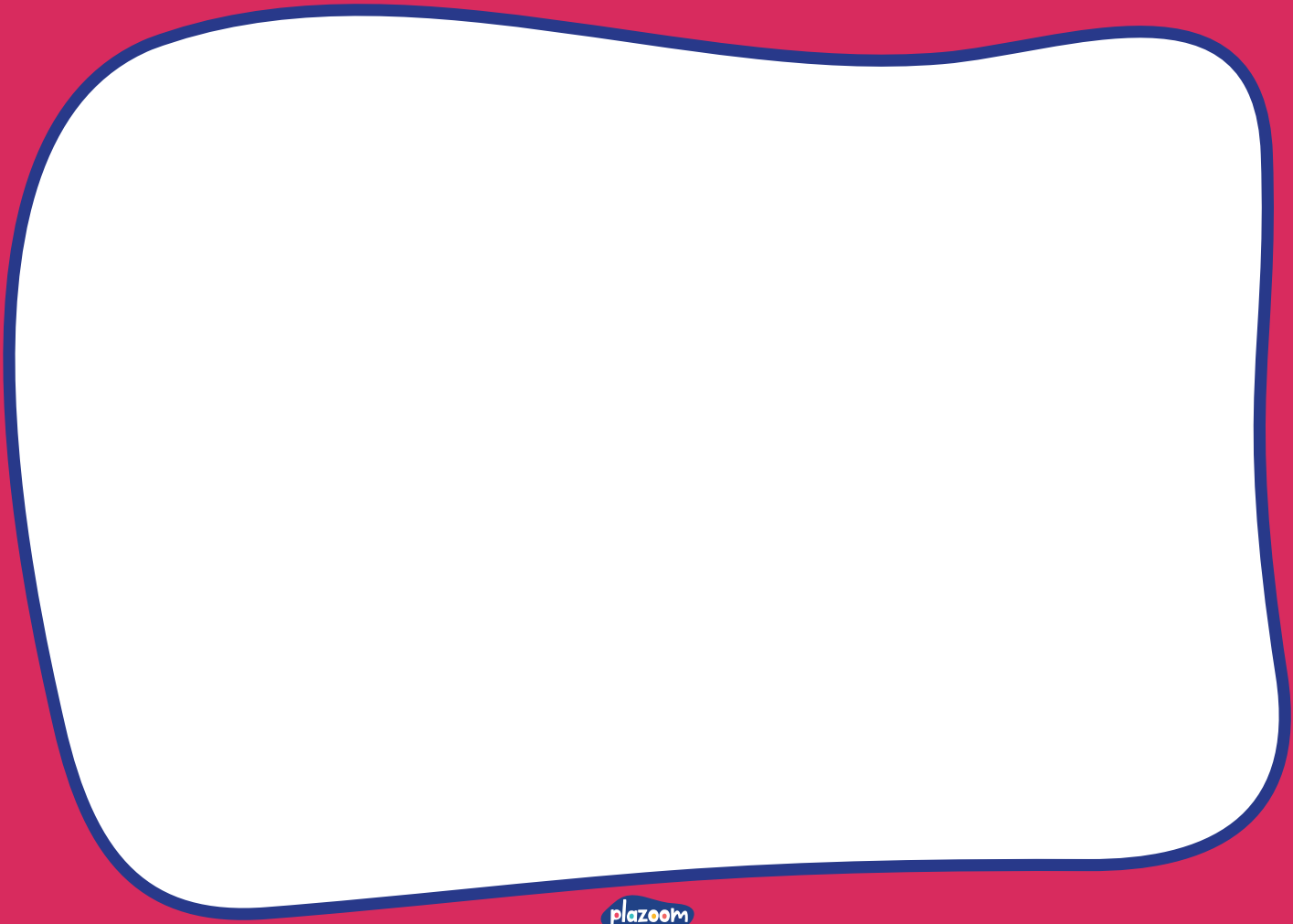
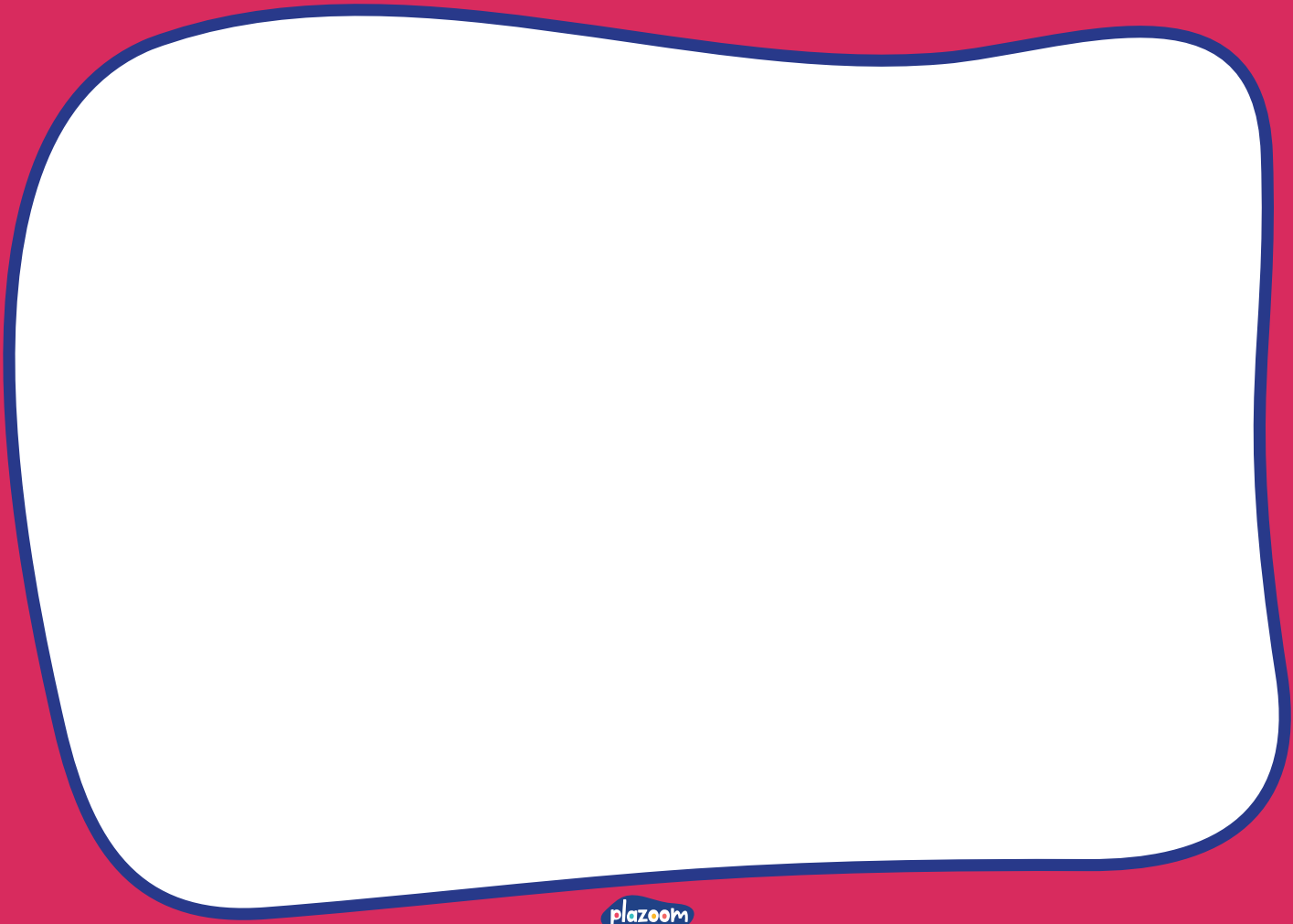
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Neptune (noun)

Meaning: the eighth closest planet to the sun in our solar system

Neptune was named after the Roman god of the sea.

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famous (adjective)

Meaning: to be known or recognised by many people

Holst's most **famous** piece of music is 'The Planets'.

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guide (verb)

Meaning: to assist a person to travel through or reach somewhere by accompanying or directing a person

The music **guides** us through the solar system.

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imagine (verb)

Meaning: to form a mental image or picture

You can **imagine** the planets as you listen to the music.

