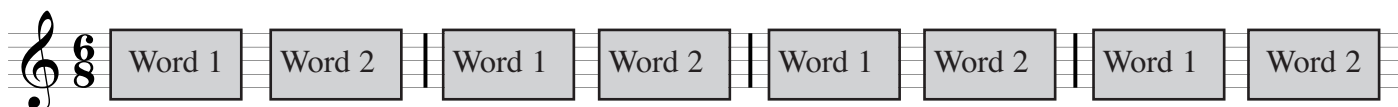


## Absolute Beginners – Rhythm

Here's an easy way of working out how to read the rhythm in music.  
 Music is written on five lines and four spaces called a staff, it's set in boxes called bars.



In these examples each bar contains only two 'words' of rhythm.  
 In other types of tunes there may be more.



If the bottom number at the beginning of the music (Time signature) is 4 then the music is in SIMPLE TIME and the words look like this:-



If the bottom number is 8 then the music is in COMPOUND TIME and the words look like:-



So REMEMBER!!! – Drinks are for SIMPLE TIME and Animals are for COMPOUND TIME

Try saying this to a steady tapping of your foot twice in each bar - 'soooooop' lasts for two taps..



Okay? Try the same here - say, then clap remembering that steady tapping as you do so



Did you remember that 6/8 means ANIMALS?

Find some other folk tunes and try clapping them or even tapping out the rhythm on a keyboard or a guitar. Easy isn't it. Keep practising - tunes come later.