Transposing Instruments

Non-Transposing Instruments (Concert Pitch)

The following instruments are non-transposing instruments. The notes that are sounded are the notes that are written.

Instrument	Sounds	Interval of Transposition	Written
Violin, Flute, Oboe, Marimba, Vibes		None	
Cello, Bassoon, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani	2:0	None	2:0

Transposing Instruments (Non-Concert Pitch)

The note that is written is different than than the note that is sounded for transposing instruments. The names for transposing instruments come from the pitch that is played when reading a concert C on the staff. For example, when a Bb trumpet reads a concert C on the staff, the note that is played is a concert Bb. Some transposing instruments are C instruments, but they sound an octave down, these include guitar and double bass.