The distance of an interval is the first part of its name, but there's more: every interval has another quality to it, which we'll call its inflection.

Inflection is a bit harder to understand, partly because it depends on the type of interval. So let's start by looking at unisons, fourths, fifths and octaves.

Unisons and octaves are the easiest to label: if the two notes are the same (for example, B flat and B flat), then the inflection is perfect: such an interval is called a perfect unison or a perfect octave.

Fourths and fifths require a little more explaining. If you look at all the fourths and fifths you can create using only the white notes on the piano keyboard (in other words, using only notes without accidentals):

Well, if you were to count the half-steps that make up each interval, you'd notice that all the other ones are equal in size, but the B to F intervals are not: F to B is a half-step larger than a perfect fourth, and B to F is a half-step smaller than a perfect fifth.

Each one is perfect except for those which use F and B!

Which raises the question: if the interval is not perfect, than what is it?

An interval that is a half-step larger than perfect is called an augmented interval.

And there's no such thing as a diminished unison...

Just like two things can't be negative two feet away from each other!

An interval that is a half-step smaller than perfect is called a diminished interval.

You can go further, to doubly augmented and doubly diminished intervals, but... do you really want to?