

# MUSIC HISTORY QUIZ

## *Classical Period*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Multiple Choice** – Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question:

1. The generally accepted dates for the Classical Period of music history are:
  - a. 1400 to 1600
  - b. 1600 to 1750
  - c. 1750 to 1820
  - d. 1820 to Present
2. The Classical Period is characterized by which of the following:
  - a. order
  - b. clean, balanced architecture
  - c. everything in proper proportion
  - d. all of the above
3. Which of the following is a characteristic of music in the Classical Period:
  - a. singable, lyrical melody
  - b. regular rhythm & meter
  - c. diatonic harmony
  - d. all of the above
4. Which of the following did NOT occur during the Classical Period:
  - a. the American Revolution
  - b. the French Revolution
  - c. the Council of Trent
  - d. the Industrial Revolution
5. Which of the following was NOT invented during the Classical Period:
  - a. the steam engine
  - b. the spinning jenny
  - c. the cotton gin
  - d. the Starship Enterprise
6. Which of the following was a major advancement in the area of science during the Classical Period:
  - a. theory of relativity
  - b. Benjamin Franklin discovers electricity
  - c. first animal cloned
  - d. all of the above
7. Which of the following composers were part of the “Viennese School”:
  - a. Palestrina, Byrd, Monteverdi
  - b. Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven
  - c. Vivaldi, Bach, Handel
  - d. all of the above
8. Which of the following is a characteristic of music in the Classical Period:
  - a. non-instrumental
  - b. non-metrical
  - c. regular use of rhythm and meter
  - d. none of the above
9. The “Patronage System”:
  - a. gave composers steady employment
  - b. presented a constant need for new music
  - c. gave composers the opportunity to hold public concerts
  - d. all of the above
10. A thought or idea used as a building block in a piece of music is a:
  - a. theme
  - b. form
  - c. sonata
  - d. aria

11. Themes can be divided into \_\_\_\_\_, which are short, melodic or rhythmic fragments.
- neumes
  - modes
  - motives
  - all of the above
12. A piece which starts with a famous motive is:
- Beethoven's 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony
  - Pachelbel's Canon in D
  - Haydn's Surprise Symphony
  - Lady Gaga's Poker Face
13. A short, repeated musical pattern which often organizes a piece of music is an:
- oratorio
  - figured bass
  - ostinato
  - all of the above
14. A-B-A would be an example of:
- musical *form*
  - sequence
  - cadenza
  - a music group from the 1970's
15. "Form" in music is:
- the shape of the melody
  - the structure and design of the musical composition
  - a repeated rhythmic pattern
  - a short, melodic fragment
16. Music in the Classical Period that was written for a small ensemble of between two and ten players was called:
- the symphony
  - multi-movement music
  - chamber music
  - patronage music
17. A string quartet typically consisted of:
- four violins
  - one violin, one viola, one cello
  - two violins, one viola, one cello
  - four balls of string
18. A prominent composer of string quartets in the Classical Period was:
- Joseph Haydn
  - Johann Sebastian Bach
  - George Frideric Handel
  - all of the above
19. Which of the following musical ensembles in the Classical period had four families of instruments (strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion) and had between 30 and 40 players total:
- the string quartet
  - the solo concerto
  - the duo sonata
  - the symphony orchestra
20. The heart of the orchestra in the Classical Period was the:
- brass section
  - string section
  - woodwind section
  - conductor
21. The following major composer of the Classical Period wrote nine major symphonies, went deaf in his late-twenties, and was considered the greatest pianist of his time:
- Joseph Haydn
  - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
  - Ludwig van Beethoven
  - Hildegard of Bingen
22. Which of Beethoven's symphonies starts with a famous four-note motive and is considered by most to be the best and most well-known of all his symphonies:
- Symphony No. 1
  - Symphony No. 9
  - Symphony No. 5
  - None of the above

23. A musical composition for a solo instrument with orchestral accompaniment is the:

- a. concerto
- b. symphony
- c. sonata
- d. chamber music

24. “The most extraordinarily gifted child in the history of music” is considered by many to be:

- a. Mozart
- b. Beethoven
- c. Haydn
- d. Mr. Mengel

25. Mozart wrote:

- a. chamber & orchestral music
- b. keyboard music & concertos
- c. operas and sacred music
- d. all of the above

26. Ludwig Kochel developed a system to catalogue Mozart’s vast musical collection by doing what:

- a. burning everything onto a CD
- b. downloading everything into itunes
- c. placing his initial, ‘K’, behind the name of the piece followed by a number
- d. typing everything into an excel spreadsheet

27. A type of break in a piece of music in which the soloist is given a chance to improvise or “show off” in a very free rhythmic style without any accompaniment is called a:

- a. sonata
- b. cadenza
- c. solo concerto
- d. free-form jazz exploration in front of a festival crowd

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28. Name five important composers from the Classical Period:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

**True / False** – *Indicate whether each statement is true or false:*

29. \_\_\_\_\_ The Classical Period saw significant advances in the sciences and the Industrial Revolution made mass production possible.
30. \_\_\_\_\_ The American Revolution occurred during the Classical Period.
31. \_\_\_\_\_ The music of the Classical Period was very non-metric and had a very weak sense of rhythmic style or form.
32. \_\_\_\_\_ Under the Patronage system, musicians were employed by the aristocracy and had high expectations.
33. \_\_\_\_\_ The Classical Period is considered to be the “Golden Age of Chamber Music”
34. \_\_\_\_\_ Of the three great composers of the Classical Period (Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn), only Beethoven wrote for chamber ensembles.
35. \_\_\_\_\_ The most prominent form of chamber music in the Classical Period was the symphony.
36. \_\_\_\_\_ The symphony orchestra, as we know it today, had its origins in the Classical Period.
37. \_\_\_\_\_ Beethoven was treated as an equal among the aristocracy, rather than a servant.
38. \_\_\_\_\_ Beethoven stopped composing music after going deaf.
39. \_\_\_\_\_ Four of the most famous notes in all of music are contained within Beethoven’s 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony.
40. \_\_\_\_\_ Mozart began writing music when he was five years old.

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**SHORT ESSAY:**

*In a short paragraph, discuss some of the main differences between music of the Classical Period as compared to the earlier music of the Baroque and Renaissance periods:*