

# ANTIQUITY

The history of music begins with the history of humankind. It is unlikely that music was ever played purely for pleasure in ancient times. It always had a purpose or was played for a specific occasion. For example, the first musical instruments were probably used for communicating or signaling. Drums and animal horns would have been useful for these purposes. Gradually, as ancient civilizations evolved, the role of music also evolved. Music became an accompaniment for work, dance, or rituals of ceremony and religion. As with all forms of art, each ancient culture developed its own unique styles of music.

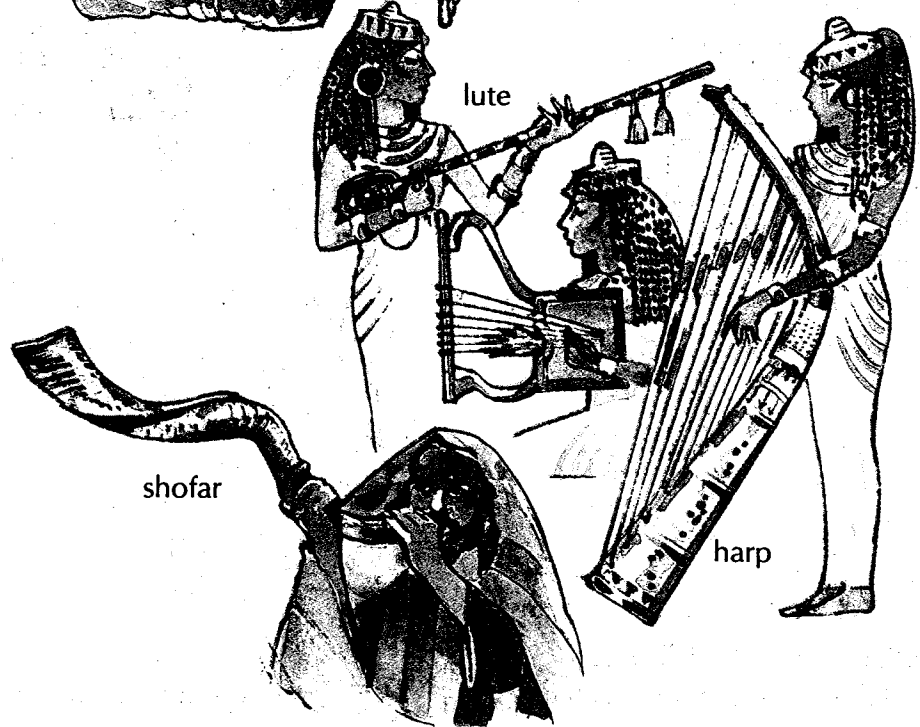
## CHINESE MUSIC

Ancient Chinese music can be traced back at least 4000 years. Much of it was played using a *pentatonic* or 5 note scale. It was often played on plucked string instruments like the *ch'in*, part of the zither family.



## EGYPTIAN MUSIC

In ancient Egypt, music played a part in almost every aspect of life. Musicians, many of whom were women, were second in status only to royalty. The *lute*, *lyre*, and *harp* were popular instruments in Egypt.



## HEBREW MUSIC

The Hebrew people associated music with religion. There are many references in the Old Testament to music, dancing, and musical instruments. The only ancient Hebrew instrument still used today in synagogues is the *shofar*, or ram's horn.

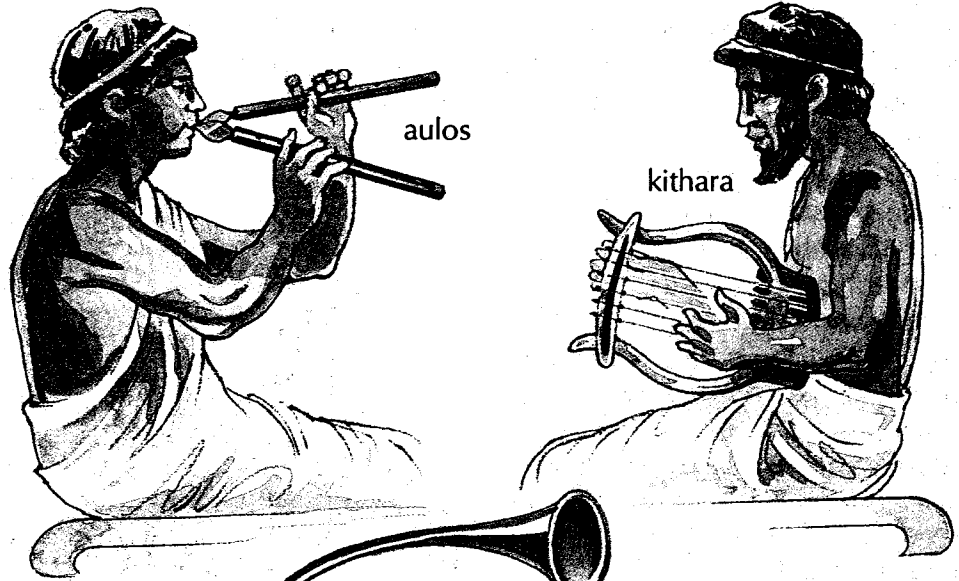
## BRAIN BUSTER

Musical instruments were first used for signaling, probably using only one or two notes. Write down five ways we use musical sound today for communication or signaling. (Example: telephone ring)

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

## GREEK MUSIC

Our word "music" comes from the Greek word *mousike*. The most popular instruments of Greece were the *kithara* (Greek for lyre) and the *aulos*. Music was played at festivals and plays, and music contests took place at the Olympic games.



## ROMAN MUSIC

Roman music is based on the music of Greece. Given the war-like history of the Roman civilization, music was used mostly for military and entertainment purposes. As well as using drums, the Romans made the first brass trumpets and horns.



## HISTORY MYSTERY

Match the first letter of each civilization with the terms listed below. Some letters will be used more than once.

C = Chinese    E = Egyptian    H = Hebrew    G = Greek    R = Roman

\_\_\_\_\_ shofar

\_\_\_\_\_ ch'in

\_\_\_\_\_ mousike

\_\_\_\_\_ harp

\_\_\_\_\_ brass trumpets and horns

\_\_\_\_\_ lute

\_\_\_\_\_ lyre

\_\_\_\_\_ kithara

\_\_\_\_\_ pentatonic scale

\_\_\_\_\_ aulos

# THE MIDDLE AGES

In the *Middle Ages* (400-1400), also known as the *Medieval Period*, there were three classes of people. The first class was the *nobility*. They were rich landowners, and from these people came our legends of knights in shining armor. The *clergy* was the second class, consisting of priests who worked in the church, and monks who lived in monasteries. Most people belonged to the third class made up of poor farmers known as *peasants*. The average peasant lived to be 30 years of age and ate little more than black bread and turnips.



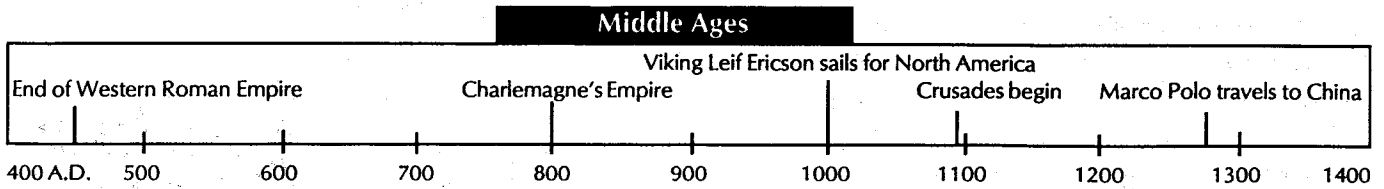
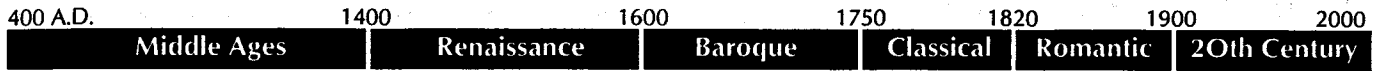
## SACRED MUSIC

In the Middle Ages, the church was central in the lives of people. In turn, the music of the church (sacred music) was very important. Sacred music of the Middle Ages was called *plainsong* and consisted of a single melody with words in the Latin language. The melody of plainsong was simple so the words would be easily understood by others. The words were part of Roman Catholic liturgy, including the church service known as the *Mass*. Plainsong was written down by monks on four line staves using square notes called *neumes*. The most well-known form of plainsong is called *Gregorian chant*, in honor of Pope Gregory the First.



## FILL IN THE BLANKS

The Middle Ages is also known as the \_\_\_\_\_ . The three classes of people in Middle Ages society were the \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ , and \_\_\_\_\_ . The sacred music was known as \_\_\_\_\_ and consisted of a \_\_\_\_\_ melody with words in \_\_\_\_\_ . The most well-known form of plainsong is called \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_ . The words were all part of the Roman Catholic liturgy, including the church service known as the \_\_\_\_\_ .



**SECULAR MUSIC**

While sacred music dominated the Middle Ages, *secular* (non-religious) music also became popular. People called *minstrels* traveled from castle to castle singing songs, telling stories, and performing tricks. Their songs and stories were about love, life, and chivalry. Like plainsong, secular songs were simple and had only one melody. They were usually faster than sacred songs and used the common language instead of Latin. Stringed or percussion instruments often accompanied the minstrels' songs. Minstrels gradually formed guilds and became more respected members of the growing middle class.



**THE END OF THE MIDDLE AGES**

There were many other changes during the 1000 years called the Middle Ages. Life became better and more civilized, and people began to focus more on themselves and less on God and religion. In music, a new type of music called *polyphony* came about. Polyphony means that two or more melodies are happening at the same time.

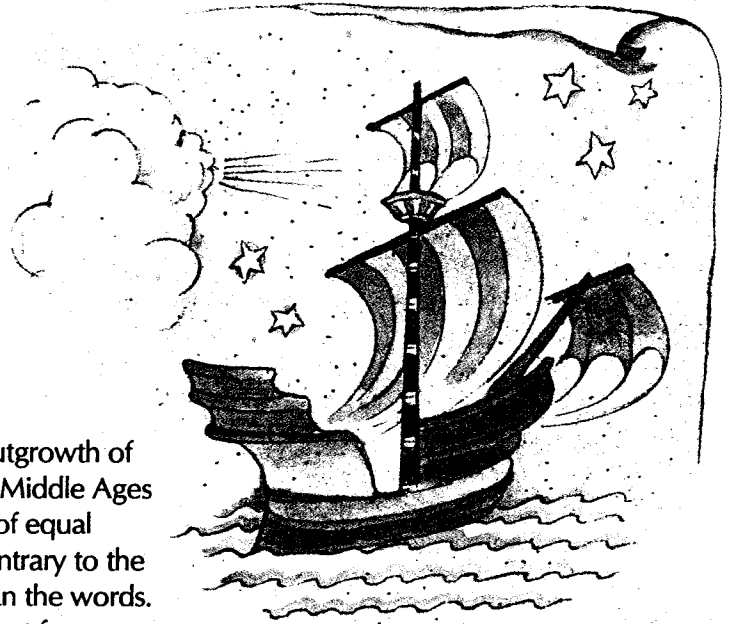
**BRAIN BUSTER**

List three characteristics of Medieval secular music that exist in the popular music of today.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

# THE RENAISSANCE

The *Renaissance* (1400-1600) was an exciting time in world history. It was a time of advances in science by Copernicus and Galileo. It was a time of exploration by Columbus, Sir Francis Drake, Cortez, Magellan, and DeSoto. It was a time of achievements in the arts, with artists Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo and playwright William Shakespeare on the scene.



## SACRED MUSIC

The sacred music of the Renaissance was a natural outgrowth of plainsong. The simple two-line polyphony of the late Middle Ages was expanded to use up to four different vocal parts of equal importance. This new vocal form was the *motet*. Contrary to the Middle Ages ideal, the music was more important than the words. Josquin des Prez and Giovanni Palestrina were the most famous Renaissance composers of motets.



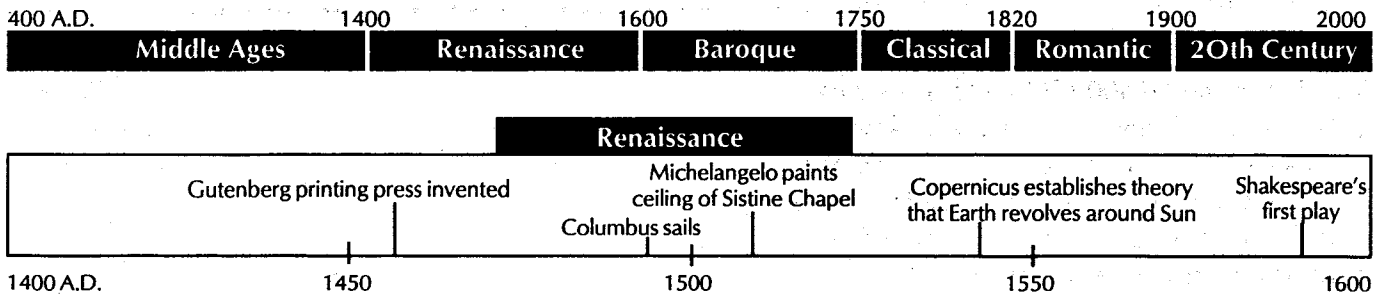
Around 1500, many people broke away from the Roman Catholic Church. This era was called the *Reformation*. The new Protestant churches that formed had songs written for singing by the whole congregation, not just the choir. This new *chorale* style was the basis for many hymns that are still sung today.

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

In the Renaissance, the most important sacred vocal form was the \_\_\_\_\_ . It had up to \_\_\_\_\_ parts of equal importance. Two famous composers of sacred motets were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ .

The era of the break with the Roman Catholic Church was called the \_\_\_\_\_ .

New Protestant churches sang hymns written in \_\_\_\_\_ style.



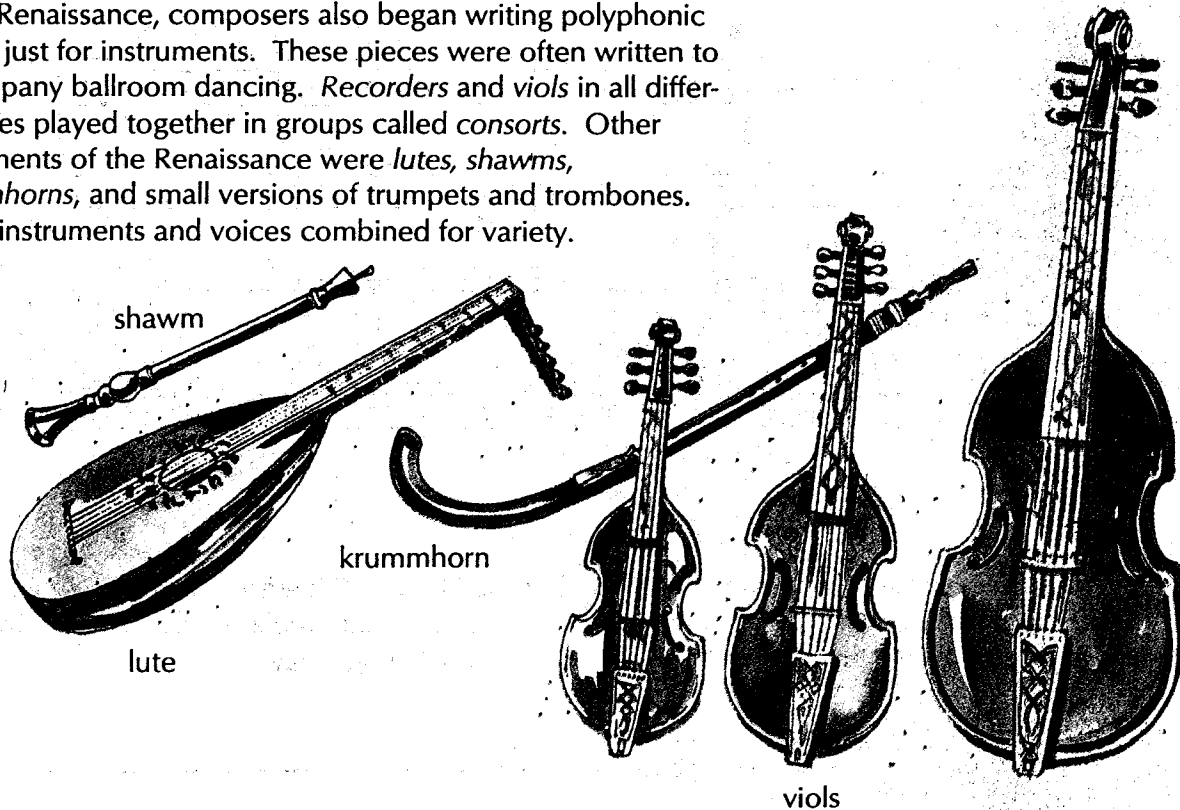
The Renaissance saw the rise of the middle class. No longer did all of the wealth belong to the nobility. People moved to cities, and spent more time seeing plays and concerts. Music was now part of any good education. With the invention of the printing press around 1450, sheet music was printed and made available to everyone. By 1600, popular music of the day was available across Europe, and the middle class learned to play instruments using method books for recorder, lute, and guitar.

### SECULAR MUSIC

*Madrigals*, songs for small groups of voices without instruments, were the most popular form of secular music. Usually about love, madrigals became an important part of special occasions. King Henry VIII of England was a fan of madrigals, and had them sung at feasts and weddings. They often had verses with repeated choruses like popular music today.

### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

In the Renaissance, composers also began writing polyphonic pieces just for instruments. These pieces were often written to accompany ballroom dancing. *Recorders* and *viols* in all different sizes played together in groups called *consorts*. Other instruments of the Renaissance were *lutes*, *shawms*, *krummhorns*, and small versions of trumpets and trombones. Often instruments and voices combined for variety.



### BRAIN BUSTER

List two reasons why the middle class become interested in music during the Renaissance.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

# THE BAROQUE PERIOD

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The *Baroque Period* (1600-1750) was an important time in the history of the world. The thirteen American colonies were formed. Galileo, Kepler, and Newton were discovering new ways to explain the universe. In music, art, architecture, and fashion, fancy decoration and ornamentation became the rule. Men and women wore wigs and coats with lace. Highly ornate trim decorated buildings.

## BAROQUE MUSIC

Baroque composers like Johann Sebastian Bach reacted to these trends by creating complex polyphonic music consisting of elaborate melodies layered on top of each other. Often these melodies contained trills and fast-moving notes. The idea of using *chords* to accompany one or more melody lines also became common. In addition, composers began to write dynamics and tempo markings in their music. *Improvisation* (making up the music as you play) also became common, even in church. Finally, composers began to use their music to express emotions such as joy and anger.

Throughout the Baroque Period, composers continued to be employed by the church and the wealthy ruling class. This system of employment was called the *patronage system*. Usually one wealthy person or *patron* paid the composer for each work and decided what kind of piece the composer should write. In many ways, this limited the creative freedom of the composers.

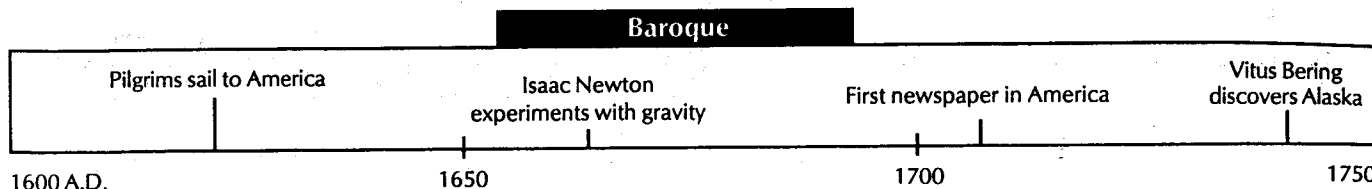
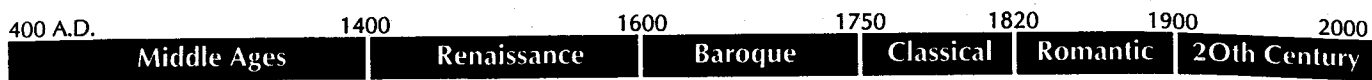


## FILL IN THE BLANKS

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The most famous composer of the Baroque Period was Johann Sebastian \_\_\_\_\_ . Making up the music as you play is called \_\_\_\_\_ . This practice was common, even in \_\_\_\_\_ . Baroque composers began to use music to express \_\_\_\_\_ .

They also began to write \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ into their music. Employment of a composer by a church or wealthy person was known as the \_\_\_\_\_ .



**VOCAL MUSIC**

The Baroque Period saw the birth of a new form of vocal music called *opera*. Opera combines music, acting, scenery, costumes, and props. Actors and actresses sing the script, or *libretto*. Some operas are serious, and some are funny. The first opera was *Orfeo*, by Claudio Monteverdi.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

During the Baroque Period, instrumental music became as important as vocal music. The Baroque Period saw a rise in music for flute, oboe, bassoon, trombone, valveless trumpets and horns, harpsichord, and organ. Recorders became less popular, and viols were gradually replaced by *violins*, *violas*, and *cellos*. Timpani was the only percussion instrument used in serious music.

Much of the music written for instruments contained several contrasting sections or movements. One example is the *concerto grosso*. Concerto grossos were written for a group of solo instruments and orchestra, and usually contained three movements (fast-slow-fast). Important Baroque composers of instrumental music were Antonio Vivaldi, Johann Pachelbel, George Frideric Handel, and Johann Sebastian Bach.

**MYSTERY MESSAGE**

Use the designated letters in the terms to fill in the secret message.

SECRET MESSAGE:

|  |   |   |   |   |       |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|-------|---|----|---|----|----|----|----|---|
| 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6     | 7 | 8  | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | !  |   |
| 1. Johann Sebastian _____  |   |   |   |   | _____ |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
|  |   |   |   |   | 6     | 7 |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
| 2. The script from an opera  |   |   |   |   | _____ |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
|  |   |   |   |   | 8     |   |    |   |    |    |    |    | 2 |
| 3. A piece for a group of solo instruments and orchestra (two words) |   |   |   |   | _____ |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
|  |   |   |   |   | 4     |   |    |   |    |    |    | 5  |   |
|  |   |   |   |   | _____ |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
|  |   |   |   |   | 1     |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
| 4. Period from 1600-1750   |   |   |   |   | _____ |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
|  |   |   |   |   |       |   |    |   |    |    | 10 | 11 |   |
| 5. Famous Monteverdi opera   |   |   |   |   | _____ |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |
|  |   |   |   |   | 9     | 3 | 12 |   |    |    |    |    |   |



# THE CLASSICAL PERIOD

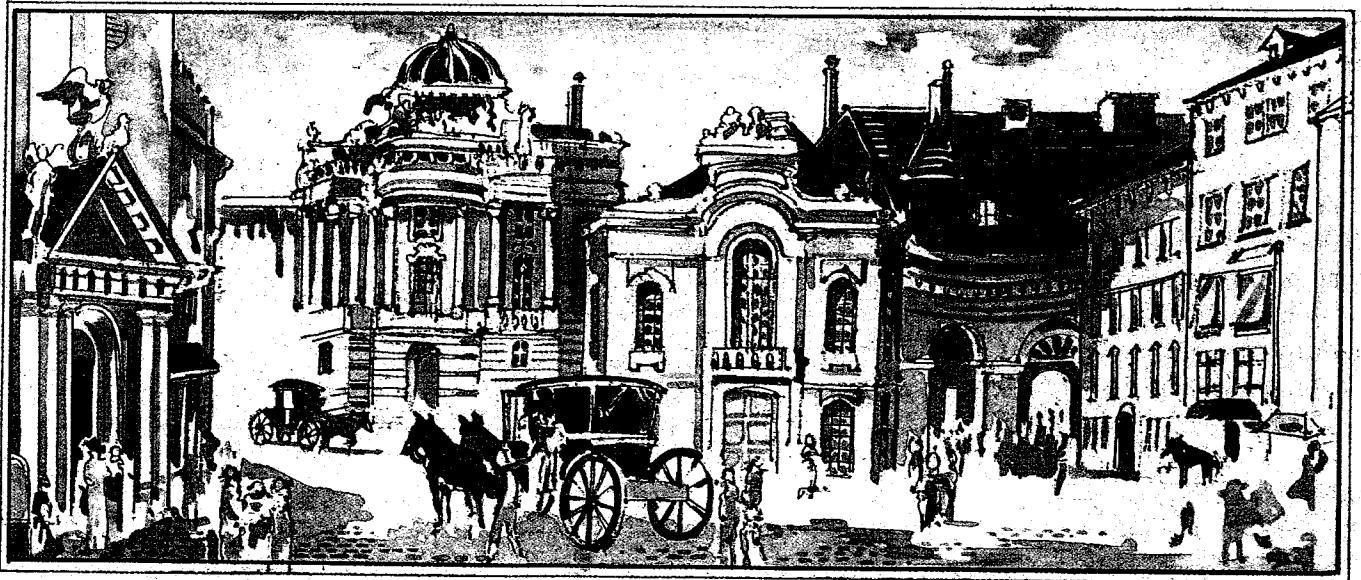
The years of the *Classical Period* (1750-1820) saw many changes in the world. The French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars changed the face of Europe. The American Revolution and the signing of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights shaped the democracy of America. In Europe, it was more and more possible for the public to enjoy and participate in leisure activities. In the music world, the patronage system began to die out, and the Classical Period saw the first public concerts where people paid admission to attend.

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

Instead of the ornate Baroque music with trills and sudden changes in style, the music of the Classical Period was simple, balanced, and non-emotional. Music had straightforward titles like "Symphony No. 1" instead of flowery, descriptive titles. This music was called *absolute music*, because it was music for its own sake, not for dancing or special occasions. It was performed in the recital or concert hall.

## THE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

For the first time, instrumental music was more important than vocal music. The modern symphony orchestra was born, with fuller sounding strings, plus clarinets, bassoons, oboes, and flutes. Although trumpets and horns were still valveless, they acquired the harmony role which made the harpsichord obsolete in the orchestra. Trombones, tubas, and the extensive percussion we use today were not yet introduced to the orchestra setting. The most important composers of the period were Franz Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Ludwig van Beethoven. Vienna was the musical center of Europe, and most serious composers spent part of their lives there.



## BRAIN BUSTER

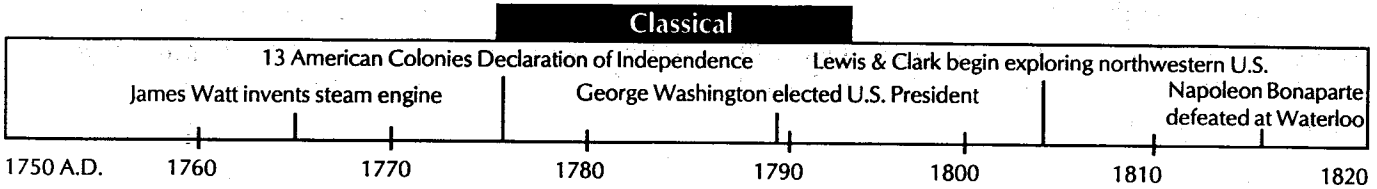
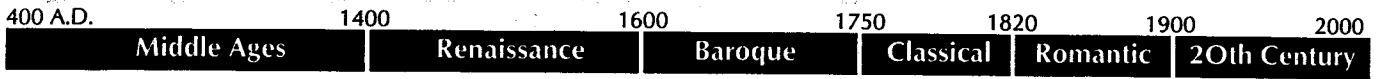
Make up titles for music, one list for Baroque titles, and one list for Classical titles. Use your imagination.

### Baroque Titles

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### Classical Titles

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



**OPERA MUSIC**

In the Classical Period, the number and importance of operas declined in comparison to instrumental music. Without a wealthy patron it was difficult to fund an opera. Nevertheless, many operas were written and were enjoyed mostly by the wealthier part of society.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

The concerto of the Baroque period evolved into the popular Classical concerto. The soloist was featured as the rest of the orchestra provided accompaniment. All of the instruments of the orchestra had concertos written for them. These works comprise the standard solo literature for many instruments today.

An outgrowth of the Baroque concerto grosso was the Classical *symphony*. The word *symphony* means "sounding together" and it applies to the full orchestra all playing at the same time. The first Classical symphonies were three movements (fast-slow-fast). Soon after, composers started adding a movement in  $\frac{3}{4}$  time before the final movement. Hundreds of symphonies were written and performed in public concerts. Haydn alone wrote 104 symphonies.



**NOTE ABOUT CLASSICAL MUSIC**

When we think of "classical music" we often are referring to any music played by an orchestra or any opera music. However, when studying music history, the word "Classical" refers to the music written from 1750-1820.

**FILL IN THE BLANKS**

A Classical piece for solo instrument and orchestra is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

The word *symphony* means \_\_\_\_\_ . The first

symphonies had three \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ wrote 104 symphonies.

# THE ROMANTIC PERIOD

The *Romantic Period* (1820-1900) represented change. Individual expression became important to composers, and therefore the types of pieces composed had a lot of variety. There were no restrictions on the length of a piece, or on the instruments used. The operas of Richard Wagner (Vog-ner) sometimes last 6 hours. Ludwig van Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* requires an oversized orchestra, a full choir, and vocal soloists.

## INSTRUMENTS

It was during the Romantic Period that most of the band instruments came into being as they are today. The invention and widespread use of valves changed the abilities of the trumpet, French horn, baritone, and tuba. New key systems added to the woodwind instruments made them much easier to play. These improvements made composers more interested in writing music for these instruments.



## TIME TABLE

Below is a list of words. If the word or phrase goes along best with the Classical Period, write a "C." If the word or phrase goes along best with the Romantic Period, write an "R."

formality \_\_\_\_\_

emotion \_\_\_\_\_

valves \_\_\_\_\_

simplicity \_\_\_\_\_

Franz Joseph Haydn \_\_\_\_\_

individual expression \_\_\_\_\_

absolute music \_\_\_\_\_

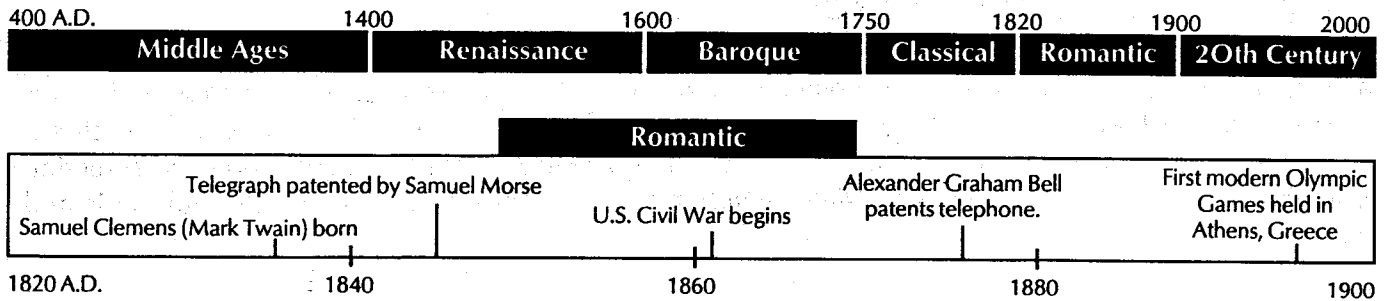
percussion \_\_\_\_\_

American Revolution \_\_\_\_\_

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart \_\_\_\_\_

large orchestra \_\_\_\_\_

Richard Wagner \_\_\_\_\_



## ORCHESTRAL MUSIC

Three main types of orchestral music were developed during the Romantic Period: the Romantic symphony, the tone poem, and the concert overture.

The *Romantic symphony* is an expanded version of the Classical symphony, with many more instruments and a flexible number of movements. Many romantic symphonies were examples of *program music* (music that tells a story). One example is Hector Berlioz' *Fantastic Symphony*.

From these program symphonies emerged the *tone poem*. Tone poems are long, one-movement works that tell a story. *Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks* by Richard Strauss is an example of a famous tone poem.

The third type of orchestral music developed from the overture. Overtures traditionally began operas and set the mood for the audience. In the Romantic period, composers began writing overtures without attaching them to operas. These pieces were called *concert overtures*. One example is *Fingal's Cave Overture* by Felix Mendelssohn.

## NATIONALISTIC MUSIC

Until the Romantic Period, most composers, regardless of their nationality, borrowed musical styles from Germany, France, and Italy. A new trend called *nationalism* inspired composers to incorporate native folk songs and styles into their music. Russia was the leader of the nationalistic movement, with composers such as Alexander Borodin, Modeste Mussorgsky, and Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov. A good example of a nationalistic Russian opera is *A Life for the Tsar* by Michael Glinka. In Czechoslovakia, Antonin Dvořák's *Slavonic Dances* derived from folk songs and rhythms.

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

Three main types of orchestral music developed during the Romantic Period were the

\_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_,

and the \_\_\_\_\_. During the Romantic Period, a trend called

\_\_\_\_\_ inspired composers to incorporate native \_\_\_\_\_

and styles into their music. An example of a nationalistic piece is Antonin Dvořák's \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# THE 20th CENTURY

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Music written since 1900 is called *20th century* music. There have been more types and styles of music written in the 20th century than ever before.

## IMPRESSIONISTIC MUSIC

A 20th century offshoot of Romantic music is a type of program music called *Impressionistic* music.

However, where Romantic program music is like a sharp, clear picture of a friend, Impressionistic music is like a blurry, vague painting of that same friend. The most famous composers of Impressionistic music were Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel.



## NEO-CLASSICAL MUSIC

Another important type of 20th century music is *Neo-classical* music. "Neo" means new, so Neo-classical music is new music that is similar to music of the Classical period. While Neo-classical music sounds modern in many ways, it is written following the basic forms and ideals of the Classical Period. Famous Neo-classical composers include Igor Stravinsky, Paul Hindemith, and Barbara Pentland.

## CHANCE MUSIC

In *chance music*, the composer leaves a lot up to the performer. For example, a composer might give each player in a band four different sheets of music. On the director's signal each player in the band could play any one of the four sheets of music, starting and stopping whenever he or she wished. Chance music is interesting because each performance is different. One important composer of chance music was John Cage.

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

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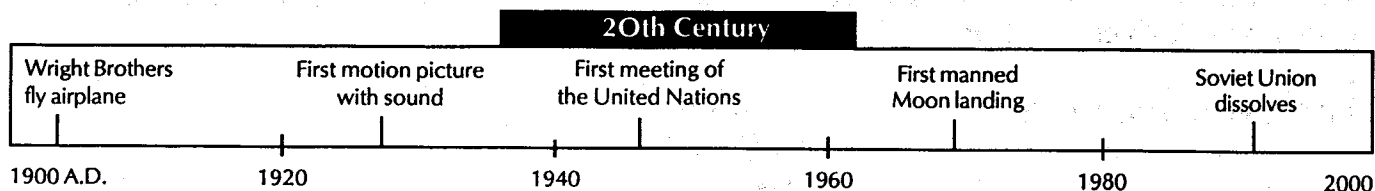
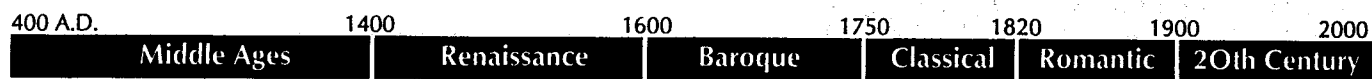
20th century music is music written since \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ music is new music that is similar to music of the Classical Period. In \_\_\_\_\_ music, the composer leaves many decisions up to the performers, so every performance is different.

## COMPOSER CATCH-UP

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Below are three styles of 20th century music. Next to each style, write the name of a composer associated with that type of music.

1. Chance music \_\_\_\_\_
2. Impressionistic music \_\_\_\_\_
3. Neo-classical music \_\_\_\_\_



### OTHER TYPES OF 20th CENTURY MUSIC

In 20th century music the only limit is the composer's imagination. Peter Schikele has fun with his pieces by having players play on mouthpieces, or by gargling with water during the piece. Igor Stravinsky's music uses many different key signatures and time signatures, and sometimes more than one at a time. A John Cage piece, *Imaginary Landscape No. 4*, consists of 12 radios all playing at the same time, but all tuned to different stations.

Technological developments have also had an influence on 20th century music, especially *electronic music*. Composers like Philip Glass, Eric Salzman, and Pauline Oliveros use electronics to create totally new sounds, styles, and effects. Most electronic music of today is created using synthesizers and computers.



Melodies in 20th century music are also very different from those of past periods. Anton Webern's melodies have large leaps, and often are made up of only two or three notes. Other melodies, like those written by Bela Bartók and Alan Hovhaness, are based on scales taken from Antiquity and the Middle Ages.

### BACK TO THE FUTURE

Synthesizers and computers are used in \_\_\_\_\_

List three interesting characteristics found in some 20th century melodies.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_