

Middle School Music History Basics

Music History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which musical era is often called the 'Age of Enlightenment' and is known for composers like Mozart and Haydn?

- A) Baroque
- B) Classical**
- C) Romantic
- D) Medieval

2. Who is considered the 'Father of the Symphony' and is known for his 104 symphonies?

- A) Johann Sebastian Bach
- B) Ludwig van Beethoven
- C) Joseph Haydn**
- D) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

3. The composer Johann Sebastian Bach is most famously associated with which musical era?

- A) Classical
- B) Renaissance
- C) Baroque**
- D) Modern

4. Which of these instruments was NOT commonly used in music during the Medieval period?

- A) Lute
- B) Harp
- C) Organ
- D) Electric Guitar**

5. The Romantic era in music (roughly 1800-1910) is characterized by its emphasis on:

- A) strict rules and order
- B) emotions and individualism**
- C) religious devotion
- D) clear, balanced melodies

6. Which composer is famous for his opera 'The Magic Flute' and his Requiem Mass?

- A) Beethoven
- B) Bach
- C) Mozart**
- D) Chopin

7. Gregorian chant is a form of monophonic music associated with which historical period?

- A) Baroque
- B) Romantic
- C) Medieval**
- D) Classical

8. The composer Ludwig van Beethoven is a transitional figure between which two major musical eras?

- A) Baroque and Romantic
- B) Classical and Romantic**
- C) Renaissance and Baroque
- D) Medieval and Classical

9. Which instrument became more prominent and developed during the Classical era?

- A) Harpsichord
- B) Synthesizer
- C) Piano**
- D) Theremin

10. Music from the Renaissance period (roughly 1400-1600) often features:

- A) single melody lines
- B) complex harmonies and polyphony**
- C) electronic sounds
- D) jazz improvisation

11. Who was a prominent composer of the Baroque era, known for his Brandenburg Concertos and fugues?

- A) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- B) Ludwig van Beethoven
- C) Joseph Haydn
- D) Johann Sebastian Bach**

12. The development of opera as a musical form began during which era?

- A) Romantic
- B) Baroque**
- C) Classical
- D) Medieval

13. Which of these composers is best known for his ballets like 'The Nutcracker' and 'Swan Lake'?

A) Franz Schubert

B) Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

C) Johannes Brahms

D) Richard Wagner

14. Music from the Romantic era often aimed to evoke feelings of:

A) stoicism and duty

B) humor and satire

C) passion, longing, and nature

D) simplicity and clarity

15. What is the term for a musical composition for a solo instrument or a small group of instruments accompanied by an orchestra, developed significantly in the Classical era?

A) Opera

B) Symphony

C) Concerto

D) Oratorio

16. The term 'polyphony' refers to music with:

A) one melodic line

B) multiple independent melodic lines

C) a single, repeated rhythm

D) electronic sound effects

17. Which composer, known for his powerful symphonies and piano sonatas, eventually became deaf?

A) Mozart

B) Bach

C) Beethoven

D) Haydn

18. The Baroque period is often characterized by its use of:

A) minimal ornamentation

B) grandeur, drama, and elaborate ornamentation

C) simple, folk-like melodies

D) atonal harmonies

19. Which of these composers is considered a key figure of the early Romantic period and known for his Lieder (art songs)?

A) Antonio Vivaldi

B) Franz Schubert

C) George Frideric Handel

D) Claudio Monteverdi

20. The 'Classical' period in music history is often associated with which city as a major center for music?

A) London

B) Paris

C) Vienna

D) Rome