

Advanced Music Theory for Young Minds

Music Theory · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which interval, when sounded between two notes, creates a feeling of tension and often resolves to a consonant interval?

- A) Perfect fifth
- B) Major third
- C) Minor second**
- D) Octave

2. In Western music, what is the term for the system of organizing pitches into a scale, typically with seven distinct notes, where the eighth note is a repetition of the first?

- A) Rhythm
- B) Melody
- C) Diatonic scale**
- D) Harmony

3. A dominant seventh chord is built on which degree of a major scale?

- A) First (tonic)
- B) Fourth (subdominant)
- C) Second (supertonic)
- D) Fifth (dominant)**

4. What is the name for a chord that consists of a root note, a perfect fifth, and a major third, played simultaneously?

- A) Diminished triad
- B) Augmented triad
- C) Minor triad
- D) Major triad**

5. Which clef is commonly used for instruments that play in a lower range, such as the cello and bassoon?

- A) Treble clef
- B) Alto clef
- C) Bass clef**
- D) Tenor clef

6. What is the Italian musical term that indicates a piece should be played very fast?

- A) Andante
- B) Allegro
- C) Presto**
- D) Adagio

7. A sequence of three or more chords that is perceived as a unit and has a harmonic function is known as a:

- A) Motif
- B) Cadence
- C) Chord progression**
- D) Ostinato

8. The interval between two notes that have the same pitch but sound at different octaves is called a:

- A) Unison**
- B) Second
- C) Third
- D) Fourth

9. What is the term for the symbol placed at the beginning of a musical staff to indicate the pitch of the written notes?

- A) Time signature
- B) Key signature
- C) Clef**
- D) Bar line

10. Which of the following is a melodic interval formed by two notes that are the same distance apart as a major third, but with the upper note lowered by a half step?

- A) Major second
- B) Minor third**
- C) Perfect fourth
- D) Augmented fifth

11. What is the name of the musical form that typically consists of three distinct sections, often labeled ABA?

- A) Sonata form
- B) Rondo form
- C) Binary form
- D) Ternary form**

12. The distance between two notes that are a whole step apart is called a:

- A) Half step
- B) Whole tone**
- C) Octave
- D) Tritone

13. In music notation, what does a sharp symbol (#) placed before a note indicate?

- A) Lower the pitch by a half step
- B) Raise the pitch by a half step**
- C) Lower the pitch by a whole step
- D) Raise the pitch by a whole step

14. What is the term for the relative loudness or softness of a musical sound?

- A) Tempo
- B) Timbre
- C) Dynamics**
- D) Articulation

15. Which note name, when lowered by a half step, forms a minor third with C?

- A) D
- B) E**
- C) F
- D) G

16. What is the name of a chord built on the fifth degree of a scale, which typically leads back to the tonic chord?

- A) Subdominant chord
- B) Dominant chord**
- C) Supertonic chord
- D) Tonic chord

17. What is the Italian musical term for a tempo that is moderately slow?

- A) Vivace
- B) Allegretto
- C) Andante**
- D) Largo

18. The interval formed by two notes where the upper note is a perfect fifth above the lower note is called a:

- A) Minor third
- B) Major third
- C) Perfect fifth**
- D) Major sixth

19. Which musical term indicates that a passage should be played smoothly and connectedly?

- A) Staccato
- B) Legato**
- C) Accent
- D) Fermata

20. What is the primary function of a cadence in music?

- A) To introduce a new melody
- B) To provide harmonic contrast
- C) To signal the end of a phrase or section**
- D) To change the tempo drastically