

Nature and Animals in Opera

Opera · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. In Maurice Ravel's opera 'L'enfant et les sortilèges', which animal is depicted singing an aria about the cruelty of humans towards nature?

- A) The Nightingale
- B) The Firefly
- C) The Dragonfly**
- D) The Tree Frog

2. In Leos Janáček's 'The Cunning Little Vixen', what species is the titular protagonist, Sharp-Ears?

- A) Red Fox**
- B) Pine Marten
- C) Badger
- D) Stoat

3. Which 19th-century opera features a character named 'The Bird-Catcher' (Papageno), who wears a costume made entirely of bird feathers?

- A) The Marriage of Figaro
- B) The Magic Flute**
- C) Don Giovanni
- D) Così fan tutte

4. Which environmental disaster serves as the central theme in John Adams' opera 'Doctor Atomic', focusing on the creation of the atomic bomb?

- A) The Chernobyl Meltdown
- B) The Trinity Nuclear Test**
- C) The Fukushima Incident
- D) The Bikini Atoll radiation

5. In Benjamin Britten's 'Peter Grimes', which natural force is considered a 'character' in the opera, depicted through orchestral interludes?

- A) The Forest
- B) The Sea**
- C) The Mountain
- D) The Desert

6. Which opera by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov features a prominent character that is a mythical bird with a woman's head?

- A) The Tsar's Bride
- B) The Tale of Tsar Saltan
- C) The Golden Cockerel**
- D) Sadko

7. In 'The Barber of Seville' by Rossini, which animal is mentioned in the lyrics as a metaphor for the quick-witted nature of Figaro?

- A) The Swallow
- B) The Hare**
- C) The Fox
- D) The Spider

8. Which opera by Giacomo Puccini contains an act set in a dense, dark forest where the environment plays a pivotal role in the plot?

- A) La bohème
- B) Tosca
- C) Turandot**
- D) Manon Lescaut