

Classical Music Basics

Classical Music · Answer Key · 23 Questions

1. Which composer is often called the 'Father of the Symphony'?

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

2. What is the largest section of a typical symphony orchestra?

- A) Brass
- B) Percussion
- C) Woodwinds
- D) Strings**

3. Which of these instruments is a brass instrument?

- A) Flute
- B) Clarinet
- C) Trombone**
- D) Violin

4. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a child prodigy who started composing at a very young age. Approximately how old was he when he wrote his first known composition?

- A) 10 years old
- B) 5 years old**
- C) 15 years old
- D) 8 years old

5. What is the name for a large musical composition for orchestra, usually in four movements?

- A) Concerto
- B) Opera
- C) Symphony**
- D) Sonata

6. Which composer is famous for his nine symphonies, including the powerful Symphony No. 5?

- A) Johann Sebastian Bach
- B) Ludwig van Beethoven**
- C) Frédéric Chopin
- D) Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

7. What instrument is commonly known as the 'king of instruments'?

A) Piano

B) Harp

C) Organ

D) Cello

8. Which composer wrote 'The Four Seasons'?

A) Antonio Vivaldi

B) George Frideric Handel

C) Franz Schubert

D) Johannes Brahms

9. What type of musical piece is often written for a solo instrument and orchestra, featuring a virtuoso performer?

A) Overture

B) Concerto

C) Ballet

D) Requiem

10. Which of these is a percussion instrument?

A) Oboe

B) Bassoon

C) Tuba

D) Timpani

11. Johann Sebastian Bach is a prominent figure from which musical era?

A) Romantic Era

B) Classical Era

C) Baroque Era

D) Modern Era

12. What is the name of the opera that features characters like Carmen and Don José?

A) The Magic Flute

B) La Bohème

C) Carmen

D) The Barber of Seville

13. Which instrument is part of both the string family and the keyboard family?

A) Harpsichord

B) Celesta

C) Piano

D) Clavichord

14. Who composed 'The Nutcracker' ballet?

- A) Igor Stravinsky
- B) Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**
- C) Sergei Prokofiev
- D) Dmitri Shostakovich

15. What are the four main sections of a symphony orchestra?

- A) Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion**
- B) Violin, Cello, Flute, Trumpet
- C) Piano, Harp, Organ, Harpsichord
- D) Opera, Ballet, Symphony, Concerto

16. Which composer is known for his opera 'The Marriage of Figaro' and 'Don Giovanni'?

- A) Ludwig van Beethoven
- B) Franz Joseph Haydn
- C) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**
- D) Richard Wagner

17. What is the term for a musical composition for a solo instrument with orchestral accompaniment?

- A) Sonata
- B) Fugue
- C) Concerto**
- D) Overture

18. Which of these is a woodwind instrument?

- A) French Horn
- B) Trumpet
- C) Oboe**
- D) Tuba

19. Which composer wrote the 'Moonlight Sonata'?

- A) Frédéric Chopin
- B) Ludwig van Beethoven**
- C) Johannes Brahms
- D) Robert Schumann

20. What is the smallest section of a standard symphony orchestra in terms of the number of players?

- A) Brass
- B) Woodwinds
- C) Percussion**
- D) Strings

21. Which composer is considered a master of fugues and Baroque keyboard music, often associated with Germany?

- A) Antonio Vivaldi
- B) George Frideric Handel
- C) Johann Sebastian Bach**
- D) Claudio Monteverdi

22. What is the largest string instrument in the orchestra, played while standing or sitting on a high stool?

- A) Cello
- B) Viola
- C) Double Bass**
- D) Harp

23. Which era of music is characterized by a focus on emotion, individualism, and dramatic expression, with composers like Beethoven, Chopin, and Tchaikovsky?

- A) Baroque Era
- B) Classical Era
- C) Romantic Era**
- D) Impressionist Era