

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Great Composers

1600-1900

Listening Example #1

Use one word to describe what you hear.

What instruments do you hear?

Where might you have heard this music?

Listening Example #2

Use one word to describe what you hear.

What instruments do you hear?

Where might you have heard this music?

Listening Example #3

Use one word to describe what you hear.

What instruments do you hear?

Where might you have heard this music?

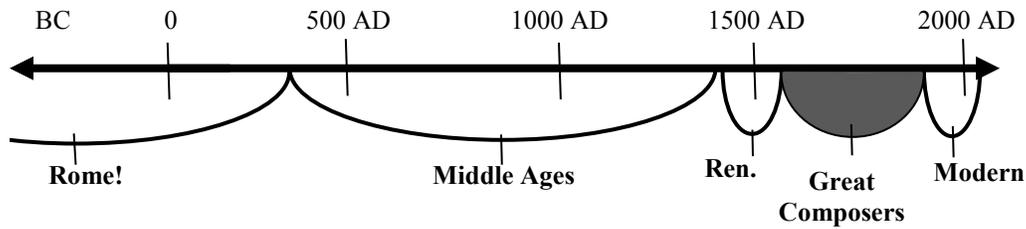
Listening Example #4

Use one word to describe what you hear.

What instruments do you hear?

Where might you have heard this music?

Our Music History Timeline



#1 - The Baroque Period (1600-1750)

The word *Baroque* (buh-roke) describes a period of music that had a very *fancy* style. Some of the great composers of this time were Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi. They continued the Renaissance tradition of *polyphonic* music. The music became even more complex and the orchestra also grew in size. This is the beginning of what most students think of as “classical music.”

Opera became the most popular form of music. These performances consisted of performers telling a dramatic story on stage through singing.

Another popular form of music was the *fugue*. A fugue is much like a modern day round where one voice starts a theme and second voice starts it later. Remember singing “Row, Row, Row, Your Boat” in two different groups? This is a simple form of the polyphonic fugue.

Johann Sebastian Bach



George Frideric Handel

Antonio Vivaldi

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



#2 - The Classical Period (1750-1825)

The *Classical* period was much less complex and *homophonic* music was the dominant style. Composers like Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven wrote music that is still used as a model for classical and popular music today.

Opera maintained its importance in the music world. The musical introduction from an opera is called an *overture*, and these became extremely popular. A modern example of an overture is the music played before a movie.

A new type of popular music was the *symphony*. A symphony is usually written for a large orchestra and has between 3-5 movements. A *movement* is like a chapter in a book. These pieces of music are usually about 30-40 minutes long, but can be much shorter or longer. Mozart wrote over 50 symphonies, but Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5 is the most famous. You’ll recognize it right away - the Classical period is a time of great melodies!



Franz Joseph Haydn

Ludwig von Beethoven

Summarize - What's the main idea?

#1 - The Baroque Time Period (1600-1750)

#2 - The Classical Time Period (1750-1825)

#3 - The Romantic Time Period (1825-1900)
