Unit 1: Elements of Music
Practice Test

Name ____________________________ Date _________________

Multiple Choice Listening Questions

1. The dynamics of the excerpt may be described as
   A. pianissimo
   B. piano
   C. forte
   D. fortissimo

2. The vibrating element in the excerpt is
   A. a column of air
   B. a stretched string
   C. the instrument itself
   D. a stretched skin or membrane

3. The excerpt is being performed by a
   A. string quartet
   B. woodwind quintet
   C. brass quintet
   D. piano trio

4. The solo woodwind instrument in the excerpt is a
   A. flute
   B. oboe
   C. clarinet
   D. bassoon

5. The solo instrument in the excerpt is a
   A. trumpet
   B. trombone
   C. French horn
   D. tuba

6. The excerpt is an example of
   A. crescendo
   B. decrescendo
   C. accelerando
   D. ritardando

7. The excerpt is in ___________ meter
   A. duple
   B. triple
   C. quadruple
   D. quintuple

8. The harmony of the excerpt is basically
   A. major
   B. minor
   C. atonal
   D. modulation
9. The texture of the excerpt is
   A. monophonic
   B. polyphonic
   C. homophonic
   D. tonic

**Multiple Choice**

10. Music can be defined as
   A. sounds produced by musical instruments
   B. sounds that are pleasing, as opposed to noise
   C. an art based on the organization of sounds in time
   D. a system of symbols that performers learn to read

11. The four main properties of musical sounds are pitch, dynamics, tone color, and
   A. duration
   B. tempo
   C. melody
   D. medium

12. Pitch is defined as
   A. degrees of loudness or softness in music
   B. the quality that distinguishes musical sounds
   C. the relative highness or lowness that we hear in a sound
   D. leaning on a musical note

13. In general, the smaller the vibrating element, the __________ its pitch
   A. higher
   B. softer
   C. lower
   D. louder

14. Melody may be defined as
   A. an emotional focal point in a tune
   B. a resting place at the end of a phrase
   C. a series of single notes which add up to a recognizable whole
   D. the organization of beats into regular groupings

15. The musical element that refers to the way chords are constructed and how they follow each other is
   A. harmony
   B. tempo
   C. melody
   D. meter

16. Dynamics in music refers to
   A. the quality that distinguishes musical sounds
   B. the relative highness or lowness we hear in a sound
   C. an exemplary performance
   D. degrees of loudness and softness
_________ 17. A gradual increase in loudness is known as a
A. decrescendo
B. crescendo
C. fortissimo
D. diminuendo

_________ 18. *Timbre* is synonymous with
A. sound
B. vibrations
C. tone color
D. dynamic accent

_________ 19. Which of the following is *not* a normal classification of male voice ranges?
A. contralto
B. baritone
C. tenor
D. bass

_________ 20. The difference between an orchestra and a concert band is
A. the orchestra does not have brass instruments
B. the concert band does not have percussion instruments
C. the orchestra does not have woodwind instruments
D. the concert band does not have string instruments

_________ 21. Which of the following is an example of a chamber ensemble?
A. Concert Band
B. Flute Trio
C. Chorus
D. String Orchestra

_________ 22. Which of the following is *not* a brass instrument?
A. cornet
B. French horn
C. euphonium
D. clarinet

_________ 23. The ___________ are the only orchestral drums of definite pitch.
A. snare drums
B. bass drums
C. timpani
D. tambourines

_________ 24. The ________ is a regular, recurrent pulsation that divides music into equal units of time
A. beat
B. syncopation
C. tempo
D. rhythm

_________ 25. The organization of beats into regular groups is called
A. meter
B. syncopation
C. tempo
D. dynamics
26. When an accent occurs on an unexpected beat, the effect is known as
   A. an error
   B. syncopation
   C. expiation
   D. pizzicato

27. The term ___________ refers to the rate of speed of the beat of the music
   A. meter
   B. syncopation
   C. tempo
   D. dynamics

28. Key refers to
   A. the major scale
   B. a central tone, scale, and chord
   C. any twelve random pitches
   D. a musical symbol placed at the beginning of the staff

29. Tonality is another term for
   A. key
   B. scale
   C. chromaticism
   D. modulation

30. When there is a change in tonality it is called a
   A. minor
   B. atonal
   C. major
   D. modulation

31. If a flute player were to play a solo without any other accompaniment, the texture would be
   A. contrapuntal
   B. homophonic
   C. monophonic
   D. polyphonic

32. When there is one main melody accompanied by chords, the texture is
   A. polyphonic
   B. homophonic
   C. monophonic
   D. imitative

33. When there are 2 or more equally important melodies sounding at the same time, the texture is
   A. polyphonic
   B. homophonic
   C. monophonic
   D. imitative

34. The organization of musical ideas in time is called
   A. form
   B. repetition
   C. ternary
35. Two part form is also known as
   A. Binary
   B. Ternary
   C. Rondo
   D. Theme & Variations

36. Three part form is also known as
   A. Binary
   B. Ternary
   C. Rondo
   D. Theme & Variations

37. ABACADA is an example of
   A. Binary form
   B. Ternary form
   C. Rondo form
   D. Theme & Variations form

38. A A\textsuperscript{1} A\textsuperscript{2} A\textsuperscript{3} is an example of
   A. Binary form
   B. Ternary form
   C. Rondo form
   D. Theme & Variations form
Answer Key

1. Answers will vary
2. Answers will vary
3. Answers will vary
4. Answers will vary
5. Answers will vary
6. Answers will vary
7. Answers will vary
8. Answers will vary
9. Answers will vary
10. C
11. A
12. C
13. A
14. C
15. A
16. D
17. B
18. C
19. A
20. D
21. B
22. D
23. C
24. A
25. A
26. B
27. C
28. B
29. A
30. D
31. C
32. B
33. A
34. A
35. A
36. B
37. C
38. D