

Name _____ Date _____

Unit 6 Practice Test Classical Era

1. The classical style in music flourished during the period
 - A. 1600-1750
 - B. 1730-1770
 - C. 1750-1820
 - D. 1820-1900
2. Which of the following composers is not considered a master of the classical period?
 - A. Wolfgang A. Mozart
 - B. Ludwig van Beethoven
 - C. Joseph Haydn
 - D. Johann Christian Bach
3. Which of the following statements is *not true* of the music of the classical period?
 - A. Classical melodies are among the most tuneful and easy to remember.
 - B. The basso continuo was the nucleus of the instrumental ensemble.
 - C. Classical composers stressed balance and clarity of structure.
 - D. The standard orchestra comprised of four sections evolved during the classical period.
4. The typical orchestra of the classical period consisted of
 - A. strings, pairs of woodwinds, horns, trumpets, and timpani
 - B. strings with harpsichord continuo
 - C. a loose ensemble of available instruments
 - D. woodwinds, trombones, drums, and strings
5. Which of the following instruments were not normally included in the classical orchestra?
 - A. timpani
 - B. saxophones
 - C. trumpets
 - D. horns
6. Social mobility during the classical period was
 - A. not common
 - B. promoted and encouraged by the church
 - C. an important factor in the rise of the middle class
 - D. ruthlessly stamped out by the aristocracy
7. Political and economic power shifted from the church and the aristocracy to the
 - A. colonial powers
 - B. military-industrial complex
 - C. middle class
 - D. military

8. In the classical period, serious composition was flavored by
 - A. folk and popular music
 - B. heroic and mythological plots
 - C. elaborately ornamented improvisational melodies
 - D. all of the above

9. The prospering middle class in the classical period sought aristocratic luxuries such as
 - A. theater
 - B. literature
 - C. music
 - D. all of the above

10. Which of the following statements is *not true*?
 - A. Comic operas in the classical period treated middle-class subjects, had folk-like tunes, and sometimes even ridiculed the aristocracy.
 - B. Townspeople organized public concerts, where for the price of admission, they could hear the latest symphonies and concertos.
 - C. Political and economic power shifted during the classical period from the middle class to the aristocracy and the church.
 - D. Joseph Haydn's contract of employment shows that he was considered a skilled servant, like a gardener or gamekeeper.

11. Composers in the classical period took middle-class tastes into account by
 - A. flavoring their serious compositions with folk and popular music
 - B. writing comic operas that sometimes ridiculed the aristocracy
 - C. writing dance music for public balls
 - D. all of the above

12. In the classical period, comic operas sometimes
 - A. were based on the Old Testament
 - B. ridiculed the aristocracy
 - C. were in Latin
 - D. all of the above

13. A symphony is a
 - A. work for solo instrument
 - B. work for chorus and orchestra
 - C. work for piano solo
 - D. sonata for orchestra

14. Short musical ideas or fragments of themes that are developed within a composition are called
 - A. codas
 - B. motives
 - C. melodies
 - D. rides

15. Each successive variation in a theme with variations
- A. retains some elements of the theme
 - B. is usually in a new key
 - C. is usually in the same key
 - D. presents a new melodic idea
16. Theme-and-variations form may be schematically outlined as
- A. AABB
 - B. AA¹A²A³A⁴
 - C. ABACADA
 - D. ABA
17. Which of the following elements is usually not changed in varying the theme in theme and variations form?
- A. length
 - B. harmony
 - C. rhythm
 - D. melody
18. The minuet and trio movement of a classical symphony, string quartet, or other work, is in form.
- A. AA'A"A'"A'"
 - B. AABB
 - C. ABACABA
 - D. ABA
19. Which of the following is *not true* of the minuet?
- A. moderate tempo
 - B. ABA form
 - C. triple meter
 - D. quick, lively tempo
20. A common rondo pattern is
- A. ABACBA
 - B. ABBABC
 - C. ABCBA
 - D. ABACA
21. Which of the following statements is *not true*?
- A. A common rondo pattern is ABACABA.
 - B. A rondo movement features a tuneful main theme which returns several times in alternation with other themes.
 - C. Rondo form is often combined with elements of sonata form to produce the sonata-rondo.
 - D. The rondo as a musical form was not used in musical compositions after the classical period.

22. Symphony may be defined as a(n)
- A. musical composition for orchestra, usually in four movements
 - B. sonata for orchestra
 - C. extended, ambitious composition exploiting the expanded range of tone color and dynamics of the classical orchestra
 - D. all of the above
23. Which of the following is *not true* of the symphony?
- A. An extended, ambitious composition exploiting the expanded range of the color and dynamics of the classical orchestra.
 - B. A musical composition for orchestra, usually in four movements.
 - C. A musical composition for solo instrument and orchestra.
 - D. A sonata for orchestra.
24. A symphony is unified partly by the use of the same
- A. tempo throughout
 - B. key in three of its movements
 - C. theme for each of its movements
 - D. all of the above
25. A concerto is a large-scale work in several movements for
- A. any combination of instruments
 - B. an instrumental soloist and orchestra
 - C. symphonic orchestra
 - D. an instrumental soloist
26. Which of the following statements is *not true*?
- A. A classical concerto combines the virtuosity and interpretive abilities of a soloist with the wide range of tone color and dynamics of the orchestra.
 - B. Cadenzas in a classical concerto were indicated in the score by a fermata, and the soloist was expected to improvise, there being no music in the score at that point.
 - C. The first movement of a classical concerto is in sonata form, but has two expositions, one for the orchestra and one for the soloist.
 - D. A typical sequence of movements in a classical concerto is fast, slow, dance-related, fast.
27. The favored solo instrument in the classical concerto was the
- A. violin
 - B. cello
 - C. clarinet
 - D. piano
28. An unaccompanied showpiece for the concerto's soloist is known as a
- A. fermata
 - B. cadenza
 - C. pause
 - D. concerto's solo

29. Classical chamber music is designed
- A. exclusively for performance by paid professional musicians
 - B. for the intimate setting of a small room
 - C. to be conducted by experienced orchestral directors
 - D. to display the virtuosity of the players
30. The most important form of classical chamber music is the
- A. string quartet
 - B. violin and piano sonata
 - C. woodwind quartet
 - D. piano trio
31. A major factor that distinguishes chamber music from the symphony or concerto is that chamber music
- A. does not have difficult parts
 - B. does not use sonata form
 - C. is performed in concert halls
 - D. is performed by one player per part
32. Which of the following statements is *not true*?
- A. Classical chamber music does not need a conductor.
 - B. The most important form in classical chamber music is the string quartet.
 - C. Chamber music is subtle and intimate, intended to please the performer as much as the listener.
 - D. Chamber music is generally played but the full orchestra.
33. Joseph Haydn was content to spend most of his life
- A. serving a wealthy aristocratic family
 - B. as an independently wealthy composer
 - C. as a church musician and organist
 - D. as a professional free-lance musician
34. Haydn was fortunate in having a long and fruitful, as well as financially stable relationship with the noble Hungarian family of
- A. Kadar
 - B. Stefanhazy
 - C. Liszt
 - D. Esterhazy
35. Haydn was a prolific composer, as demonstrated in part by his 68 string quartets and 104
- A. serenades
 - B. symphonies
 - C. songs
 - D. operas

36. Along with his symphonies, Haydn's _____ are considered his most important works.
- A. string quartets
 - B. operas
 - C. baryton trios
 - D. serenades
37. Mozart was born in
- A. Rohrau, Austria
 - B. Eisenach, Germany
 - C. Bonn, Germany
 - D. Salzburg, Austria
38. By the age of six, Mozart could
- A. play the harpsichord and violin
 - B. improvise fugues and write minuets
 - C. read music perfectly at sight
 - D. all of the above
39. Which of the following statements is *not true*?
- A. In his later years, Mozart was financially well off, widely acclaimed, and sought after by an adoring public.
 - B. Mozart wrote masterpieces in all the musical forms of his time.
 - C. Between the ages of six and fifteen, Mozart was continually on tour in England and Europe.
 - D. Mozart's trips to Italy enabled him to study and master the current operatic style.
40. Mozart composed his Requiem
- A. for his own funeral
 - B. as an exercise for his composition teacher
 - C. on commission from a stranger
 - D. to help his pupil Sussmayr
41. The standard catalog of the compositions of Mozart was made by
- A. Friedrich Kuhlau
 - B. Ludwig von Köchel
 - C. Franz X. Sussmayr
 - D. Lorenzo da Ponte
42. In composing music, Mozart
- A. depended on his students to help him with the details
 - B. wrote in a slow, painstaking manner
 - C. reworked his themes many times before using them
 - D. composed extended works completely in his mind
43. Beethoven
- A. began to feel the first symptoms of deafness in his twenty-ninth year
 - B. was a brilliant pianist
 - C. was self-educated and had read widely, but was weak in elementary arithmetic
 - D. all of the above

44. We have a record of Beethoven's struggle with his musical material because of his habit of
- A. carrying a pocket tape recorder
 - B. carrying musical sketchbooks
 - C. keeping a diary
 - D. telling his troubles to his friends
45. Beethoven's late works, composed after he was totally deaf, include
- A. the Ninth Symphony
 - B. piano sonatas
 - C. string quartets
 - D. all of the above
46. Beethoven, in comparison with earlier composers, was far more extensive and explicit in marking _____ in his scores.
- A. expressive indications
 - B. tempos
 - C. dynamics
 - D. all of the above

ANSWER KEY

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|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 30. A |
| 2. D | 31. D |
| 3. B | 32. D |
| 4. A | 33. A |
| 5. B | 34. D |
| 6. C | 35. B |
| 7. C | 36. A |
| 8. A | 37. D |
| 9. D | 38. D |
| 10. C | 39. A |
| 11. D | 40. C |
| 12. B | 41. B |
| 13. D | 42. D |
| 14. B | 43. D |
| 15. A | 44. B |
| 16. B | 45. D |
| 17. A | 46. C |
| 18. D | |
| 19. D | |
| 20. D | |
| 21. D | |
| 22. D | |
| 23. C | |
| 24. B | |
| 25. B | |
| 26. D | |
| 27. D | |
| 28. B | |
| 29. B | |