

2020-2021 UIL Music Memory Study Guide

Study the terms, definitions, and information about the composers and the selections below. Questions for the Multiple Choice portion of the test will be drawn from information on this document.

5/4 meter: an uncommon meter, in which music is organized in groups of five beats per measure, quarter note gets one beat.

9/8 meter: three beats per measure. The beat is subdivided into three parts (three eighth notes per beat).

AABCCDCDC form: standard march form.

A B A form: a form consisting of three sections, in which the third section is a repeat of the first.

A cappella ("in chapel style" in Italian): singing without instrumental accompaniment.

Alto: low female singing voice, abbreviated "A."

Ballet: a story told through music and dancing, performed on a stage with costumes, sets, and lighting.

Baritone: the most common male singing voice, lower than tenor and higher than bass.

Bass: low male singing voice, abbreviated "B."

Basso continuo: a type of Baroque accompaniment in which one or more instruments play the bass line.

Bridge: a musical transition that connects two sections or themes.

Break Strain: a short introduction to the third section of a march, which is called the Trio.

Cantata: a composition for soloists, chorus, and orchestra in several movements, often based on a religious text.

Canzonetta ("little song" in Italian): a popular Italian vocal composition like the madrigal, but lighter in style.

Celeste: a keyboard instrument with hammers that strike steel plates to produce a tone like a glockenspiel.

Chamber orchestra: a few musicians who play in a room (chamber) or small hall.

Chaminade Clubs: Chaminade inspired the creation of around 200 women's clubs in the early 1900s, mainly in the United States. These early "fan clubs" were named for her and were devoted to studying her music, corresponding with her, and promoting the teaching of music and amateur performances by

women. The Chaminade Clubs advanced her popularity as a feminine role model, and also empowered women during the fight for women's rights at a time when women did not yet have the right to vote.

Choir: a large group of singers associated with the church (sacred). The voices of an adult choir include soprano (S), alto (A), tenor (T), and bass (B).

Chorus: a large group of performers (singers, dancers, actors, and/or musicians) who perform in a theater or concert hall rather than in a religious setting. The voices of an adult chorus include soprano (S), alto (A), tenor (T), and bass (B).

Chorus: a musical piece usually in four or more parts written for a large number of singers.

Coda ("tail" in Italian): ending of a piece of music.

Commission: to hire and pay a composer to write a piece of music.

Concerto: a composition, usually in three parts or movements, for solo instrument(s) and orchestra.

Dissonance: a sound created when two discordant notes are heard at the same time.

Dynamics: the volume (loudness or softness) of the sound.

El Chavo del Ocho: Mexican television comedy series (1971-1980).

Elements of music: rhythm (a pattern of long and short sounds and silences); melody (the tune, a linear succession of musical tones); and harmony (the sound of two or more tones heard at the same time).

English horn (*cor anglaise*): a double reed woodwind instrument in the oboe family, 1.5 times longer and lower sounding than an oboe.

Fanfare: a short, showy piece of music played for a special event or to announce the arrival of an important person. Fanfares are often played by trumpets and other brass instruments.

Flamenco: a form of Spanish folk music and dance characterized by guitar, singing, castanets, and rhythmic hand clapping and foot stamping.

Flamenco guitar: similar to a classical acoustic guitar, with a thinner top and a plastic tap plate. It produces a brighter, louder, more percussive sound. Players use different posture, strumming patterns, and rhythmic percussive techniques.

Forte: loud.

Incidental music: background music composed to go with the action or speaking parts of a drama.

Introduction: beginning of a piece of music.

Largo: slowly.

Legion of Honor: the highest civilian award that is given in France.

Leitmotif ("leading motif" in German): a short musical phrase associated with a character, place, idea, or feeling.

Libretto: contains all the words and stage directions for an opera.

Lyrics: the words of a song.

Madrigal: a secular (not religious) vocal piece for two to eight parts, usually performed *a cappella*.

Major: music in a major key may sound bright, happy, confident, strong, cheery, stable, or joyful.

March: to move along steadily with a measured step and a regular measured stride. In music, march: a piece of music with a strong regular rhythm, written for marching to. The parts of the march: introduction, first strain, second strain, trio, break strain, stinger.

Margrave: lord or military commander of a medieval German border province.

Mazurka: Polish dance in triple meter (three beats per measure), with a lively tempo and an accent on the second or third beat. In the 19th century it was a popular form of ballroom dance in Europe.

Mezzo-soprano: a medium female singing voice, between soprano and alto.

Meter: the way beats of music are grouped, usually in sets of two, three, or four beats.

Minor: music in a minor key may sound moody, dark, sad, sinister, serious, nervous, weak, unstable, or spooky.

Musical form: the overall structure of a piece of music.

Musical prodigy: a child who can perform or compose music at the level of a highly-trained adult.

Nationalism in music: the use of musical ideas or themes that are identified with a specific country, region, or ethnicity, such as folk tunes and melodies, rhythms, and harmonies inspired by them.

Opera: a story told completely through music. The characters sing with an orchestra accompanying them and act out the story on a stage with costumes, scenery, props, and choreography.

Opera aria ("air" in Italian): a song from an opera for one voice, often sung with an orchestra.

Opera chorus: a group of singers that sings the parts of the townspeople or other special groups of characters in an opera. The chorus is made up of sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses and those parts are often divided.

Oratorio: a musical composition for choir, soloists, and orchestra with a religious theme. Oratorios are performed in concert settings, without special costumes or staging.

Ornaments: notes that are added to the main notes of a melody, which decorate or “ornament” the melody and make it more interesting.

Piano: soft, quiet.

Piccolo trumpet: a small trumpet that plays an octave higher than a full-sized trumpet.

Polonaise: a stately Polish dance with a moderate tempo in triple meter, originally performed for court processions as military officers or military couples entered the ballroom.

Polyphony: the simultaneous use of multiple melodies, often creating great dissonance.

Recitative (reh-sih-tuh-TEEV): a style of singing in which a singer uses the rhythms of ordinary speech.

Romance: an early form of French art song.

Romances sans paroles (“songs without words” in French): short piano pieces with song-like melodies.

Rondo form: a musical form in which the main theme alternates with contrasting themes or sections: A B A C A. This form may be modified to A B A B A, as in Beethoven’s “Turkish March,” or extended to A B A C A D A, as in Kodály’s “Viennese Musical Clock.”

Rubato (“robbed” in Italian): a temporary disregard of strict tempo, instead becoming slightly faster or slower for expressive purposes.

Salon: a drawing room or reception room in a large house. A **musical salon** is an event similar to an informal house concert, held in a salon.

Salon music: a popular type of music in 19th-century Europe. It was usually a short piece written for solo piano and was often performed by its composer at a musical salon.

“Scenic” cantata: a staged cantata with costumes, choreography, dance, and scenery.

Scherzo (“joke” in Italian): often the third movement in a symphony, in 3/4 time, usually quick and light-hearted. It is sometimes played with a trio, followed by a repeat of the *scherzo*.

Singspiel (ZING-shpeel): a popular German form of comic opera. Sung recitative is replaced with spoken dialogue.

Solo: music for one performer.

Soprano: highest female singing voice, abbreviated “S.”

Souvenance: French for “remembrance.”

Stinger: a loud accented chord that occurs at the end of the march

Strain: section of a march. The first strain is the first dominant melody. The second strain is usually performed *piano* (soft) the first time and *forte* (loud) on the repeat.

Suite: a musical form made up of a collection of short pieces.

Symphonic suite: a set of pieces for orchestra performed in a concert setting.

Symphony: a musical composition in three or more movements for orchestra.

Tempo: the speed of the beat.

Tenor: high male singing voice, abbreviated "T."

Theme: a recognizable melody upon which part or all of a composition is based.

Tonality: the "key" of the music, determined by whether the notes are part of a major or minor scale.

Tone poem: a composition for orchestra that illustrates a poem, story, painting, or landscape. Also known as a **symphonic poem**.

Trill: a musical ornament that consists of quick alternation between the main note and the note above it.

Trio: a middle contrasting section of a three-part form, named "trio" because it was originally written for three instruments. Trio sections usually have light, simple texture.

Trio: the third section of the march. It is more lyrical (song-like), and is usually the main melody of the march.

Triple meter: music is organized with three beats per measure.

Turkish march: a march written by a classical composer in "Turkish style," which includes specific rhythm patterns.

Valkyries: nine mythical warrior maidens, daughters of the god *Wotan*.

Verse-refrain: a two-part, AB song form. Each verse has different words when it repeats, but the words stay the same for the refrain. Verse-refrain is the most common song form.

Voyager Golden Records: two phonograph records that were included aboard the Voyager spacecrafts that were launched into space in 1977. The records are intended for any intelligent extraterrestrial beings that may find them, and contain sounds and images that reflect the diversity of life and culture on Earth.

Bach

- Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), German Baroque composer. One of the “Three B’s” (Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms).
- Played violin, viola, harpsichord, clavier, and organ.
- Had 20 children. 9 survived him. 4 were composers.
- Considered to be the greatest composer of all time. Three of his compositions are included on the Voyager Golden Records, sent into space in 1977.
- Had diabetes. Went blind. Died of a stroke.

Beethoven

- Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), German Classical/Romantic composer. One of the “Three B’s” (Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms).
- Played violin, viola, organ, and was a virtuoso pianist.
- Gradually became deaf. Began to lose his hearing in 1796; completely deaf in 1818.
- One of the most famous and influential composers in music history.
- Moody, disorganized, and arrogant. Died of liver failure.

Chaminade

- Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944), Romantic French composer.
- Child prodigy. Played violin and piano.
- First professional female composer. Made her living by publishing her music and touring as a concert pianist. Inspired “Chaminade Clubs” in the U.S.
- First female composer awarded the Legion of Honor, the highest civilian award that is given in France.
- Died after suffering from a bone disease.

Chopin

- Frederic Chopin (1810-1849), Polish Romantic composer.
- Played piano. Musical prodigy and virtuoso pianist.
- Considered Poland’s greatest composer and pianist. Wrote many showpieces for piano, including 23 polonaises.
- Disliked public concerts and performed mostly in private salons. Made his living by publishing his works and teaching piano.
- Suffered poor health most of his life. Died at the age of 39 of tuberculosis.

Dvořák

- Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904), Romantic Czech composer.
- Played violin, viola, piano, and organ.
- 1892-95 lived in the U.S., where he was Director of the National Conservatory of Music in New York City.
- The most distinguished and versatile Czech composer and the first to become famous around the world. Known for his “**New World**” **Symphony** and **Slavonic Dances**.
- Died after suffering a stroke.

Falla

- Manuel de Falla (1876-1946), 20th century Spanish composer.
- Played piano.
- Interested in Spanish folk music and flamenco. Composed ballet, keyboard, orchestra, and vocal music.
- Named a Knight of the order of King Alfonso X of Castile. Died of a heart attack in Argentina.
- One of Spain's most important composers. His picture was on Spain's 100-*pesetas* banknote.

Handel

- George Frideric Handel (1685-1759), German Baroque composer.
- Played organ, harpsichord, violin, and oboe.
- Handel and Bach were born the same year in towns less than 100 miles apart, but they never met. Both composers went blind.
- Composed for the English court. Died of unknown causes and was buried in Westminster Abbey in London.
- Wrote rapidly. Composed almost as fast as he could copy the notes.

Holst

- Gustav Holst (1874-1934), 20th century English composer.
- Played trombone professionally. Also played violin, organ, and piano.
- Worked as an arranger, teacher, and conductor. Famous for **The Planets**.
- Suffered from asthma, poor eyesight, and nerve damage in his right arm.
- Died of heart failure after an operation.

Ives

- Charles Ives (1874-1954), 20th century American composer.
- Played piano and organ.
- Earned his living as owner of an insurance agency. Composed music on weekends and evenings for his own pleasure.
- Received the Pulitzer Prize in 1947 for his **Symphony No. 3**, which he completed in 1907.
- Had heart disease, diabetes, lost his eye sight and died after suffering a stroke.

Kodály

- Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967), 20th century Hungarian composer.
- Played violin and piano. Was a music critic.
- Wrote two operas, songs, choral music, orchestra and chamber music.
- Collected and recorded Hungarian folk songs. Creator of the Kodály Method of music education.
- Died from a heart attack.

Mozart

- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791), Austrian Classical composer.
- Played violin, viola, harpsichord, clavier, piano, and organ.
- Child prodigy. Considered a musical genius his whole life.
- Traveled extensively with his sister around Europe performing for royalty. Died of rheumatic fever.
- One of the most important classical composers in history.

Orff

- Carl Orff (1895-1982), 20th century German composer and educator.
- Played piano, organ, and cello.
- Taught himself how to compose by studying masterworks of great composers.
- Developed, with Gunild Keetman, "*Orff Schulwerk*," an approach to music education.
- Died of cancer. Best known for *Carmina Burana*.

Ponce

- Manuel Ponce (1882-1948), 20th century Mexican composer.
- Musical prodigy. Played piano and organ.
- Music educator and scholar of traditional Mexican and Cuban song and folklore.
- Known as the "Creator of Modern Mexican Song."
- Died of kidney disease.

Puccini

- Gioacomo Puccini (1858-1924), Italian Romantic composer.
- Played organ and piano.
- One of the first composers to become a major celebrity.
- Famous as an opera composer, even though he wrote only twelve operas. Composed some of the most popular operas ever written.
- Died of a heart attack during radiation treatments for throat cancer.

Shostakovich

- Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975), 20th century Russian-Soviet composer.
- Played piano and violin. Musical prodigy.
- Composed 15 symphonies, 15 string quartets, over 30 film scores, and music for cartoons. Adapted his compositions to meet the demands of the Soviet government.
- Worldwide celebrity. Picture appeared on the cover of **Time** magazine.
- Died of lung cancer.

Smetana

- Bedřich Smetana (1824-1884), Romantic Czech composer.
- Played piano and was a conductor.
- Composed operas, symphonic poems, and piano music.
- First Czech composer known internationally for his music. One of the leaders in the movement toward nationalism in music. Known as the "Father of Czech Music."
- Suffered from syphilis, which caused him to become deaf in 1874 and led to madness. Died in a mental asylum.

Sousa

- John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), 20th century American composer.
- Played violin and piano.
- Conductor of the U.S. Marine Band and his own band, the Sousa Band.
- Composed 136 marches and was nicknamed "The March King."
- Invented the sousaphone. Died of heart failure.

Tchaikovsky

- Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), Russian Romantic composer.
- Played piano.
- Began career as a law clerk. Didn't study music until he was 22.
- Famous orchestra conductor. Conductor on the opening night of Carnegie Hall in New York City in 1891.
- Sensitive, handsome man with fine tastes. Died of cholera.

Vecchi

- Orazio Vecchi (1550-1605), Italian Renaissance composer.
- Played organ.
- Composed mostly "entertainment music" (secular madrigals and *canzonettas*).
- Pioneer of dramatic music: grouped madrigals together in a new form, the madrigal comedy.
- Became a priest, but continued to compose music.

Wagner

- Richard Wagner (1813-1883), German Romantic composer.
- Played piano. Also known as a conductor and theater director.
- Famous for his thirteen operas, which he called "music dramas."
- Wrote the libretto as well as the music for all of his operas.
- Died of a heart attack.

Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 2: Movement 3

- The six **Brandenburg Concertos**, presented to the Margrave of Brandenburg in 1721, are thought to be the finest compositions of the Baroque era.
- Each of the six **Brandenburg Concertos** were written for several solo instruments.
- Movement 3 of **Brandenburg Concerto No. 2** was written for chamber orchestra (two violins, viola, string bass, and *basso continuo*: harpsichord and cello), with solo trumpet, oboe, violin, and recorder.
- The solo trumpet part was written for a natural trumpet, but is played on a piccolo trumpet.
- Movement 1 of **Brandenburg Concerto No. 2** is on the Voyager Golden Records sent into space in 1977.

Beethoven: Ruins of Athens: Turkish March

- In 1811 Beethoven wrote the incidental music for the **Ruins of Athens**, a play by German dramatist August von Kotzebue (1761-1819). The play premiered in 1812 at the opening of a new theater in Pest, Hungary.
- The “Turkish March,” a.k.a. “*Marcia alla Turca*,” is the fourth piece of incidental music in the play.
- Beethoven composed “Six Variations on an Original Theme” for piano in 1809. He used this theme for the A section of his “Turkish March.”
- The form of the “Turkish March” is a modified rondo: A B A B A Coda. It was written for orchestra.
- An electronic version of the “Turkish March” theme became famous as the opening theme music for a 1971 Mexican television comedy series, *El Chavo del Ocho*.

Chaminade: Six Romances sans paroles: No. 1 Souvenance

- Chaminade composed her *Six Romances sans paroles* (“songs without words”) for solo piano in 1893.
- Each of the pieces is dedicated to someone. No. 1 “*Souvenance*” (“remembrance”) is dedicated to Monsieur Jules Auguste Wiernsberger (1857-1925), French composer of piano pieces and chamber music.
- The form of “*Souvenance*” is A A’ B B Bridge A A’ Coda.
- Chaminade was a leading composer and performer of salon music.

Chopin: Polonaise in A Major, “Military”

- Chopin composed two polonaises for solo piano for his Opus 40 on the Spanish Island of Majorca in 1828. “Polonaise in A Major” is the first of the pair.
- The form of Chopin’s “Military” Polonaise is A B A.
- The November Uprising, a.k.a. the Polish-Russian War of 1830-1831: an armed Polish rebellion against the rule of the Russian Empire.
- When Germany invaded Poland in 1939 at the beginning of World War II, Polski Radio broadcast Chopin’s “Military” Polonaise each day as a nationalistic protest, and to rally the Polish people.

Dvořák: Symphony No. 9, “From the New World”: Movement 2

- Dvořák’s **Symphony No. 9** was commissioned by the New York Philharmonic and was composed in New York City in 1893. It premiered the same year at Carnegie Hall.
- Dvořák’s **Symphony No. 9**. Subtitled, “**From the New World,**” was written for orchestra and has four movements. Movement 2 is marked “*Largo*.” This movement is also known as the “*Largo*” from the “**New World**” **Symphony**.
- Originally written for clarinet, the English horn solo in Movement 2 is the most famous of all English horn solos.
- The form of this movement is A B A with an introduction and coda.
- The “**New World**” **Symphony** is one of the most popular symphonies of all time. A tape recording of the symphony was taken on the Apollo 11 mission (the first Moon landing) in 1969.

Falla: Spanish Dance No. 1

- Falla’s opera, ***La Vida Breve*** (“The Short Life”) contains two Spanish dances. “Spanish Dance No. 1,” from Act 2, Scene 1, is performed by flamenco dancers with castanets as part of a wedding celebration.
- The opera won first prize in an opera competition in 1905, but wasn’t performed until 1913.
- “Spanish Dance No. 1” has a rondo form: A B A C A.
- Falla wrote only one work for solo guitar. This dance was arranged for two guitars by Emilio Pujol in the 1930s.
- “Spanish Dance No. 1” is one of Falla’s most popular works.

Handel: Messiah: Hallelujah Chorus

- The **Messiah** is an oratorio for SATB choir, soloists, and chamber orchestra.
- It was composed in 1741 in only 23 days. Handel sometimes would not let himself eat or sleep during that time.
- The **Messiah** was written in three sections that cover Christ’s birth, death, and resurrection.
- Handel told of having a vision where he saw all of heaven and a company of angels before him that inspired him to compose the **Messiah**.
- The **Messiah** premiered in Dublin in 1742. To make room for the audience, ladies were asked to remove the hoops from their skirts and gentlemen, to leave swords at home.
- When the English King George II heard the “Hallelujah Chorus” for the first time he was so moved that he stood up, causing everyone in the audience to stand. It is still tradition today to stand when it is played.
- Today “Monster Concerts” of the **Messiah** are held where there are very large audiences and large groups of performers.

Holst: The Planets: Mars

- **The Planets** is a seven-movement symphonic suite for large orchestra, with one piece for each of the planets except Earth.
- Holst called **The Planets** a series of mood pictures.
- The suite was composed between 1914 and 1916. “Mars” was composed in 1914. The first public performance of the suite was in 1920.
- The full title of the selection: “Mars, the Bringer of War.”
- Holst was a shy man, and hated the popularity of **The Planets** and the fame it brought him. He turned down awards and honors, and refused to give interviews and autographs.

Ives: Three Places in New England: Putnam's Camp

- Originally named **New England Symphony, Orchestral Set No. 1** is also known by its subtitle, **Three Places in New England**.
- Ives composed the set between 1911 and 1914 for small theater orchestra, revised the work for chamber orchestra in 1929, and added more instruments for its publication in 1935. The third version for full orchestra is the best-known.
- The second movement of the set, "Putnam's Camp," was originally titled "The Children's Holiday at Putnam's Camp."
- The form of the selection is A B A.
- For "Putnam's Camp," Ives used music from two of his earlier works, "'Country Band' March" (1903) and "Overture and March '1776'" (1904).
- **Three Places in New England** is one of Ives' most-performed compositions.

Kodály: Háry János Suite: Viennese Musical Clock

- "Viennese Musical Clock" is from a suite of six movements from Kodály's *Singspiel*, **Háry János** (HAH-ree YAH-nohsh), composed in 1926. *János* is an old soldier who tells imaginative adventure stories from his younger days (like single-handedly defeating Napoleon). In Hungarian, *János* (John) is actually his first name and *Háry* (Harry) is his last name.
- **Háry János Suite**, compiled in 1927, is better known than the opera, and the second part, "Viennese Musical Clock," is the most famous movement from the suite.
- The form of "Viennese Musical Clock" is A B A C A D A (extended rondo).
- The instrumentation of "Viennese Musical Clock" includes no strings, but it does use a celeste (a keyboard instrument with hammers that strike plates to produce a tone like a glockenspiel).

Mozart: The Magic Flute: Pa-Pa-Pa-Papageno

- **The Magic Flute**, composed in 1791, was Mozart's last opera. Mozart conducted the premiere in Vienna in September 1791, and died in December.
- All words, spoken and sung, in the *Singspiel* are in German.
- Impresario (actor, author, composer) friend Emanuel Schikaneder (shih-kuh-NAY-der) suggested that Mozart write the opera, and Schikaneder wrote the libretto, directed it, and sang the role of Papageno.
- "Pa-Pa-Pa-Papageno" is a duet between Papageno and Papagena that occurs near the end of **The Magic Flute**.
- **The Magic Flute** is the fourth most-performed opera in the world.

Orff: Carmina Burana: O Fortuna

- The cantata **Carmina Burana** was composed in 1935-6. Orff chose 24 songs and poems from Medieval manuscripts discovered in a monastery in a small German town, *Benediktbeuern*.
- The full title of **Carmina Burana**: "Songs of *Beuren*: Secular Songs for Singers and Chorus to Be Sung Together with Instruments and Magic Images."
- "*O Fortuna*" is the first and last piece in the cantata. The first and last sections are titled "*Fortuna Imperatrix Mundi*" ("Fortune, Ruler of the World").
- The lyrics of "*O Fortuna*" are written in Latin.
- **Carmina Burana** is frequently performed in concert, without costumes, dancing, and staging.
- "*O Fortuna*" has been recorded many times and is widely-used in movies and television commercials.

Ponce: Mazurcas: No. 23

- Ponce's *mazurcas* were written between 1900 and 1917. Some were lost during the Mexican Revolution, but twenty survived.
- *Mazurca* No. 23 was probably composed in 1916. Ponce edited all his *mazurcas* in 1938.
- *Mazurca* No. 23 is a showpiece for piano in rondo form (A B A C A), and is not intended for dancing.
- *Mazurca* No. 23 was written in the style of salon music: a popular type of music in 19th century Europe.

Puccini: Turandot: Nessun Dorma

- *Turandot*: "daughter of Turan" in Persian. Turan is a region in Central Asia.
- *Turandot* was Puccini's last opera. He began composing it in 1919, but died before he could write the ending of the opera. It was completed, from Puccini's sketches, by Italian composer Franco Alfano.
- The lyrics of *Turandot* are written in Italian.
- "*Nessun Dorma*" is a challenging aria for the tenor to sing because it stays in a high range. It is the best-known aria from *Turandot*.

Shostakovich: Symphony No. 5: Movement 2

- Shostakovich's **Symphony No. 5** is subtitled "A Soviet Artist's Reply to Just Criticism," to satisfy party censors and to keep Shostakovich out of prison.
- Composed in 1937, **Symphony No. 5** was first performed the same year in Leningrad at a festival in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the October Revolution. It received a 40-minute standing ovation.
- The form of Movement 2 is *scherzo-trio-scherzo-coda*.
- **Symphony No. 5** is the most popular and most-performed of Shostakovich's fifteen symphonies.

Smetana: Má Vlast: The Moldau

- The Moldau: the German name for the *Vltava* (vehl-TAH-vah) River in the Czech Republic. It is the country's longest river, and, known as "the Czech national river," is a source of pride for the Czech people.
- Smetana composed **Má Vlast** ("My Country" in the Czech language) for orchestra between 1874 and 1879. This set of six symphonic poems was dedicated to the city of Prague.
- Because he became deaf early in 1874, Smetana wrote the entire work without being able to hear a single note.
- Although the six sections of **Má Vlast** were composed as separate pieces, and each had its own premiere, Smetana intended for them to be performed together, like a suite or symphony. The complete set premiered in Prague in 1882.
- "The Moldau" was composed in nineteen days near the end of 1874 and was first performed in April, 1875.
- Today "The Moldau" is the most popular section of **Má Vlast**, and the most frequently-performed.
- After the Nazis occupied Czechoslovakia in 1939 during World War II, Czech orchestras performed "The Moldau" as a sign of protest, and it was subsequently banned by the Nazis.

Sousa: Washington Post March

- The Washington Post newspaper asked Sousa to compose a march for their essay awards contest ceremony on June 15, 1889. Sousa conducted the first performance.
- When it was published Sousa was paid \$35 for the march (\$25 for a piano arrangement, \$5 for a band arrangement, and \$5 for an orchestra arrangement).
- The form of the “Washington Post March” is the standard march form: AABBCDCDC.
- The “Washington Post March” became a popular hit and remains a marching band favorite today. Its success helped to dub Sousa “The March King.”

Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker Suite: March

- **The Nutcracker** is a ballet in two acts. It was written in 1892. Tchaikovsky conducted the first performance of the ballet in St. Petersburg, Russia.
- Tchaikovsky selected eight pieces from his ballet and formed **The Nutcracker Suite**, which is intended for concert performance, with no dancing. It was a hit and became instantly famous.
- The “March” from **The Nutcracker Suite** is written for orchestra in A B A form.
- **The Nutcracker Suite** is one of the most-recorded works ever, and has gotten more people interested in classical music than any other music in history.
- Many ballet dancers started their careers with roles from **The Nutcracker** ballet.

Vecchi: Fa una canzone

- Vecchi wrote the lyrics and music for “*Fa una canzone*” (fah OO-nah kahn-ZOH-nah). In Italian the title means “Make (or write) a song.”
- Vecchi composed the *canzonetta* around 1580. His original manuscript has no bar lines (half note gets the beat).
- The form of “*Fa una canzone*” is verse-refrain.
- “*Fa una canzone*” is sung in Italian by SATB voices, *a cappella*, and has five verses. (On the Music Memory recording only two verses are sung.)

Wagner: Die Walküre: Ride of the Valkyries

- **Die Walküre** is the second of four operas in Wagner’s epic “Ring Cycle,” which took him 26 years to write. A complete performance of the cycle lasts about fifteen hours, but Wagner intended for the operas to be performed on four consecutive nights.
- Wagner completed the lyrics for **Die Walküre** in 1852, and the music, in 1856. It was first performed in 1870.
- **Die Walküre** is the most popular opera of the “Ring Cycle.”
- The “Ride of the *Valkyries*” is a scene that occurs at the beginning of Act III of **Die Walküre**.