

**1. In determining pitch, what is meant by frequency?**

- a. how often the pitch is heard
- b. how fast the pitches are played
- c. the span between the highest and lowest notes
- d. the number of vibrations per second

ANS: D      DIF: Easy

**2. Musical sounds are represented by symbols called:**

- a. pitches.
- b. cues.
- c. notes.
- d. amplitudes.

ANS: C      DIF: Easy

**3. The distance between two pitches is called a(n):**

- a. interval.
- b. phrase.
- c. cadence.
- d. countermelody.

ANS: A      DIF: Easy

**4. Which term describes a melody that moves by small intervals?**

- a. consonant
- b. conjunct
- c. dissonant
- d. disjunct

ANS: B      DIF: Medium

**5. A melody can be characterized by:**

- a. its range.
- b. its shape.
- c. the way it moves.
- d. all of the above

ANS: D      DIF: Medium

**6. A unit of meaning within the larger structure of a melody is called a:**

- a. phrase.
- b. stanza.
- c. cadence.
- d. climax.

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

**7. The resting place at the end of a phrase is called a:**

- a. pause.
- b. period.
- c. cadence.
- d. comma.

ANS: C      DIF: Easy

**8. The striking emotional effect created by the high point in a melodic line is called the:**

- a. cadence.
- b. countermelody.
- c. climax.
- d. range.

ANS: C      DIF: Medium

**9. Tone color is a property of pitch.**

ANS: T      DIF: Medium

10. Melodies that skip in disjointed intervals are disjunct.

ANS: T

11. Music is propelled forward in time by:

- a. harmony.
- b. rhythm.
- c. texture.
- d. timbre.

ANS: B DIF: Easy

12. The basic unit of rhythm that divides time into equal segments is called the:

- a. meter.
- b. syncopation.
- c. beat.
- d. accent.

ANS: C DIF: Easy

13. Beats that are more strongly emphasized than others are said to be:

- a. minor.
- b. major.
- c. accented.
- d. metrical.

ANS: C DIF: Easy

14. Organizing patterns of rhythmic pulses are called:

- a. offbeats.
- b. meters.
- c. syncopations.
- d. polyrhythms.

ANS: B DIF: Easy

15. Meter is marked off in groupings known as:

- a. phrases.
- b. measures.
- c. cadences.
- d. chords.

ANS: B DIF: Easy

16. Which meter would most likely be associated with a march?

- a. duple
- b. triple
- c. quadruple
- d. compound

ANS: A DIF: Medium

17. The repeated rhythmic pattern in which an accented beat is followed by two unaccented beats is called:

- a. duple meter.
- b. triple meter.
- c. quadruple meter.
- d. compound meter.

ANS: B DIF: Medium

18. The patriotic song *America* ("My country, 'tis of thee") is an example of:

- a. duple meter.
- b. triple meter.
- c. quadruple meter.
- d. compound meter.

ANS: B DIF: Hard

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19. The deliberate shifting of the accent to a weak beat or an offbeat is called:

- a. rhythm.
- b. meter.
- c. syncopation.
- d. compound meter.

ANS: C      DIF: Medium

19. The simultaneous use of two or more rhythmic patterns is called:

- a. polyrhythm.
- b. syncopation.
- c. additive meter.
- d. compound meter.

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

20. The depth resulting from simultaneous events in music is described by the term:

- a. texture.
- b. harmony.
- c. dissonance.
- d. melody.

ANS: B      DIF: Easy

21. Harmony is to music as \_\_\_\_\_ is to painting.

- a. the frame
- b. color
- c. perspective
- d. the brush

ANS: C      DIF: Hard

22. A combination of three or more tones that constitutes a single block of harmony is called a(n):

- a. interval.
- b. scale.
- c. octave.
- d. chord.

ANS: D      DIF: Medium

23. A collection of pitches arranged in ascending or descending order is called a(n):

- a. scale.
- b. chord.
- c. interval.
- d. octave.

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

24. An interval spanning eight notes is called a(n):

- a. chord.
- b. fifth.
- c. triad.
- d. octave.

ANS: D      DIF: Hard

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25. A triad is:

- a. the most common chord type found in Western music.
- b. a three-note chord.
- c. built on alternate scale steps.
- d. all of the above

ANS: D                      DIF: Hard

26. The first note of the scale is called the:

- a. octave.
- b. triad.
- c. tonic.
- d. dominant.

ANS: C                      DIF: Medium

27. Of the following, which does NOT describe a dissonance?

- a. It is a discordant sound.
- b. It creates a need for resolution.
- c. It sustains a sense of stability.
- d. It creates tension.

ANS: C                      DIF: Medium

28. A single, sustained pitch against which melodic and rhythmic complexities unfold is called a:

- a. drone.
- b. dissonance.
- c. tonality.
- d. tonic.

ANS: A                      DIF: Medium

29. How many notes in a scale does an octave span?

- a. five
- b. six
- c. eight
- d. ten

ANS: C                      DIF: Easy

30. In Western music, the octave is divided into \_\_\_\_\_ equal intervals.

- a. six
- b. eight
- c. twelve
- d. fifteen

ANS: C                      DIF: Hard

31. The smallest interval in the Western musical system is the:

- a. half step.
- b. whole step.
- c. octave.
- d. third.

ANS: A                      DIF: Easy

32. A twelve-tone scale, including all the semitones of the octave, is called:

- a. chromatic.
- b. diatonic.
- c. major.
- d. minor.

ANS: A                      DIF: Easy

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33. The musical symbol # represents a:

- a. note.
- b. sharp.
- c. flat.
- d. pitch.

ANS: B                      DIF: Hard

34. On the piano, the black key between the white keys C and D is called:

- a. C-sharp or D-flat.
- b. C-flat or B.
- c. D-sharp or E.
- d. none of the above

ANS: A                      DIF: Hard

35. In a major scale, between what pairs of tones do the half steps occur?

- a. 2 and 3, 7 and 8
- b. 3 and 4, 7 and 8
- c. 2 and 3, 6 and 7
- d. 2 and 3, 5 and 6

ANS: B                      DIF: Hard

36. Music based on the seven tones of a major or minor scale is called:

- a. chromatic.
- b. diatonic.
- c. modal.
- d. transposed.

ANS: B                      DIF: Easy

37. How many notes make up a pentatonic scale?

- a. eight
- b. five
- c. twelve
- d. four

ANS: B                      DIF: Medium

38. The triad built on the first note of the scale is called the:

- a. tonic.
- b. dominant.
- c. subdominant.
- d. subtonic.

ANS: A                      DIF: Easy

39. The three most important triads in diatonic harmony are:

- a. I, III, and V.
- b. I, V, and VII.
- c. I, IV, and V.
- d. I, VI, and VII.

ANS: C                      DIF: Medium

40. The process of passing from one key to another is known as:

- a. modulation.
- b. development.
- c. transposition.
- d. transformation.

ANS: A                      DIF: Easy

41. A texture featuring a single, unaccompanied line is called:

- a. monophonic.
- b. homophonic.
- c. polyphonic.
- d. contrapuntal.

ANS: A                      DIF: Easy

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42. When two or more independent melodic lines are combined, the resulting texture is called:

- a. polyphony.
- b. monophony.
- c. homophony.
- d. heterophony.

ANS: A DIF: Medium

43. The procedure in which a melodic idea is presented in one voice and then restated in another is called:

- a. inversion.
- b. diminution.
- c. retrograde.
- d. imitation.

ANS: D DIF: Medium

44. What term best describes *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*?

- a. monophonic
- b. heterophonic
- c. homophonic
- d. round

ANS: D DIF: Easy

45. What quality of a work of art refers to its structure or shape?

- a. theme
- b. melody
- c. form
- d. harmony

ANS: C DIF: Easy

46. The technique through which performers create music on the spot is known as:

- a. ostinato.
- b. improvisation.
- c. inversion.
- d. canon.

ANS: B DIF: Hard

47. The restatement of a musical idea at a higher or lower pitch is called a(n):

- a. motive.
- b. sequence.
- c. theme.
- d. ostinato.

ANS: B DIF: Medium

48. A singing style that features a leader who is imitated by a group is called:

- a. call and response.
- b. ostinato.
- c. crossover.
- d. thematic development.

ANS: A DIF: Easy

49. The rate of speed at which a piece of music is played is its:

- a. meter.
- b. tempo.
- c. movement.
- d. mood.

ANS: B DIF: Easy

50. In what language are tempo markings generally given?

- a. Italian
- b. French
- c. German
- d. Dutch

ANS: A DIF: Easy

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51. Which marking is appropriate for a slow tempo?

- a. *andante*
- b. *adagio*
- c. *piano*
- d. *allegro*

ANS: B      DIF: Medium

52. The term *accelerando* indicates that the tempo is:

- a. getting slower.
- b. staying the same.
- c. getting faster.
- d. returning to the original tempo.

ANS: C      DIF: Easy

53. Which of the following dynamic markings is the softest?

- a. *pianissimo (pp)*
- b. *piano (p)*
- c. *mezzo piano (mp)*
- d. *mezzo forte (mf)*

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

54. The markings for tempo and dynamics contribute most directly to the:

- a. expressive content of a piece of music.
- b. form of a piece of music.
- c. thematic development of a piece of music.
- d. tonality of a piece of music.

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

55. The term *vocalise* refers to:

- a. all vocal music.
- b. music in jazz.
- c. a wordless melody.
- d. an elaborate melody with a Latin text.

ANS: C      DIF: Easy

56. Rhymed units in poetry are called:

- a. strophes.
- b. lyrics.
- c. choruses.
- d. cadences.

ANS: A      DIF: Hard

57. The setting of one note per syllable is called:

- a. melismatic
- b. syllabic
- c. neumatic
- d. word-painting

ANS: B      DIF: Easy

58. The depiction of the meaning of a text in music is called:

- a. symbolic.
- b. word-painting.
- c. melismas.
- d. textualization.

ANS: B      DIF: Easy

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59. The quality of sound that distinguishes one instrument or voice from another is:

- a. timbre.
- b. pitch.
- c. tempo.
- d. volume.

ANS: A DIF: Easy

60. The standard ranges of the human voice, from highest to lowest, are:

- a. soprano, alto, tenor, bass.
- b. bass, tenor, soprano, alto.
- c. tenor, soprano, alto, bass.
- d. soprano, tenor, alto, bass.

ANS: A DIF: Easy

61. Instruments that produce sound from a vibrating string are called:

- a. aerophones.
- b. chordophones.
- c. idiophones.
- d. membranophones.

ANS: B DIF: Easy

62. How do performers cause idiophones to produce sound?

- a. by making a string vibrate
- b. by setting a column of air to vibrating
- c. by shaking, scraping, or striking the instrument itself
- d. by striking a tightly stretched membrane

ANS: C DIF: Hard

63. Drum-type instruments fall into the category of:

- a. aerophones.
- b. chordophones
- c. idiophones.
- d. membranophones.

ANS: D DIF: Medium

64. The instruments of the Western orchestra are categorized in four groups: strings, brass, percussion, and:

- a. flutes.
- b. chordophones.
- c. woodwinds.
- d. idiophones.

ANS: C DIF: Easy

65. Which is the correct order of bowed string instruments from highest to lowest in range?

- a. violin, viola, cello, double bass
- b. violin, cello, viola, double bass
- c. viola, violin, cello, double bass
- d. double bass, cello, viola, violin

ANS: A DIF: Medium

66. The highest-sounding member of the woodwind family is the:

- a. flute.
- b. oboe.
- c. clarinet.
- d. piccolo.

ANS: D DIF: Medium

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67. Which of the following is NOT a double-reed instrument?

- a. clarinet
- b. English horn
- c. bassoon
- d. oboe

ANS: A DIF: Medium

68. Which of the following is true of all brass instruments?

- a. They are made of metal.
- b. They are blown into through a metal mouthpiece.
- c. Their sound is created by the vibration of the lips.
- d. all of the above

ANS: D DIF: Medium

69. Which of the following is NOT a member of the brass family?

- a. trumpet
- b. French horn
- c. English horn
- d. tuba

ANS: C DIF: Easy

70. The percussion family comprises a variety of instruments that are made to sound by:

- a. strumming.
- b. blowing air.
- c. plucking.
- d. striking or shaking.

ANS: D DIF: Easy

71. Which of the following statements describes the organ?

- a. Sound is created when air flows through pipes controlled by the organist.
- b. Some organs have more than one keyboard, including one played by the feet.
- c. The sound of an organ can be imitated by electric keyboards and synthesizers.
- d. all of the above

ANS: D DIF: Medium

72. A fairly large group of singers who perform together is called a(n):

- a. orchestra.
- b. chamber ensemble.
- c. chorus.
- d. band.

ANS: C DIF: Easy

73. The term *a cappella* refers to choral music performed:

- a. with organ accompaniment.
- b. with orchestral accompaniment.
- c. with piano accompaniment.
- d. without any accompaniment.

ANS: D DIF: Medium

74. Which instruments are traditionally placed in the front of the orchestra?

- a. strings
- b. woodwinds
- c. brass
- d. percussion

ANS: A DIF: Medium

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75. The term *band* refers to:

- a. a rock group.
- b. a jazz group.
- c. a marching ensemble.
- d. all of the above

ANS: D DIF: Easy

76. Which meter would be conducted in a down-right-up pattern?

- a. duple
- b. triple
- c. quadruple
- d. sextuple

ANS: B DIF: Hard

77. Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* exemplifies the forms of:

- a. concerto and sonata.
- b. prelude and fugue.
- c. variations and fugue.
- d. variations and madrigal.

ANS: C DIF: Hard

78. Which of the following is a universal function of music in diverse world cultures?

- a. accompanying religious and civic ceremonies
- b. helping workers get their jobs done more efficiently
- c. providing entertainment
- d. all of the above

ANS: D DIF: Easy

79. Which of the following is the proper chronological order of musical style periods?

- a. Renaissance, Middle Ages, Classical, Baroque, Romantic, twentieth century
- b. Middle Ages, Baroque, Renaissance, Romantic, Classical, twentieth century
- c. Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, twentieth century
- d. Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, Classical, twentieth century

ANS: C DIF: Hard

80. The approximate dates for the Renaissance era are:

- a. 1150–1450.
- b. 1450–1600.
- c. 1600–1750.
- d. 1725–1775.

ANS: B DIF: Hard

**TRUE/FALSE**

81. Secular music is generally intended for religious occasions.

ANS: F DIF: Easy

82. Which of the following does NOT describe life in the medieval cloister?

- a. living in quiet seclusion
- b. being at the center of trade and commerce
- c. devotion to prayer, scholarship, and charity
- d. participating in teaching and hospital work

ANS: B DIF: Easy

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83. Which of the following does NOT characterize plainchant?

- a. monophonic texture
- b. triadic harmonies
- c. free, unaccented rhythm
- d. generally conjunct motion

ANS: B      DIF: Medium

84. In addition to composing music, Hildegard of Bingen is known for:

- a. visions that foretold the future.
- b. founding her own convent.
- c. writing religious poetry.
- d. all of the above

ANS: D      DIF: Easy

85. Which religious figure is praised in the text of Hildegard's *Alleluia, O virga mediatrix*?

- a. Saint Peter
- b. Jesus Christ
- c. the Holy Spirit
- d. the Virgin Mary

ANS: D      DIF: Medium

86. The sacred text of Islam is called the:

- a. Quran.
- b. Adhan.
- c. maqam.
- d. Siyer-I Nebi.

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

87. The earliest type of polyphony was:

- a. plainsong.
- b. organum.
- c. the motet.
- d. secular.

ANS: B      DIF: Easy

88. The Notre Dame style of polyphony, in which the tenor line was based on a preexisting chant melody and the upper voice moved freely (and more rapidly), was called:

- a. organum.
- b. plainsong.
- c. liturgical drama.
- d. chanson.

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

89. During the fourteenth century, a style of music developed that became known as:

- a. the *Ars antiqua*.
- b. the *Ars nova*.
- c. the Renaissance.
- d. Notre Dame polyphony.

ANS: B      DIF: Easy

90. The outstanding composer-poet of the *Ars nova* was:

- a. Machaut.
- b. Boccaccio.
- c. Chaucer.
- d. Petrarch.

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

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91. Where was the madrigal first developed?

- a. England
- b. Italy
- c. France
- d. Germany

ANS: B DIF: Easy

92. Who invented the printing press?

- a. Johannes Gutenberg
- b. Ottaviano Petrucci
- c. the Chinese
- d. Isaac Newton

ANS: A DIF: Medium

93. Which of the following characterizes humanism?

- a. thinking centered on human issues and individuality
- b. inspiration from the ancient cultures of Greece and Rome
- c. independence from tradition and religion
- d. all of the above

ANS: D DIF: Easy

94. Which genre of vocal music was NOT used in Renaissance church services?

- a. Gregorian chant
- b. the motet
- c. the hymn
- d. the chanson

ANS: D DIF: Medium

95. Why does Renaissance music sound different from medieval music?

- a. It has fuller harmonies.
- b. It is performed *a cappella*.
- c. It has smoothly gliding lines.
- d. all of the above

ANS: D DIF: Medium

96. The fixed melody used as a basis for elaborate polyphonic writing in the Renaissance was called:

- a. word-painting.
- b. *a cappella*.
- c. a cantus firmus.
- d. a saltarello.

ANS: C DIF: Easy

97. Josquin's *Ave Maria . . . virgo serena* is an example of the:

- a. Mass.
- b. motet.
- c. chanson.
- d. madrigal.

ANS: B DIF: Medium

98. The text of *Ave Maria . . . virgo serena* is:

- a. in praise of the Virgin Mary.
- b. in praise of the English victory at Agincourt.
- c. in praise of chivalric love.
- d. in praise of the Archangel Michael.

ANS: A DIF: Easy

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99. The portion of the Mass that changes from day to day, depending on the feast celebrated, is called:

- a. the Proper.
- b. the Ordinary.
- c. the liturgy.
- d. none of the above

ANS: A      DIF: Medium

100. What was the primary language of the Mass?

- a. Hebrew
- b. Greek
- c. Italian
- d. Latin

ANS: D      DIF: Easy

101. Which of the following are the movements of the Ordinary of the Mass?

- a. Introit, Gradual, Offertory, Agnus Dei
- b. Kyrie, Collect, Offertory, Gradual
- c. Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Agnus Dei
- d. Agnus Dei, Communion, Dies irae, Kyrie

ANS: C      DIF: Hard

102. Which of the following was a leader in the Protestant Reformation?

- a. Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
- b. Martin Luther
- c. Saint Ignatius Loyola
- d. Ascanio Sforza

ANS: B      DIF: Medium

103. Which composer responded to the reforms of the Council of Trent in an exemplary fashion?

- a. Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
- b. Josquin des Pez
- c. Guillaume Du Fay
- d. Johannes Ockeghem

ANS: A      DIF: Easy

104. Medieval instruments can be classified as *bas* or *haut*, meaning:

- a. high or low.
- b. string or wind.
- c. soft or loud.
- d. folk or aristocratic.

ANS: C      DIF: Medium

**TRUE/FALSE**

1. Early instrumental music largely depended on improvisation.

ANS: T      DIF: Easy