

CLASSICAL MUSIC TRIVIA QUESTIONS III



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1> Written between the years 1717 and 1723, "Air on a G String" was originally composed by which musician?

- a. Brahms
- b. Chopin
- c. Beethoven
- d. Bach

2> The well-known ballet "Swan Lake" is a work by which Russian Composer?

- a. Mendelssohn
- b. Rimsky-Korsakov
- c. Prokofiev
- d. Tchaikovsky

3> After which European capital is Joseph Haydn's final symphony "104th Symphony in D major" known?

- a. Paris
- b. London
- c. Madrid
- d. Rome

4> Polish composer Chopin is famous for creating musical pieces for which instrument?

- a. Cello
- b. Trumpet

- c. Violin
- d. Piano

5> Generally, how many instruments will be involved in a "Cadenza"?

- a. The whole orchestra
- b. 4
- c. 1
- d. 0

6> With many recordings to his credit, Spanish classical musician Pablo Casals is famed for playing which instrument?

- a. Cello
- b. Piano
- c. Flute
- d. Violin

7> What nationality was multi-instrumentalist and composer Carl Weber?

- a. Austrian
- b. Spanish
- c. Dutch
- d. German

8> Making its debut in 1987, which American Composer wrote the three act opera "Nixon in China"?

- a. Copland
- b. Adams
- c. Bernstein
- d. Gershwin

9> Which of the following well-known composers was born first?

- a. Wager
- b. Liszt
- c. Weber
- d. Vivaldi

10> Which of the following vocal ranges refers to the highest female singing voice?

- a. Tenor
- b. Bass
- c. Alto
- d. Soprano

11> Who wrote the 1946 musical composition, "The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra"?

- a. Britten
- b. Elgar
- c. Mozart
- d. Bach

12> Clocking in at about 25 minutes, who composed the ever-popular musical piece, "Carnival of the Animals"?

- a. Bizet
- b. Saint Saens
- c. Debussy
- d. Liszt

13> Which of these periods of classical music came the latest?

- a. Renaissance
- b. Classical
- c. Baroque
- d. Romantic

14> How many operas were written by Russian composer Rimsky-Korsakov?

- a. 5
- b. 100
- c. 50
- d. 15

15> Regarded by many as one of the greatest composers of the Romantic era, what was the first name of German composer Schumann?

- a. Roger
- b. Ronald
- c. Arnold
- d. Robert

Answers:

- 1> Bach - Procol Harum's 1967 hit, 'A Whiter Shade of Pale', incorporated part of Air on the G String's melody.
- 2> Tchaikovsky - Swan Lake tells the story of Princess Odette, who is turned into a swan.
- 3> London - 104th Symphony in D major was composed in 1795.
- 4> Piano - Most of Chopin's works are for solo piano.
- 5> 1 - A cadenza is a musical passage played by a soloist.
- 6> Cello - Pablo is considered one of the greatest cellists of all time.
- 7> German - Weber died of tuberculosis at the age of 39.
- 8> Adams - The opera was inspired by Richard Nixon's visit to China in 1972.
- 9> Vivaldi - Italian Baroque composer Antonio Lucio Vivaldi was born on March 4th, 1678.
- 10> Soprano - Typically, a soprano is a female singer, but it can also refer to men.
- 11> Britten - The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra was originally commissioned for a documentary film.
- 12> Saint Saens - Carnival of the Animals was originally written for a private performance and published after Saint Saen's death.
- 13> Romantic - The romantic era began in the late 18th or early 19th century.
- 14> 15 - Rimsky-Korsakov was a member of the group of composers known as 'The Five'.
- 15> Robert - Schumann was admitted to a mental asylum in 1854, where he died two years later.

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