

Lesson Eight - The Classical Period (1750 - c.1800)

Important People/Places/Events: *American and French Revolutions, Declaration of Independence, George Washington, Eli Whitney's cotton gin, Jenner's smallpox vaccine, Napoleon, Wordsworth, Kant, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert*

Read pages 10 - 13 in The Usborne Story of Music. Optional: Go to the website listed below and read more about the Classical Period.

1. What is the real meaning of "classical music"?
2. Where was the musical center of Europe at this time?
3. Describe a classical sonata.
4. Symphony means _____.
5. What is a classical symphony?
6. What is a classical concerto?
7. When, where, and by whom was the piano invented?
8. What is the proper name for the piano?
9. How has the meaning of the word 'orchestra' changed through the centuries?
10. Name the 4 groups of instruments in an orchestra.

INTERNET: Go to <http://www.ipl.org/div/mushist/> and read about the Classical Period. Click links (and use your browser's back button as needed) to read about and listen to samples of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert.

Lesson Eleven - Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827)
The Classical Period

Read the chapters on Beethoven in the titles The Gift of Music and Spiritual Lives of the Great Composers. Answer the following: **(Note - this lesson consists of 2 pages).**

1. What was the motto of Beethoven?
2. What belief did Beethoven share with Goethe (Germany's most famous writer)?
3. What were the circumstances under which his study of music began?
4. What great opportunity did he have in his 18th year?
5. What connection did Beethoven have with Haydn?
6. Which composer was most esteemed by Beethoven, and how did he get copies of this composer's music to study?
7. Describe the character and personality of Beethoven.
8. What was his spiritual state?
9. What physical trouble began at age 28?
10. How did he respond to this trial?
11. Describe the encounter he had with a relative at the end of this creative burst.

12. What were the circumstances surrounding his Concerto No. 5?

13. Which piece was Beethoven's musical depiction of his struggle with deafness?

14. What characterized the last few years of Beethoven's life?

15. What admonition do the authors give us with regard to listening to Beethoven?

16. What valuable lesson do we learn from Beethoven?

Works to remember: Piano Concerto No. 5, Concerto in D for Violin, *Fidelio*