


Year 4 Block 1 Music Knowledge Organiser - Classical & Baroque Music

Knowledge

<p>Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Born 27 January 1756 in Austria Died 5 December 1791 Was an influential composer of the Classical period 	<p><u>Symphony No.40</u> It has the standard four movements and is scored for a fairly small orchestra of woodwind, brass and strings. It is written in sonata form which has three sections. The first section opens in G minor and then moves to B flat major, before returning to the original key of G minor. The dynamics are marked soft – p at the beginning which is unusual for a Classical symphony. The second subject has crescendos. The bridge is then loud – f. Instruments generally play in their comfortable, middle registers (ranges) .The flute and violin 1 explore a higher range at times. The tempo is fast molto allegro in a 4/4 time signature. It has a clear pulse which is easy to follow.</p> <p><u>The Magic Flute - Overture</u> Mozart takes this fantasy tale and sets it to such moving music that the listener feels part of the characters' emotional turmoils. It has three noble brass chords in the key of E-flat major, a key using three flats. The rest of the overture is a sparkling little tune that goes through the instruments. Some of the instruments included are flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, horns, trumpets, trombones, timpani and strings.</p>
<p>Ludwig van Beethoven</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Born 17 December 1770 in Germany Died 26 March 1827 Was a composer and pianist His music is amongst the most performed of the classical music 	<p><u>Symphony No. 5</u> The opening motif of 4 notes is used many times throughout the movement. A motif is a musical term meaning a repeated group of notes. The motif is heard, on different groups of instruments and using different notes, throughout the first movement, and throughout the entire symphony. It is used as a way of tying the four movements together, making them feel like they all belong. The rhythm stays the same. It is made up of three short notes followed by one long note. Instruments used: flutes, piccolo, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, horns, trumpets, trombones and strings. Symphony No. 5 contains one of the most famous motifs in musical history and has even been reused in pop songs! Incredibly, Beethoven wrote this symphony when he was beginning to lose his hearing. Some people think that the opening motif represents fate knocking on the door, Beethoven's fate sadly being deafness.</p>
<p>Antonio Lucio Vivaldi</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Born 4 March 1678 in Italy Died 28 July 1741 Was a Baroque musical composer 	<p><u>Four Seasons</u> Vivaldi's Four Seasons concertos for strings were written around 1720 and were inspired by poetry as well as the climate. Vivaldi prefaced the musical score for each movement with a poem. Spring E Major: Violins mimic the sounds of chirping birds but then change tone as a thunderstorm arrives. The orchestra imitates thunderclaps. Summer G Major: Intense, lazy heat begins to be replaced by a cool and refreshing breeze, accompanied by various singing birds. However, minor chords and dramatic undertones warn us that this breeze could turn into a storm. Autumn F Major: The instruments imitating the crackle of leaves underneath the hooves of the horses and dogs Winter F Minor: It is peppered with silvery pizzicato notes from the high strings for icy rain.</p>

Vocabulary

1. Classical	Music written in the European tradition during a period lasting approximately from 1750 to 1830.
2. Baroque	Baroque music is a period or style of Western art music composed from approximately 1600 to 1750.
3. Symphony	A symphony is a long piece for orchestra usually split into four sections known as movements.
4. Timbre	The character or quality of a musical sound or voice.
5. Texture	The texture is how the tempo, melodic, and harmonic materials are combined in a composition.
6. Pitch	How high or low a note is.
7. Dynamics	The volume or loudness of the sound or note.
8. Duration	The time during which something continues.
9. Tempo	The speed of the music.
10. Structure	It means the way the piece is built up.
11. Drone	An effect or accompaniment where a note or chord is continuously sounded throughout most of a piece.
12. Ostinato	A continually repeated musical phrase or rhythm.
13. Introduction	It is a passage or section which opens a movement or a separate piece.
14. Coda	A coda is a passage that brings a piece (or a movement) to an end.
15. Rhythm	Combinations of long and short sounds that convey movement .
16. Orchestra	A group of instrumentalists, combining string, brass, woodwind and percussion instruments.

