

Listening Concepts!

ALWAYS DEFINE TERMS

1. General terms

- a. Rhythm (simple, complex, syncopated, etc.)
- b. Harmony (dissonant, consonant, thick/full, thin, etc.)
- c. Melody (wide range, smooth, angular/skips)
- d. Texture (multiple textures [monophonic, homophonic, polyphonic], thick, thin, etc.)
- e. Dynamics (wide range, crescendos, decrescendos, terraced, accents, etc.)

2. INSTRUMENTATION (includes voice!)

- a. Orchestra (not symphony!), large/full, small/chamber, etc.
 - i. Prominent instruments represented
- b. Chorus, Choir, Solo voice(s), language, etc.

3. Program Music (what is the specific story or scene portrayed?)

4. Cycle (what set of pieces does the music belong to?)

5. Nationalism (what specific country is represented by the music?)

6. Tonal (major, minor, other [whole-tone, pentatonic, chromatic, modal, etc.]

7. Type of Piece

a. Solo piano

- i. Lyrical piano piece (intermezzo, ballade, prelude, nocturne, etude)
- ii. Extended piano piece (rhapsody)
- iii. Sonata (what movement?)

b. Piano or ANY solo instrument and orchestra

- i. Concerto (what movement?)

c. Piano and voice

- i. Art song (Lied if sung in German), Folk song

d. Orchestra

- i. Symphony (what movement?)
- ii. Tone Poem (what is the story or scene?)
- iii. Overture
 1. As in the Romantic Period (what is the story or scene?)
 2. As in a larger work (what opera, oratorio, cantata, etc.?)
- iv. Incidental music (for what play/drama?)
- v. Suite (from what larger work [ballet, opera, incidental music], if any, is it taken from?)

e. String Quartet (what movement?)

f. Opera, Oratorio, Cantata (orchestra and voice)

- i. Overture (orchestra only)
- ii. Aria, Recitative, Chorus

8. Period

- a. Early, Late, specific years (within 25 years or so)