History of Music









Year 8



The listening tests you will need to complete for the homework in this booklet can be found at:

turton.musicfirst.co.uk

We have designed these pages specifically to match the Turton lessons.

My username is my dinner card number: _____

My password is my birthdate (8 digits): _____

Each time you complete a MusicFirst test, record your % score on the page for that homework. Copy all your scores into the table below.

	Booklet questions score	MusicFirst score
Homework 1 Baroque and Classical	/10	%
Homework 2 Romantic and 20 th Century	/10	%
Homework 3 All periods	/12	%

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The Four Seasons violin and orchestra 1717	Trumpet Concerto trumpet and orchestra 1796	Swan Lake music for a ballet 1875	The Sunken Cathedral piano piece 1910
Antonio Vivaldi Italy	Joseph Haydn Austria	BygtCilyich Tchaikovsky <i>Russia</i>	Claude Debussy <i>France</i>
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1600-1750 Baroque	1750-1800 Classical	1800-1900 Romantic	1900-2000 20 th Century

The Baroque period

1600-1750

Baroque (a word meaning decorative or elaborate) was a style of music that began in Italy in the 1600s and spread to the rest of Europe. During this time the **orchestra** was established with its four families of instruments – **woodwind**, **brass**, **percussion** and **strings** – but orchestras were small and very often, composers only used a few instruments. In the Baroque period most composers worked in the church or the courts. They would write religious pieces to be played or sung in church, or secular (non- religious) pieces to entertain a rich patron – a prince or a duke – in his palace.





Famous Composer

Antonio Vivaldi was born in 1678 in the Italian city of Venice. For much of his life he worked at the Ospedale della Pietá, which was a home and school for orphaned children, run by the church. Vivaldi taught music at the school and organised concerts.

Some of Vivaldi's most famous pieces are his concertos. A **concerto** is a piece for a solo instrument accompanied by orchestra. Vivaldi wrote around 500 of them, often giving the solo part to his own instrument, the violin.

Famous Piece

The Four Seasons is a set of four concertos for solo violin and an orchestra of string instruments. Each piece describes one of the seasons. In the second piece, **Summer**, Vivaldi imagines a sudden storm at the end of a long, hot summer's day.



The Classical period

1750-1800



In the Classical period, composers preferred to write simple, elegant **melodies** instead of the complex, decorative style of the Baroque. Orchestras got larger as more instruments were added, including the **clarinet** which was invented in the 1700s. Although the Classical style was popular all over Europe, some of the most famous composers came from Germany and Austria.

Famous Composer

Joseph Haydn was born in a small village in Austria in 1732, and began his musical career at the age of eight when he joined the choir in St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna. For much of his life, he worked for a Hungarian prince and wrote a huge amount of music for the prince's private orchestra. Later, as he became famous, he toured all over Europe and gave concerts in Paris and London.

Famous Piece

Haydn wrote his **Trumpet Concerto** for a friend who played the trumpet in a theatre orchestra. At the time, it was unusual to use the trumpet as a solo instrument.

Long pieces like this concerto are often divided into sections called **movements**. At the beginning of the second movement you can hear how the trumpet plays an elegant melody typical of the Classical period, while the orchestra accompanies it.





Complete the Baroque summary

Dates of the Baroque period	Famous composer
What country was he from?	What instrument did he play?
Famous piece	Where did most composers work?

Complete the Classical summary

Dates of the Classical period	2 main countries
Famous composer	What is a concerto?
Solo instrument in this piece	Name for a section of a longer piece

Homework 1: Baroque and Classical

1.	The dates of the Baroque period are	
2.	The word "Baroque" literally means	
3.	Most composers worked in the	_ or the
4.	Country where the Baroque style started and where Vivaldi came from:	
5.	The instruments used in <i>The Four Seasons</i> all belong to the	
	family.	
6.	The dates of the classical period are	
7.	The newly invented woodwind instrument in the Classical period was the	
8.	A piece for solo instrument and orchestra is called a	
9.	The solo instrument in Haydn's piece is the	
10	. Country where Haydn was born:	
	Questions score	/10

Log on to MusicFirst and go to **Focus on Sound > My Class > Y8 Baroque and Classical**. Listen to the audio track and answer the questions. Don't forget to click **End Test/Save** when you've finished.

MusicFirst score %

The Romantic period

1800-1900



The world in the 1800s was changing very fast. The **Industrial Revolution** brought in new inventions, new technology, and led to more people living in large cities. Many of these cities had new concert halls, which encouraged composers to write for bigger audiences and bigger orchestras. Orchestras at the time could have 100 or more players.

Romanticism was a musical style that was all about expressing emotions, often in a powerful and dramatic way. Many composers wrote **programme music**, or pieces that tell a story.

Famous Composer

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was one of the first Russian composers to become internationally famous. A lot of his music is programme music and is very dramatic and Romantic in style.



Famous Piece

Tchaikovsky wrote the music for the ballet **Swan Lake** in 1875. A ballet usually tells a story through dance, but Tchaikovsky's music is so powerful that it is often played on its own, without any dancers. The story comes from a Russian fairy tale about a princess who is turned into a swan by an evil wizard.

The music from the beginning of the ballet sets the scene for the story. In the middle of a dark forest is a mysterious lake, with a group of swans flying overhead.



20th Century Music

1900-2000

It would take all day to try and list all the different types of music in the twentieth century! New styles and new instruments were appearing all the time. New inventions like **recording** and **film** opened music up to more and more people, and meant that new ideas could spread very quickly. Composers liked experimenting with unusual sounds and could get ideas from more or less anywhere.



Famous Composer

The French composer **Claude Debussy** was one of the first important names in 20th Century music. As well as a composer, he was a very great pianist and always exploring the variety of sounds the piano could make. The piano had been invented in the **Classical** period and made bigger and more powerful in the **Romantic**, so by the time Debussy came along there were lots of sounds to explore.

Famous Piece

An old legend says that hundreds of years ago, a whole city sank beneath the sea off the coast of France, and you can still hear the bells of the cathedral under the water. When Debussy heard about this legend in 1910 he got the idea for his piano piece **The Sunken Cathedral**. He uses the piano to create a sound like bells – at first in the distance, then building up noisily.





Complete the Romantic summary

Dates of the Romantic period	Name for a piece that tells a story
Famous composer	What country was he from?
Famous piece	What does a ballet do?

Complete the 20th Century summary

Dates of the 20 th Century	2 new inventions
Famous composer	What country was he from?
Famous piece	What instrument is it played on?

Homework 2: Romantic and 20th Century

1.	The dates of the Romantic period are	
2.	Romantic music is all about expressing	_and
	often tells a	
3.	The Industrial Revolution let to more people living in	and
	composers wrote for bigger and	
4.	Country where Tchaikovsky lived:	
5.	Atells a story through dance.	
6.	Title of this piece by Tchaikovsky:	
7.	In the 20 th Century, and	
	were two new inventions that led to big changes in music.	
8.	20 th Century French composer who wrote <i>The Sunken Cathedral</i> :	
9.	The Sunken Cathedral was written in the year	
10.	. The instrument that plays in <i>The Sunken Cathedral</i> is the	
	Questions score	/10

Log on to MusicFirst and go to **Focus on Sound > My Class > Y8 Romantic and 20th Century**. Listen to the audio track and answer the questions. Don't forget to click **End Test/Save** when you've finished.

MusicFirst score %

How did the instruments of the orchestra change through the ages?



Baroque (1600-1750)

- Orchestras were usually small less than 20 musicians.
- Mainly made up of string instruments (violins, violas, cellos, double basses).
- There were sometimes a few woodwind instruments flutes, oboes or bassoons, but **not** clarinets.
- Brass and percussion were more unusual many orchestras didn't use them.

Classical (1750-1800)

- The **string** section included the same instruments as in the Baroque, but more of them.
- The woodwind added the newly-invented **clarinet** as well as the other instruments.
- The brass section usually included **two horns** and **two trumpets**.
- The only percussion instruments were the **timpani**.

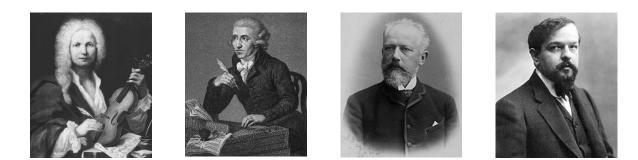
Romantic (1800-1900)

- Orchestras were usually **large** could be 100 musicians or more.
- All the sections had new instruments added:
 - The **strings** might include a **harp**.
 - The **woodwind** might include a **piccolo**.
 - The **brass** might include **trombones** and **tubas**.
 - The **percussion** could have a large variety of different instruments including **cymbals**, **bass drum**, **glockenspiel** and **xylophone**.

20th Century (1900-2000)

There is a lot of variety in the 20th Century. Composers could write for large or small orchestras. They might borrow ideas from one of the other periods or they might create something new. There were still the same **families of instruments** (woodwind, brass, percussion, strings) but they were often combined in new ways.

Homework 3: All Periods



Fill the gaps in this table:

Period	Dates	Composer	Piece
	1600-1750		
		Haydn	
Romantic			
			The Sunken Cathedral

Questions score /12

Log on to MusicFirst and go to **Focus on Sound > My Class > Y8 Historical Periods**. Listen to the audio track and answer the questions. Don't forget to click **End Test/Save** when you've finished.

MusicFirst score %