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## Worksheet 1.1 Questionnaire

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**1. Below is a list of different kinds of music.**

**Rank each as follows:**

- 5 = music you really like and listen to most of the time
- 4 = music you like and listen to once in a while
- 3 = the music is OK but you don't listen to it very much
- 2 = music is pretty bad but you *could* listen to it if you had to
- 1 = music you do not like at all and would *never* listen to
- 0 = music you never heard of before.

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| _____ Rock and Roll | _____ Country          |
| _____ Rap / Hip Hop | _____ Jazz             |
| _____ Classical     | _____ Rhythm and Blues |
| _____ Gospel        | _____ Soul             |
| _____ Asian Indian  | _____ Reggae           |
| _____ Musicals      | _____ Pop              |

2. What is your favorite color?

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3. How often do you listen to music and/or watch music videos?

- A) More than 3 hours a day
- B) 2 to 3 hours a day
- C) 1 to 2 hours a day
- D) less than 1 hour a day

4. Which of the following would you rather do?

- A) Watch music videos.
- B) Listen to a CD.

5. Which season of the year do you like best?

- A) Summer
- B) Winter
- C) Fall
- D) Spring

*Worksheet 1.1 Questionnaire*

6. Who is your favorite musician / music group?

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7. What is your favorite food?

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8. What food would you *never eat*?

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9. Which musician or music group sounds terrible to you?

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10. Name a song that you used to like but now you do not like

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11. Which is better, A) Pepsi or, B) Coke?

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12. If you were the same age you are now, but lived in the year 1704, what do you think you would do for entertainment?

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*Worksheet 1.1 Questionnaire*

13. True or False. You will never try any new foods for the rest of your life because nothing will ever be able to taste as good as what you eat now. Explain your answer.

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## *What Is Music and Why Study It?*

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Music is an important daily event in our lives. We wake up to our favorite radio station in the morning. We listen to our car stereo on the way to School. We drown out parents under headphones, or annoy them with house-shaking volume from stereo speakers. We put up with the "awful" music that our younger brothers and sisters listen to, or worse yet, our parents 1llame'l music!

So, what exactly is music?



**Music** might be easy to define as "sounds that are organized in time." But music is much more than this!! Music has the power to make people feel emotions—it can make you happy, or scared, or sad. Music can have many surprising effects on people!

### *What Is Music and Why Study It?*

Have you ever heard music playing in shopping centers and stores? It is a known fact that having soft background music in stores will cause people to buy more! Having music played in offices has shown to increase the amount of work that is done. A recent study has even shown that listening to certain kinds of music (Mozart, for example) can actually make you smarter!! If you could do better in school by listening to a certain kind of music, would you do it??



*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

Great musicians are able to convey thoughts and emotions to their listeners with music only. They don't need any words to express themselves, only the power of the music. Music has the means to take us out of our everyday selves into a world of the spirit. Have you ever "gotten lost" in your favorite song? Have you ever been "into" a group or musician so much that they become one of the most important things in your life? The composer who writes the music, the musician who performs the music, and the listener who hears it can all share in its' beauty and power.



### *What Is Music and Why Study It?*

There are many different kinds of music. Some music seems to be interesting to us for only a short time. For example, you have outgrown the songs of your childhood. Also, think about how long today's "hit" songs are actually played on the radio or shown in videos. Popular music is short-lived music. You hear a song for a few months and then it is gone (for the most part).

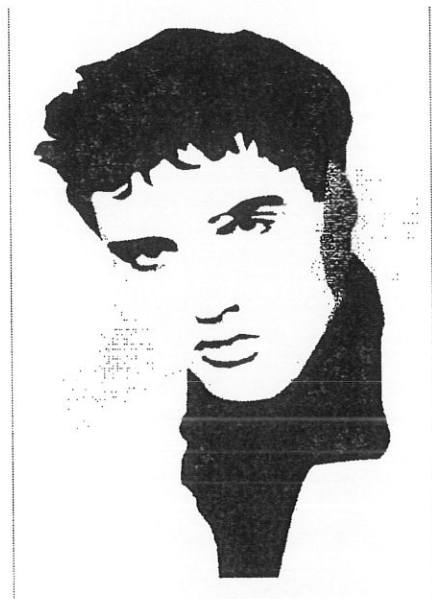


There is also music written for a particular purpose, such as music used in commercials, T. V. shows, and movies. This kind of music also tends to have a short "lifespan." When the commercial is replaced with a new one, or when the T. V. show is canceled, or the movie is no longer popular, the music is usually not listened to very much anymore.

But there is also music that has been heard for hundreds of years. This kind of music has withstood the test of time. We often refer to this music as "classical" music. It is music that represents the thoughts and feelings of people so well that people from generation to generation want to hear it again and again.

### *What Is Music and Why Study It?*

We will be studying and listening to all kinds of music--rock and roll, jazz. Blues, rap, classical, country, rhythm and blues, and music from other countries. It is very important for you to keep an open mind when listening to music that you are not used to hearing!



You will not be expected to like every kind of music that we study (just as everybody doesn't like the same foods or have the same favorite color), but you **will** be expected to **appreciate** the differences in the music!

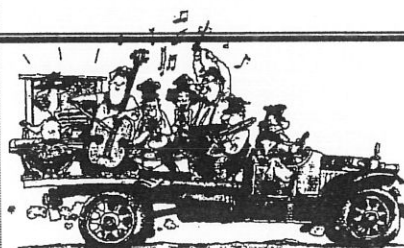
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## Worksheet 1.2 Music Basics

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1. Why is music important to you?

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2. What is an easy definition of music?

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3. Why is music more than the "easy" definition?

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4. Name three (3) different effects that music can have on people.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

5. What can great composers do with music?

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6. What is "short-lived" music? Give two examples.

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*Worksheet 1.2 Music Basics*

7. Why do people listen to classical music for hundreds of years?

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8. Why should you keep an open mind when listening to different music?

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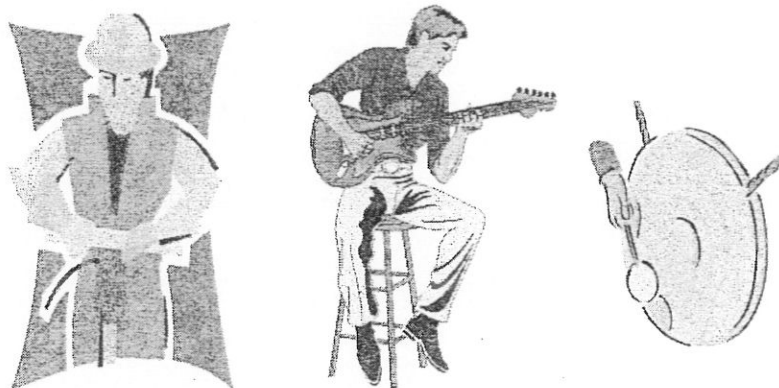
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## *Elements: Sound and Pitch*

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No matter what kind of music you listen to, all music has some things in common. We call these common "things" elements. We will be learning about the things that make up all the music in the world. The first element is sound. What is sound? Sound begins with the vibration of something. The "something" could be a blade of grass blown between your thumbs; a guitar string that is plucked; a drum head hit with a stick; or your vocal cords moving back and forth. Every sound is made by something that is vibrating.



All of the objects in the pictures above are making sounds by vibration. The vibrations are sent to our ears by a medium--usually air--and our eardrums start vibrating, too. The sound is then sent to our brain where we organize and interpret them.

In the pictures above, how can we tell the difference between a musical and a non-musical sound? We can do this by learning the four main properties of musical sounds. They are: **1) pitch** (the highness or lowness); **2) dynamics** (loudness or softness); **3) tone: color** (quality); and **4) duration, or rhythm** (time).

*Elements: Sound and Pitch*

**Pitch** is how high or low a sound is. When you sing the beginning of the Star-Spangled Banner, for example, the pitch on the word "see" is higher than the pitch on the word "say":

Oh
you
see  
\*
\*
\*  
say
can  
\*
\*
\*



The faster that something is vibrating the higher the pitch. In order to hit the high note on "see", the singer's vocal cords have to vibrate faster than for the note on the word "say." Smaller objects will vibrate faster and have a higher pitch. A small flute has a higher pitch than a big tuba.



In music, a sound that has a definite pitch is called a tone. It vibrates at a set number of cycles each second. Noise like sounds, like a hammer hitting a nail, or cymbals crashing, do not have a definite pitch.

Two tones will sound different when they have different pitches. The distance in pitch between two tones is called an interval.

