

Mozart's concertos for solo instrument and orchestra are often played today. There are twenty-five piano concertos, as well as solo concertos for violin, French horn, clarinet, bassoon, and flute. High school students often play single movements from a concerto written for their solo instrument. A pianist may accompany the soloist, in place of a full orchestra.

Mozart's chamber music is enjoyed today by both professional and student musicians. In addition to twenty-six string quartets, he also wrote duets, trios, and quintets for various combinations of instruments. These chamber music compositions are enjoyable to play since each musician plays a part that is not doubled by any other instrument.

Financial failure marked Mozart's final years in Vienna. Teaching a few pupils could not keep him out of debt. More and more frequently, he was forced to write letters to a merchant friend, begging for loans.

The Magic Flute and three grand symphonies were completed just before Mozart's death in 1791. A sacred choral work, *Requiem Mass*, was left incomplete.

A story is told that a mysterious stranger commissioned *Requiem Mass* as a memorial to his dead wife. Mozart felt that this predicted his own approaching death. Later writers state that Count Franz zu Stuppach, who commissioned the work, presented other composers' works as his own in the chapel of his castle.

Few friends attended Mozart's funeral. His unmarked grave was located in an area reserved for paupers. Many years later, imposing monuments, like the one to the right, were erected in his honor in Salzburg and Vienna.

Mozart composed hundreds of vocal and instrumental works during his short life-span of thirty-five years. His contemporaries criticized his music as too complicated, too difficult, and not quite "correct."

Today, Mozart's music is appreciated in many ways. It is lyrical and charming, but also exciting and profound. Haydn and Beethoven, the other great Classical composers, held Mozart's music in the highest esteem.



COMPOSING ACTIVITY

On the staff below, compose a short Classical piece with ternary (three-part) form. Play the first phrase (measures 1-4) and concluding cadence of "Rondo in C Major", Section A, below. Then, complete the second phrase (measures 5-9) of Section A as a parallel phrase, different only at the cadence point. For Section B, write a two measure melody pattern based on the rhythm of measures 3-4. Repeat your melody pattern in measures 12-13 as a sequence (exact or varied melodic repetition beginning on a different pitch.) The bass staff is already completed. Your melody tones will be based on the accompanying chromatic (containing many extra notes not found in the key) and diatonic (notes belonging to the scale or key) chords.

Mozart: "Rondo in C Major"

A Section:

C:

Fine

B Section:

(C-E-G-Bb) (F-A-C) (D-F#-A-C) (G-B-D)

D.C. al Fine

ANALYSIS ACTIVITY

Analyze the Mozart "Minuet in F" on the next page. Fill in the blanks or circle the correct choice below with information about the composition. The "Glossary of Music Terms" and "Formal Design" pages in the appendix may help you.

1. Title of composition: _____
2. Composer (last name and country): _____
3. Large-scale design (binary, ternary, rondo, etc.): _____
 - a. Number of measures in the composition: _____
 - b. Number of sections in the composition: _____
4. Tonal design:
 - a. Key signature (number of sharps or flats): _____
 - b. Home key (letter name, major or minor): _____
 - c. The music is (non-modulating or modulating).
5. Melody:
 - a. The melodic range is (wide, narrow, or medium).
 - b. The melody progresses mostly by (steps or skips).
 - c. Does the melody have parallel phrases? _____
 - d. Does the melody have contrasting phrases? _____
6. Rhythm:
 - a. The rhythm is (strongly metric or more flowing).
 - b. The rhythm patterns are (repeated often or constantly varied).
7. Harmony:
 - a. The harmony is (diatonic, slightly chromatic, or richly chromatic).
8. List other Classical pieces that you have performed or heard:

Composition

Composer

The example shown below was composed by Mozart in 1762 when he was six years old. Even at an early age, he was able to write pieces with traditional ternary form (ABA) and elements of sonata form.

Mozart: Minuet in F Major

A Section:

F: V I

B Section:

C: V I F: IV

A' Section:

V I

V I

REVIEW ACTIVITY

1. Wolfgang Mozart was born in the country of _____.
2. Wolfgang's father, _____, performed, _____, and taught _____. He also published a widely used _____ on _____.
3. Wolfgang Mozart played the harpsichord by ear when he was _____ years old.
4. As a young boy, Mozart could _____ songs and keyboard pieces.
5. Wolfgang and his sister, Nannerl performed for _____ and _____.
6. At age eight, Wolfgang composed _____ for orchestra.
7. In Mantua, Italy, Wolfgang _____ music on themes given to him.
8. In Rome, Wolfgang wrote down the music of a choral work entirely from _____.
9. At age 21, Mozart traveled to many cities seeking a position as _____.
10. The Weber family rejected Mozart because he had no _____ or secure _____.
11. In 1779, Mozart returned to Salzburg to work as court _____ and _____.
12. In 1781, Mozart moved from provincial Salzburg to _____.
13. Mozart married _____ in 1782.
14. The married couple lived in (wealth or poverty) most of the time.
15. Mozart admired the pianos built in Vienna by Johann Andreas _____.
16. Early pianos built by Stein sounded _____, _____, and _____.
17. Later pianos were built with _____ like modern pianos.
18. The piano was most suitable for (contrapuntal or homophonic) music.
19. On the piano, structural cadences can be of lighter or heavier _____.

20. Mozart composed magnificent _____ during the 1780s.
21. In *The Magic Flute*, the comic character Papageno has _____ music.
22. In operas, we have characters in _____, backed by scenery.
23. Symphonies are multi-movement works composed for (voices, piano, or orchestra).
24. Symphonies have contrast of _____, _____, _____, and _____ between movements.
25. Mozart studied the music of _____ and _____ to learn about contrapuntal style.
26. Today, Mozart's _____ for solo instrument and orchestra are popular.
27. The other great Classical composers, _____ and _____ admired Mozart's music.
28. Ternary form is _____ - _____ form (ABA).
29. A sequence is the exact or varied melodic repetition beginning on a _____.
30. _____ means containing many extra notes (sharps, flats, or naturals) not found in the key of a piece.
31. Diatonic means using tones belonging to the _____ or _____ of a piece.

Compositions by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart covered in the text:

"Allegro"
 "Rondo in F Major"
 Twelve Variations on "Ah, vous dirai-je Maman"
 Excerpts from *The Magic Flute*
 "Minuet" from *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*
 "Minuet in F Major"
 "Rondo in C Major"