A Workbook

for History

Vol. 1

An Overview of Four Eras
Baroque, Classical, Romantic,
Modern Era (20th Century)

PLEASE NOTE: This is a workbook ONLY. It does not follow any specific textbook. The workbook can be used with any text or source material to study music history.

An answer key for this workbook can be obtained at harmonymusicstudio.ca with code

Table of Contents

Listen to 'A Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra' by B. Britten. You can find a recording on CD or on the internet. Listen for individual instruments.

1. Name the four instrument families and the four instruments in each family

    a. _____

        1. _____

        2. _____

        3. _____

        4. _____

    b. _____

        1. _____

        2. _____

        3. _____

        4. _____

    c. _____

        1. _____

        2. _____

        3. _____

        4. _____

    d. _____

        1. _____

        2. _____

        3. _____

        4. _____

2. Give a description for the following terms

   a. notation _____

   _____

   b. melody _____

   _____

   c. pitch _____

   _____

   d. harmony _____

   _____

   e. rhythm _____

   _____

   f. dynamics _____

   _____

   g. meter _____

   _____

   h. timbre _____

   _____

3. Describe the following vocal ranges

   a. soprano _____

   b. alto _____

   c. tenor _____

   d. bass _____

4. Describe the following keyboard instruments

   a. organ _____

   _____

   b. harpsichord _____

   _____

   c. clavichord _____

   _____

   d. piano _____

   _____

5. Texture in music uses words ending in 'phonic' Texture is the element of music which describes the depth, nature and relationship among different 'voices' whether those are vocal or instrumental.

   a. Define monophony or monophonic texture _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   b. Define homophony or homophonic texture _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   c. Define heterophony or heterophonic texture _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   d. Define polyphony or polyphonic texture _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

6. Draw a simple diagram of each of the above textures

   monophony

   homophony

   heterophony

   polyphony

7. Give the dates for each era and the composers we will study along with their year of birth and year of death

Biographies are not necessary for composers with an asterisk

a. Baroque _____

    1. _____*

    2. _____

    3. _____

b. Classical _____

    1. _____

    2. _____

    3. _____

c. Romantic _____

    1. _____

    2. _____

    3. _____

    4. _____*

d. Modern Era _____

    1. _____

    2. _____

    3. _____*

    4. _____ *

    5. _____ *

Baroque Era

1. What are the dates of the Baroque era? _____

2. Give definitions for the following terms as they apply to music of the Baroque era

    a. baroque _____

    _____

    _____

    b. basso continuo _____

    _____

    _____

    c. figured bass _____

    _____

    _____

    d. the 'Affections' (Affects)_____

    _____

    _____

    e. ornamentation _____

    _____

    _____

    f. harpsichord_____

    _____

    _____

3. Why was figured bass and basso continuo a common feature in Baroque vocal and instrumental

    ensembles? _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

4. Why was equal temperament tuning necessary? Why was it controversial? What did it create?

    _____

    _____