

MUSIC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Who was credited with completing Mozart's last work, The Requiem?
 - A) His father
 - B) Salieri
 - C) His wife
 - D) His pupil
2. Which of the following is not a Spanish dance?
 - A) Tarantella
 - B) Fandango
 - C) Habanera
 - D) Folia
3. Most present-day composers would consider 4 or 5 Symphonies to be a good Symphonic output for a lifetime. Name the composer who wrote 102 Symphonies.
 - A) Bach
 - B) Haydn
 - C) Mendelssohn
 - D) Mozart
4. Vivaldi, Purcell, Handel, and Bach were composers of the:
 - A) Baroque period
 - B) Classic period
 - C) pre-Romantic period
 - D) Renaissance period
5. Adagio refers to:
 - A) A group of Italian street dancers
 - B) the upsweep motion of a conductor's baton
 - C) music without accompaniment
 - D) a tempo indication meaning very slow
6. The musical term for a fast tempo is:
 - A) Andante
 - B) Allemande
 - C) Allegro
 - D) Adagio
7. Which composer was so fastidious in his preparation of coffee that he would actually count out the number of beans per cup?
 - A) Stravinsky
 - B) Brahms
 - C) Bartok
 - D) Beethoven
8. 80 years after his death, Bach was all but forgotten by the general public. Which composer is credited with reviving interest in Bach after his death?
 - A) Gustav Mahler
 - B) Richard Strauss
 - C) Franz Schubert
 - D) Felix Mendelssohn
9. After being left an orphan at the age of ten, he was taken care of by his older brother, Johann Cristoph.
 - A) Haydn
 - B) Beethoven
 - C) Bach
 - D) None of the above
10. In 1853, this virtuoso had to transpose Beethoven's C minor symphony into C# minor;
 - A) Liszt
 - B) Rubinstein
 - C) Brahms
 - D) Schumann

Answers

1. D. Contrary to the belief that this work was finished by Salieri, (movie Amadeus) it was in fact completed by Süssmayr, a student of Mozart's.
2. A. The Tarantella is a Neapolitan dance in rapid 6/8 meter, probably named after the town of Taranto in southern Italy.
3. B. At one stage of his 25 year appointment at the Court of Esterházy, Haydn was composing one Symphony per week. This is an amazing feat when one considers that a Symphony can take from 6 months to a year to complete. (It took Brahms 20 years to complete his first symphony)
4. A. The Baroque period was from 1600 to 1750.
5. D. (As in the second movement of a sonata)
6. C. (As in the first movement of a sonata)
7. D. Beethoven estimated 60 beans per cup!
8. D. One of Mendelssohn's greatest contributions to music. He revived interest in Bach by organizing the first performance of the "St. Matthew's Passion" since Bach's death.
9. C. Bach's older brother had a valuable collection of works by Buxtehude, Pachelbel and others, which Johann Sebastian was not allowed to look at. The boy snuck out one night to copy it by moonlight, but had the misfortune to be caught by his brother in the act. His punishment was to have his work confiscated.
10. C. While on tour with the violinist, Reményi, Brahms arrived at a hall to find the piano out of pitch by a full semitone. Since the violinist refused to tune his strings down, Brahms simply played from memory in the higher key.