

LISTENING TO MUSIC #1

STUDENT NAME: _____ /20

SYMPHONY NO. 5, *ALLEGRO CON BRIO*, BY LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Beethoven opens his Symphony No. 5 with the famous “SSSL” motif and then immediately repeats it.

1. Is the repetition higher or lower than the first time it appears?

2. How many times do you hear the motif in the first 22 seconds of the recording?

3. From 0:22 to 0:44, Beethoven constructs a musical transition that moves us from the opening motif to a more lyrical second theme. Which is true about this transition?
 - a. The music seems to get faster and builds in volume

 - b. The music seems to get slower

4. From 0:38 to 0:42, what does Beethoven do to make an intense conclusion to the transition?

5. From 0:46-1:00, a new more lyrical theme begins in the violin section and is echoed by the winds. What has happened to the SSSL motif?

6. How do you feel about the end of the opening section compared to the beginning? Describe what happens in the music to make you feel that way.

ALSO SPRACH ZARATHUSTRA BY RICHARD STRAUSS

7. From 0:00-0:13, describe the opening sounds you hear.

8. What happens to those opening sounds when the trumpets appear from 0:14-0:20?

9. How many notes do the trumpets play each time they play the rising figure? Circle your answer.

1 2 3 4

10. At the very last chord at 1:18, a new sound is added for emphasis. What instrument is making that sound?

11. What instrument do you think is making the very last sound in this piece?

12. If this song were in a movie, what do you think you would see on the screen while this music is being played?

FINAL RESPONSE

You've now heard two very different openings. Which one do you prefer? Which are you drawn to most? What about the music made you like it more than the other?