

MSC 1003 – Music in Civilization, Prof. Smey

Quiz #3 Study Guide, Fall 2018

Quiz day for all sections is Thursday, Nov 15.

There will be a few questions on the **general background** of the Romantic Period (1820-1900).

Topics might include

- the Industrial Revolution and its effect on class structure
- the Romantics' new focus on individual experience, extreme emotional states, and the supernatural.
- the new concept of art as a historical document

For **musical trends**, you want to think about

- public music (opera, works for orchestra) becoming more massive
- private music (art song, piano music) becoming miniaturized
- melodies becoming longer, more dramatic and sweeping
- the use of chromatic tones

Read the Class Notes and Craig Wright's Intro to Romanticism chapter for more details on all of this.

Piece List

Other than that, this unit is just about a bunch of pieces. For each item on the list, you want to know

- who wrote it
- the *title* of the work. This is new for quiz three – we haven't cared about the titles in a long time! If the piece is part of some big work or collection (*Dichterliebe, Carnaval, Transcendental Etudes, Symphonie fantastique, Pictures at an Exhibition*), focus on that aspect of it, the "big" name. Three of our tracks are stand-alone pieces that only have one title ("Erlkönig," Nocturne, Overture to *Midsummer Night's Dream*.)

(For these two categories of info I will not make you write out the composer names or the titles, but as usual they will appear as multiple-choice questions.)

Also, you need to know

- what the piece is about. Some pieces tell stories, some are about people, and even our Chopin Nocturne promises a very specific mood.
- a few more vocab words connected to some of the pieces below.

Orchestral Music (Program Music)

Hector Berlioz, *Symphonie fantastique*: IV. March to the Scaffold

(I may play something from the middle of this track.)

Felix Mendelssohn, Overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

(Know that this is a sonata form. Again, I may play something from the middle of the track.)

Modest Mussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*: Promenade

Piano “Character” Pieces

Robert Schumann, “Eusebius” and “Florestan,” from *Carnaval*

(know which of these is supposed to represent the composer’s introspective side, and which is his passionate side.)

Frédéric Chopin, Nocturne in E-flat major, Op. 9 No. 2

(know that this is “rubato” playing)

Franz Liszt, *Transcendental Etude* No. 8, “Wild Jagd”

(know that this is a piece for a “virtuoso.”)

Art Song

Franz Schubert, “Erlkönig”

(Art song)

Robert Schumann, "Im wunderschönen Monat Mai" from *Dichterliebe* (A Poet's Love).

(Art song. This is part of a Song Cycle.)

Things we aren't going to do

No metric subdivisions question. No "unknown" piece. There is a little fill-in-the-blank but no short answer.

Final Tips

I honestly think that this is the easiest quiz of the bunch as long as you put some time in on the listening and read the Intro to Romantic notes carefully. People have still managed to get 60s on it, by simply not studying! Remember that you need to listen to a piece at least 3-4 times to get it in your ears, once is not enough.