

Examination guidelines

To assist in the discussion of a composer's life and music, students should be familiar with the following.

COMPOSER SUMMARY:

- Biographical information
 - birthplace- including the year of birth and death, nationality, and brief family background (where applicable)
- Musical training
 - education and professional training
- Musical career
 - employment, accomplishments
 - mainly a composer or performer or conductor?
 - connections with famous people or places
- Musical style and genres
 - innovations - technical or musical
 - characteristics of style (**three** musical characteristics when possible)
 - influence or affect upon on the music of the period
 - contributions to the music of the period, including genres and representative titles
 - "school" of composition (when applicable)

MUSICAL WORKS:

With respect to the detailed description of a musical composition, the following pertinent information should be included where applicable. A summary in chart form is acceptable.

- Composition outline
 - name of composer
 - date of composition
 - genre (*lieder*, symphony, dance suite, etc.)
 - historical purpose or occasion
 - performance media: soloist, vocalists orchestral, ensemble, specific instruments
 - structure or form (ternary, sonata-allegro etc.)
 - harmonic plan or outline, such as principal modulations
 - tempo, meter, distinctive rhythmic characteristics
 - musical atmosphere or mood
 - text: including literary source, author/librettist/poet, language, general meaning or significance
 - plot: a concise summary, in reference to the overall work