

Name: _____ Date: _____

Dissect Sonic DNA: A 10th Grade Elements of Music Quiz

How do composers manipulate the physics of sound to evoke specific emotions? Analyze complex polyphony, unconventional meters, and orchestral color palettes.

1. Which term best describes the specific texture when the strings play a tremolo while the brass holds a steady chord, as heard in many of Igor Stravinsky's orchestral works?

- A. Monophony
- B. Homophony
- C. Timbral Layering
- D. Heterophony

2. In jazz fusion or progressive rock, a drummer might play in a 7/8 or 5/4 time signature. This use of non-standard beat groupings is known as _____.

- A. Isorhythm
- B. Irregular Meter
- C. Rubato
- D. Anacrusis

3. True or False: In Arnold Schoenberg's twelve-tone technique, 'harmony' is derived from a pre-determined mathematical row rather than traditional major or minor scales.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Which dynamic marking indicates a sound that is even softer than 'pianissimo' (pp)?

- A. Mezzo-piano (mp)
- B. Piano (p)
- C. Pianississimo (ppp)
- D. Sforzando (sfz)

5. When a guitarist uses a 'wah-wah' pedal or a trumpeter uses a 'harmon mute,' they are primarily altering the _____ of the instrument.

- A. Pitch
- B. Timbre
- C. Tempo
- D. Rhythm

6. True or False: 'Accelerando' is a term used to describe a sudden decrease in the tempo of a piece.

- A. True
- B. False

Name: _____ Date: _____

7. Consider the 'Dies Irae' chant used in Berlioz's 'Symphonie Fantastique.' When the melody is played twice as slow as the original, which compositional device is being used?

- A. Inversion
- B. Retrograde
- C. Augmentation
- D. Diminution

8. A piece of music that features two or more independent melodic lines occurring simultaneously, such as a fugue by J.S. Bach, is described as having a _____ texture.

- A. Homophonic
- B. Polyphonic
- C. Monophonic
- D. Atonal

9. True or False: 'Basso Continuo' was a harmonic element common in the Baroque period that required both a keyboard instrument and a bass instrument to provide a foundation.

- A. True
- B. False

10. In South Indian Carnatic music, what is the term for the melodic framework—similar to a scale but with specific rules for ornamentation and movement?

- A. Tala
- B. Raga
- C. Gamelan
- D. Sinfonia