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Sonic Time Traveler: A 12th Grade Music Appreciation Quest

Moving beyond passive listening, students identify structural shifts and socio-political influences in masterworks ranging from Renaissance polyphony to Modernist dissonance.

1. While listening to the third movement of Berlioz's 'Symphonie Fantastique,' you hear a recurring musical theme representing a specific character. What is this technique called?

- A. Leitmotif
- B. Idée fixe
- C. Alberti bass
- D. Basso continuo

2. In Palestrina's 'Pope Marcellus Mass,' the primary objective of the musical structure was to ensure the sacred text remained clear and intelligible to the listener.

- A. True
- B. False

3. The _____ scale, often used by Debussy in 'Voiles,' lacks a tonal center because every interval between notes is exactly one full step.

- A. Pentatonic
- B. Chromatic
- C. Whole-tone
- D. Mixolydian

4. The use of 'Sprechstimme' in Arnold Schoenberg's 'Pierrot Lunaire' is an example of which musical movement's pursuit of intense emotional expression?

- A. Neoclassicism
- B. Expressionism
- C. Minimalism
- D. Romanticism

5. In the 'Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima' by Krzysztof Penderecki, the composer uses traditional sonata-allegro form to organize the emotional chaos.

- A. True
- B. False

6. When a jazz performer like Charlie Parker plays a rapid series of improvised notes over a complex chord progression, they are engaging in the _____ style.

- A. Swing
- B. Bebop
- C. Dixieland

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D. Cool Jazz

7. Which term best describes the texture of a J.S. Bach fugue, where multiple independent melodic lines interact simultaneously?

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

8. The 'Tale of the Heike' in Japanese Biwa music serves as a form of oral history, using specific musical motives to denote certain characters or battles.

- A. True
- B. False

9. Fela Kuti's music, often termed _____, combined traditional Yoruba percussion with highlife and funk to provide a platform for political activism in Nigeria.

- A. Reggae
- B. Afrobeat
- C. Samba
- D. Mambo

10. The minimalist works of Steve Reich, such as 'Music for 18 Musicians,' primarily rely on which technique for structural development?

- A. Thematic transformation
- B. Twelve-tone rows
- C. Phasing and repetition
- D. Call and response