

Grout, Chapter 15
Ludwig van Beethoven

[Beethoven's dates are 1770-1827.]

The Composer and His Music

1. (513) What was going on in 1792 with respect to Washington, Goethe, Mozart, Beethoven, and Haydn?

2. With whom did Beethoven study?

3. (514) Give a physical description of Beethoven.

4. Make a list Beethoven's oeuvre (works).

5. Who are Beethoven's cataloguers?

6. What's a *WoO*?

7. Give two reasons why Beethoven wrote fewer symphonies than Haydn or Mozart.

8. (515) What disease afflicted Beethoven? When did it begin and when did it have its full effect?

9. What document did Beethoven author in 1802? Why?

10. What was Beethoven's compositional habit?

Beethoven's "Three Periods"

11. What years are the boundaries of Beethoven's three periods and what works belong to each?

12. What are the characteristics of each period?

First Period

Patrons

13. (516) Drop some names on me. Which three guaranteed an annual salary?

The Piano Sonatas

14. (517) How many sonatas are in the op. 2 set? TQ: What? They're not identified by opus number? TQ: What do you think about how many sonatas in the set? Any *déjà vu*? To whom are the sonatas dedicated?

15. How do the first (op. 2) sonatas differ (in some respects) from the classic model?

16. What are the similarities of the op. 10, no. 1 and the op. 13 ("Pathétique")?

17. Harmonic characteristics, octaves, and full texture in Beethoven sonatas is a possible influence of which composers?

18. (519) List the four technical devices of Example 15:2.

30. TQ: Why are there two analyses of the symphony's first movement?

31. To whom was the symphony supposedly dedicated?

Chamber Music

19. (520) TQ: Explain the significance of musical example (op. 18, no. 2).

32. What changed Beethoven's mind and who supplied that explanation?

The First Symphony

20. What else was on the program besides the first symphony?

33. What's the real story? Inquiring minds want to know.

21. In what way is the first symphony the most Classic of the nine symphonies?

34. In what year was the symphony composed?

22. (521) How is Beethoven's originality demonstrated?

35. (526) What is the structural form of the second movement?

23. What is "an essential element in Beethoven's style"?

36. The movement contains a quotation from what? By whom?

The Second Symphony

24. In what ways does the second symphony foreshadow Beethoven's second period?

Fidelio

37. What's the major theme of the opera?

38. What was the other name of Beethoven's opera?

39. What's the story about?

Second Period

25. (522) What is Beethoven's estimation in the eyes of the public at the beginning of the second period?

40. What are the dates of its performances? How many overtures?

26. Characterize, in a few words, Beethoven's relations with others.

The Rasumovsky Quartets

41. (527) Who is Rasumovsky?

The Eroica Symphony

27. Why is the symphony called the Eroica?

42. How did Beethoven make the quartets nationalistic?

28. (524) What does the "new theme" of the development turn out to be?

43. How were the op. 59 quartets received?

29. (525) What is the opinion of the horn entrance just before the recapitulation?

44. (528) What are some of the other chambers works of this period?

The Fourth to Eighth Symphonies

45. (528) The fourth and fifth symphonies were written at the same time. Are they companions?

46. (529) The sixth symphony is subtitled the _____ symphony. How many movements does it have?

47. TQ: A composition with extra-musical references is generally described as being _____ic.

48. What are features of Beethoven's seventh symphony?

49. (530) What are features of the eighth?

50. Besides the Leonore Overtures, what others did Beethoven write? What's the form? Whose play?

The Sonatas and Concertos

51. Three of Beethoven's piano sonatas of this period have subtitles. What is it for op. 27, no. 2? Op. 53? Op. 57?

52. (532) What about op. 81A?

53. (533) Why did Beethoven write piano concertos?

54. Of the five which are the "largest" ones? Which one is the *Emperor*?

55. Who first performed the *Emperor* concerto? Who is this dude?

56. How many movements in a Beethoven concerto?

57. What's unusual about the last two piano concertos and the violin concerto?

Third Period

58. How was Beethoven doing financially up to 1815?

59. What about his personal circumstances?

Characteristics of Beethoven's Late Style

60. (534) Outline characteristics of Beethoven's late style. (This is a long list. Look at side headings.)

61. How many variations for piano? How is the *Diabelli* different?

62. (536) What do you think is important about the description of the op. 131 quartet?

63. How does Grout demonstrate that the seven movements can be seen as the traditional four-movement quartet?

The *Missa Solemnis*

64. TQ: What does *Missa solennis* mean?

65. (537) Is Beethoven's Mass liturgically correct for church use?

66. How is the Mass like a Handel oratorio and how is it different?

The Ninth Symphony

67. (538) The first performance included what compositions?

TQ: So what?

68. How was the work received? Was it financially rewarding? What about the second performance?

69. Who wrote the poem *Ode to Joy*?

70. What are the two main ideas that Beethoven emphasized?

71. Why is the form of the last movement so unusual?

Beethoven and the Romantics

72. (539) Did Beethoven's contemporaries understand his work? Which works were most influential for 19th-century composers?

73. TQ: Think about this; don't write it. Could you write an essay about Beethoven, the man and the composer? Could you write an essay about the first or second or third Beethoven periods? Could you write an essay about Beethoven's symphonies? Piano sonatas? Etc.? Could you compare/contrast Beethoven, the man and his works, and Haydn/Mozart?

