



Band Virtual Learning

8th Grade Percussion

April 30th, 2020



8th Grade Percussion Lesson: April 30th, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- Understand the importance of composers in history
- Build connections to music heard today



Warm up Activity

Listen to this music selection. Have you heard it before? Think about where you might have heard this: tv, radio, movie, etc. (You don't need to listen to the whole recording, just the first minute or so.)

[Listening example 1](#)



Warm up Activity

Did it sound familiar? What about this one? (Again, you don't need to listen to the whole recording, just the first minute or so.)

[Listening Example 2](#)

Who wrote this music?

- If you noticed, both pieces of music were written by Mozart!
- In the next few slides we'll learn more about him and his life!



Early life of Mozart

- Mozart's full name is Johannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart. (And you thought having a middle name was bad...)
- Mozart was a child prodigy - meaning he was performing music at a high level at a young age.
- By the age of 3 he was playing the harpsichord and by the age 5 he was composing/writing his own music!
- Can you imagine writing songs when you were 5 years old??



Harpsichord

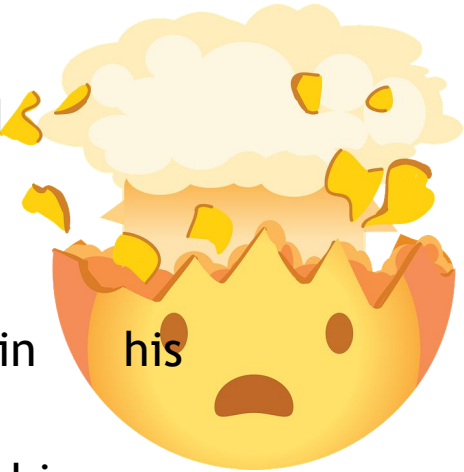
The Miracle Born in Salzburg

- Mozart's father took both Mozart and his sister to travel across Europe to play for wealthy families and royalty.
- This is how his family earned money. Mozart's father would tell people his son was "The Miracle born in Salzburg!" Everyone wanted to hear what the young Mozart could do!
- They travelled around Europe in a horse drawn carriage so the trips were long and demanding. → Mozart would often become seriously ill which limited the amount of performances they could have.



Mozart's teenage years

- Mozart began working for prominent (important) families for money. These were called commissions. He was commissioned to write/perform music for these families. This gave him an opportunity to spend more time studying/writing music.
- It is said that Mozart would come up with full pieces of music in mind and then write the music down on paper with NO EDITS. Meaning, he didn't need to correct any mistakes when writing his music down!
- Imagine writing a paper for English - having every word already written in your head, writing it down and then not having to spell/grammar check!



Mozart's later years

- Mozart married Constanze Weber and they had two children.
- Mozart became the “Chamber Composer” to Emperor Joseph II for his final job. He only had to write music for the Emperor’s dances so he had a lot of time to write operas and other forms of music.
- Mozart wasn’t the best with his money and often struggled to pay for the life he wanted to live.
- Mozart became sick at the age of 35 and passed away. Experts believe this happened in part to the many illnesses of his youth.





Why is this Important?

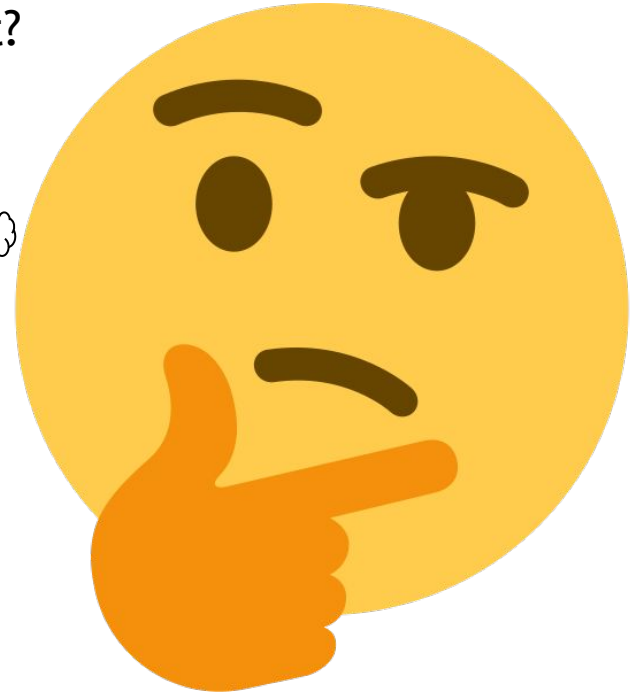
- Every piece of music we play in band has been written by someone - a composer!
- Mozart was a composer from 1756 - 1791, but you still hear his music today!
- Check out this commercial! They used music from Mozart's Opera: The Magic Flute!
- ["Queen of the Night" in a Volvo Commercial](#)
- Here is a link to this piece of music from a current day Opera House
[From the Opera](#)

What do you remember?

- Think back, which fact sticks out to you the most?

Mozart....

- Share with a family member or pet!



Dig Deeper!!!

- [Mozart's Biography](#)
- [Overture of Marriage of Figaro Opera](#)
- [Piano Sonata in A](#)

