GOLDEN PLAYBOX

Classical Composers Trivia

Questions 1-4 | Circle one answer

1. Who composed The Four Seasons violin concertos?

A. Gustav Holst
B. Antonio Vivaldi
C. Franz Schubert

2. Who composed the ballet Swan Lake?

A. Claude Debussy
B. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
C. Johann Strauss II

3. Who composed The Nutcracker ballet?

A. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
B. George Frideric Handel
C. Edvard Grieg

4. Who composed the opera The Magic Flute?

A. Maurice Ravel
B. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
C. Johannes Brahms

Classical Composers Trivia

Questions 5-8 | Circle one answer

5. Who composed the Fifth Symphony with its famous four-note opening?

A. Ludwig van Beethoven
B. Frederic Chopin
C. Antonio Vivaldi

6. Who composed the orchestral suite The Planets?

A. Franz Liszt
B. Joseph Haydn
C. Gustav Holst

7. Who composed the Blue Danube waltz?

A. Johann Strauss II
B. Richard Wagner
C. Camille Saint-Saens

8. Who composed the oratorio Messiah?

A. Erik Satie
B. Jean Sibelius
C. George Frideric Handel

Classical Composers Trivia

Questions 9-12 | Circle one answer

9. Who composed the piano piece Clair de lune?

A. Claude Debussy
B. Giacomo Puccini
C. Robert Schumann

10. Who composed Bolero?

A. Felix Mendelssohn
B. Maurice Ravel
C. Antonin Dvorak

11. Who composed the Peer Gynt music including Morning Mood?

A. Sergei Prokofiev
B. Georges Bizet
C. Edvard Grieg

12. Who composed The Carnival of the Animals?

A. Dmitri Shostakovich
B. Benjamin Britten
C. Camille Saint-Saens

Classical Composers Trivia



Answer guide 1-4 | Keep with host

1. B. Antonio Vivaldi

Vivaldi's Four Seasons consists of four violin concertos. The seasonal titles offer a recognizable link between music and changing weather without requiring an audio example.

2. B. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Tchaikovsky composed Swan Lake. Ballet combines music and movement, so some participants may recognize the story or stage images before remembering the composer's name.

3. A. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

The Nutcracker is another Tchaikovsky ballet. It is distinct from Swan Lake despite sharing a composer, and many of its individual dances are widely familiar.

4. B. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Mozart composed The Magic Flute. The title names a stage work rather than a piece solely for solo flute, which makes a useful explanatory detail.

Classical Composers Trivia

Answer guide 5-8 | Keep with host

5. A. Ludwig van Beethoven

Beethoven's Fifth Symphony is recognized for its opening motif. The question specifies the famous opening because many composers wrote a symphony numbered five.

6. C. Gustav Holst

Holst composed The Planets. Its movements draw on astrological character associations, so it is not simply a musical list of all planets recognized today.

7. A. Johann Strauss II

Johann Strauss II composed the Blue Danube waltz. The numeral matters because several members of the Strauss family were musicians and composers.

8. C. George Frideric Handel

Handel composed Messiah. An oratorio is generally presented as a concert work rather than staged like an opera, a useful distinction for the discussion.

Classical Composers Trivia

Answer guide 9-12 | Keep with host

9. A. Claude Debussy

Debussy's Clair de lune is a familiar piano piece. Its French title means moonlight, giving the group a gentle image to connect with the answer.

10. B. Maurice Ravel

Ravel composed Bolero, known for its repeated rhythmic pattern and gradual orchestral build. Recognition may come from dance or film rather than a concert program.

11. C. Edvard Grieg

Grieg wrote incidental music for Peer Gynt. Morning Mood is frequently heard separately, illustrating how an excerpt can become more familiar than its original context.

12. C. Camille Saint-Saens

Saint-Saens composed The Carnival of the Animals. Its animal-themed movements offer an accessible bridge from a composer-name quiz to imaginative discussion about musical character.