

Music, Art, Physical Education, and Health

# Music

First Quarter-Module 3

New Musical Style: Primitivism, Neo-Classicism,  
Avant Garde and Modern Nationalism



**Writer:**

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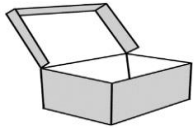
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## What I Need to Know

The main topic of the module is about the:

New Musical Style: Primitivism, Neoclassicism, and Avant Garde

After going through with this module, you are expected to:

### LEARNING COMPETENCIES:

1. Relates 20th Century music to other forms art forms and media during the same period (MU10TC-1a-g-3)
2. Evaluates music and music performances using guided rubrics

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this module the students are also expected to:

1. Know the characteristics of different new 20th musical style such as Primitivism, Neoclassicism, and Avant Garde
2. Create an art form describing the new 20th musical style such as Primitivism, Neoclassicism, and Avant Garde



## What I Know

### **PRE-ASSESSMENT**

Test 1. Choose the letter of the best answer. Write the chosen letter on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Which of the following is not a concept of primitivism in music?
  - A. It is in connection with the use of materials from other cultures
  - B. It is a combination of romantic and classical music
  - C. Use of indigenous materials in a specific country
  - D. Use of materials from European ethnic groups
2. It is a person who studies music in a sociocultural context.
  - A. Socio-musicologist
  - B. Ethnomusicologist
  - C. Music Psychology
  - D. Historical Musicology



3. Ethnomusicologist noted for the Hungarian flavor of his major musical works.
  - A. Bela Bartok
  - B. Sergei Prokofiev
  - C. Francis Poulenc
  - D. George Gershwin
4. Method that includes the use of hand signals during singing exercises to provide a visual aid for the solfa syllables.
  - A. Orff Approach
  - B. Suzuki Method
  - C. Kodaly Method
  - D. Dalcroze Method
5. It is a style of music that drew inspiration from the 18th Century music which became popular between WWI and WWII.
  - A. Primitivism
  - B. Neoclassicism
  - C. Avant-garde
  - D. Modern Nationalism
6. A composer with a style that is uniquely recognizable for its progressive technique, pulsating rhythms, melodic directness, and a resolving dissonance
  - A. Bela Bartok
  - B. Sergei Prokofiev
  - C. Francis Poulenc
  - D. George Gershwin
7. It is a lighthearted orchestral work intended for children, to appease the continuing government crackdown on avant-garde composers at the time.
  - A. Romeo and Juliet
  - B. War and Peace
  - C. Toccata
  - D. Peter and the Wolf
8. Which of the following is not a composition of Francis Poulenc?
  - A. Kossuth (1908)
  - B. Concert Champetre (1928)
  - C. La Voix Humane (1958)
  - D. C. Les Mamelles de Tiresias (1944)
9. Which of the following is NOT a member of the group called “Les Six”?
  - A. Louis Durey
  - B. Arthur Honegger
  - C. Darius Milhaud
  - D. George Gershwin
10. It is a French word for ‘advance guard” or “vanguard,” which is used to describe the musical styles that evolved after 1945.
  - A. Achtel
  - B. Avant-Garde
  - C. Arpeggio
  - D. Ars Nova
11. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of avant-garde music?
  - A. closely associated with electronic music
  - B. experimentation and innovation applied in music
  - C. musical scores were not necessarily followed as written
  - D. partial return to of the Classical period while combining tonal harmonies with slight dissonances



12. He is known as a “Crossover artist” and the “Father of American Jazz”
- A. Bela Bartok
  - B. Sergei Prokofiev
  - C. Francis Poulenc
  - D. George Gershwin
13. Which of the following is NOT a work of George Gershwin?
- A. La La Lucille (1919)
  - B. First Piano Concerto (1926)
  - C. An American in Paris (1928)
  - D. Porgy and Bess (1934)
14. Which of the following is NOT a work of Leonard Bernstein
- A. West Side Story (1957)
  - B. Candide (1956)
  - C. Stabat Mater (1971)
  - D. Waterfront (1954)
15. He mentioned that the universal language of music is basically rooted in tonality.
- A. George Gershwin
  - B. Sergei Prokofiev
  - C. Leonard Bernstein
  - D. George Gershwin

## Lesson 2

## Primitivism, Neoclassicism, and Avant Garde

Welcome to the last part of your lesson which is Primitivism, Neoclassicism, and Avant Garde. In this part, you will be provided with activities that will activate your prior knowledge as regards the lesson. From there, follow-up activities will be given to show your tentative understanding.

As you go through the rest of the activities, all your questions about Electronic and



### What's In

Chance Music will be clarified. All in all, your insight, considering its ampleness and importance will be measured toward the goal of this module.

Let's review our previous lesson! Read and analyze each statement below. Write **TRUE** if the statement is correct. If the statement is incorrect, write **FALSE**.

\_\_\_\_ 1. Electronic music is a style of music that uses a tape recorder that is often called musique concrete or concrete music.

\_\_\_\_ 2. Edgard Varese invented the term “disorganized sound which means that certain timbres and rhythms can be grouped together in order to capture a whole new definition of sound

\_\_\_\_ 3. Karlheinz Stockhausen is the “Father of Electronic Music”

\_\_\_\_ 4. Chance music refers to a style wherein the piece always sounds different at every performance because of the random techniques of production, including the use of ring modulators or natural elements that become a part of the music.

\_\_\_\_ 5. John Cage became interested in Hinduism and inspired him to compose Music of Changes (1951)



# ? What's New

## Activity 1: LISTENING ACTIVITY: New but... old

Listen and analyze carefully the music entitled War and Peace by Sergei Prokofiev (1946) by accessing this link in your browser <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSNPSJ9QEhI>  
Answer the following questions.

1. What musical style do you think was implied in the song? Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Based on our previous lessons, what combination of musical styles are present in the song?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Would you consider the song old or new? Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Now that you have fully understood musical styles such as electronic and chance music, we are going to understand other musical styles during the 20<sup>th</sup> century? Are you prepared? Let's go!

### PRIMITIVISM

It is a combination of two simple ideas that developed into a new idea, new image, and new sound.

- It is in connection with the use of materials from other cultures (Exoticism)
- use of indigenous materials in a specific country (Nationalism)
- use of materials from European ethnic groups

### BELA BARTOK (1881–1945)

- ethnomusicologist noted for the Hungarian flavor of his major musical works
- exposed to different ethno-cultural diversities
- started his piano lesson with her mother at the age of 5
- compose small dance piece at the age of 9
- 1903 – went to Royal Academy of Music in Budapest to study piano and composition
  - Same year, he completed his first major symphonic work, **Kossuth** along with **Zoltan Kodaly** which is known for the **Kodaly Method**
- Bartok's works:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kossuth (1908)</li><li>- Piano Sonata (1926)</li><li>- First Piano Concerto (1926)</li><li>- Cantata Profanca (1930)</li><li>- Second Piano Concerto (1931)</li><li>- Mikrokosmos (1931-1939)</li><li>- String Quartets #5 (1934)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta (1936)</li><li>- Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion (1937)</li><li>- Second Violin Concerto (1938)</li><li>- String Quartet #6 (1939)</li></ul>
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Mikrokosmos (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPRxjd2ETSo>)

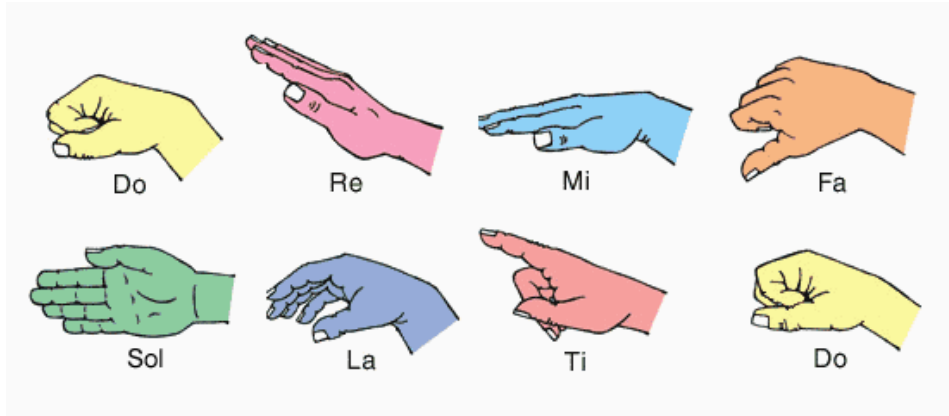


- Bartok left Hungary and migrated to the USA with his family and worked as a research assistant at Columbia University.

### Let's define these musical terms!

1. **ethnomusicologist** – a person who studies music in a sociocultural context
2. **Kodaly method** - includes the use of hand signals during singing exercises to provide a visual aid for the *sol-fa* syllables.

\* Note that as the pitch changes, the level of the hand also moves depending on the highness or lowness of the pitch.



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fonom%C3%ADmia.jpg>

### Neoclassicism

It is a revival or adaptation of classical music, especially in music.

- style of music that drew inspiration from the 18th Century music which became popular between WWI and WWII.
- moderating factor between the emotional excesses of the Romantic period and the violent impulses of the soul in expressionism.
- partial return to an earlier style of writing, particularly the tightly-knit form of the Classical period, while combining tonal harmonies with slight dissonances.
- adopted a modern, freer use of the seven-note diatonic scale



## SERGEI PROKOFIEV (1891–1953)



[https://snl.no/Sergei\\_Prokofiev](https://snl.no/Sergei_Prokofiev)

- neo-classicist, nationalist, and avant garde composer.
- His style is uniquely recognizable for its progressive technique, pulsating rhythms, melodic directness, and a resolving dissonance
- His contacts with Diaghilev and Stravinsky gave him the chance to write music for the ballet and opera, notably the ballet Romeo and Juliet and the opera War and Peace.

**Romeo and Juliet**  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=coxqnE3aTs>)

- Much of Prokofiev's opera was left unfinished, due in part to resistance by the performers themselves to the seemingly offensive musical content.
- Peter and the Wolf - a lighthearted orchestral work intended for children, to appease the continuing government crackdown on avant-garde composers at the time
- highly successful in his piano music, featuring toccata-like rhythms and biting harmonic dissonance within a classical form and structure
- Other significant compositions include the Symphony no. 1 (also called Classical Symphony), his most accessible orchestral work linked to the combined styles of classicists Haydn and Mozart and neo-classicist Stravinsky.  
composed violin sonatas, some of which are also performed on the flute, two highly regarded violin concerti, and two string quartets inspired by Beethoven.

## FRANCIS POULENC (1899–1963)



<https://picryl.com/media/photo-card-of-francis-poulenc-1923>

- One of the relatively few composers born into wealth and a privileged social position, the neo-classicist Francis Jean Marcel Poulenc was a member of the group of young French composers known as “Les Six”
- rejected the heavy romanticism of Wagner and the so-called imprecision of Debussy and Ravel.
- His compositions are mostly characterized as:
  - coolly elegant modernity
  - tempered by a classical sense of proportion
- Poulenc was also fond of the witty approach of Satie, as well as the early neo-classical works of Stravinsky



- Poulenc's works:
  - Concert Champetre (1928)
  - Concerto for Two Pianos (1932) which combined the classical touches of Mozart with a refreshing mixture of wit and exoticism in the style of Ravel;
  - Concerto for Solo Piano (1949) written for the Boston Symphony Orchestra
  - Les Mamelles de Tiresias (1944) – an opera which revealed his light-hearted character
  - Dialogues des Carmelites (1956) - highlighted his conservative writing style
  - La Voix Humane (1958) - reflected his own turbulent emotional life.
  - Poulenc's choral works tended to be more somber and solemn, as portrayed by Litanies a la vierge noire (Litanies of the Black Madonna, 1936), with its monophony, simple harmony, and startling dissonance
  - **Stabat Mater (1950)** - carried a Baroque solemnity with a prevailing style of unison singing and repetition.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=quemnTLY3fE>

### Other members of “Les Six”

- Georges Auric (1899–1983) wrote music for the movies and rhythmic music with lots of energy.
- Louis Durey (1888–1979) used traditional ways of composing and wrote in his own, personal way, not wanting to follow form.
- Arthur Honegger (1882–1955) liked chamber music and the symphony. His popular piece Pacific 231 describes a train journey on the Canadian Pacific Railway.
- Darius Milhaud (1892–1974) was a very talented composer who wrote in several different styles. Some of his music uses bitonality and polytonality (writing in two or more keys at the same time). His love of jazz can be heard in popular pieces like Le Boeuf sur le Toit which he called a cinema-symphony.
- Germaine Tailleferre (1892–1983) was the only female in the group. She liked to use dance rhythms. She loved children and animals and wrote many works about them. She also wrote operas, concerti, and many works for the piano.

### AVANT-GARDE

It is a French word for ‘advance guard’ or “vanguard,” which is used to describe the musical styles that evolved after 1945.

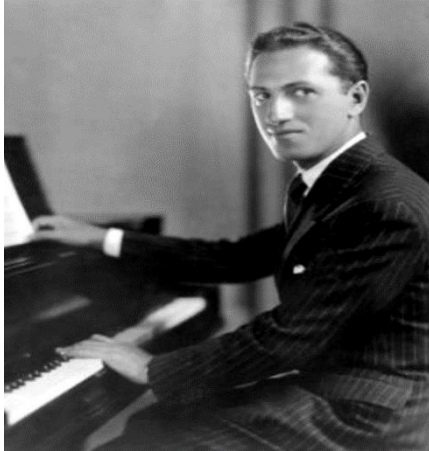
- center of experimentation and innovation applied in music
- closely associated with electronic music, the avant-garde movement dealt with the parameters or the dimensions of sound in space.
- exhibited a new attitude toward musical mobility, whereby the order of note groups could be varied so that musical continuity could be altered
- Improvisation was a necessity in this style, for the musical scores were not necessarily followed as written.





- One could expect a piece **to be read by a performer from left to right or vice versa**.
- The performer might **turn the score over**, and **go on dabbling indefinitely in whatever order** before returning to the starting point

### GEORGE GERSHWIN (1898–1937)



- Born in New York to Russian Jewish immigrants.
- Gershwin's works:
  - His first song was written in 1916 and his first Broadway musical La La Lucille in 1919.
  - He also composed Rhapsody in Blue (1924) and An American in Paris (1928), which incorporated jazz rhythms with classical forms
  - His opera **Porgy and Bess (1934)** remains to this day the only American opera to be included in the established repertoire of this genre

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vi2IWu-C2ds>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/59015064@N02/8697964237>

- In spite of his commercial success, Gershwin was more fascinated with classical music.
- Influenced by Ravel, Stravinsky, Berg, and Schoenberg, as well as the group of contemporary French composers known as “Les Six” that would shape the character of his major works—half jazz and half classical
- “Crossover artist” - his serious compositions remain highly popular in the classical repertoire, as his stage and film songs continue to be jazz and vocal standards.
- “Father of American Jazz” - “mixture of the primitive and the sophisticated” gave his music an appeal that has lasted long after his death.
- His musical compositions total around 369 which include orchestral music, chamber music, musical theatre, film musicals, operas, and songs.
- Died in Hollywood, California, U.S.A. on July 11, 1937

### LEONARD BERNSTEIN (1918–1990)

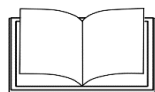


[https://www.flickr.com/photos/winston\\_vargas/9753809845](https://www.flickr.com/photos/winston_vargas/9753809845)

- His big break came when he was asked to substitute for the ailing Bruno Walter in conducting the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in a concert on November 14, 1943.
- The overnight success of this event started his reputation as a great interpreter of the classics as well as of the more complex works of Gustav Mahler.
- Bernstein's philosophy was that the **universal language of music is basically rooted in tonality**.
- He achieved pre-eminence in two fields: **conducting and composing for Broadway musicals, dance shows, and concert music**.



- Bernstein is best known for his compositions for the stage.
  - Foremost among these is the musical **West Side Story (1957)**, an American version of Romeo and Juliet, which displays a tuneful, off-beat, and highly atonal approach to the songs.
  - Other outputs include another Broadway hit **Candide (1956)**
  - and the much-celebrated **Mass (1971)**, which he wrote for the opening of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.
  - He composed the music for the film On the **Waterfront (1954)**.  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqKQ6CDev9U>)
- As a lecturer, Bernstein is fondly remembered for his television series “Young People’s Concerts” (1958–1973) that demonstrated the sounds of the various orchestral instruments and explained basic music principles to young audiences, as well as his “Harvardian Lectures,” a six-volume set of his papers on syntax, musical theories, and philosophical insights delivered to his students at Harvard University.
- His musical compositions total around 90. He died in New York City, USA on October 14, 1990.



## What’s More

### Activity 2: Short Musical Quiz!

Write SP if the statement describes Sergei Prokofiev If the statement describes Francis Poulenc, write FP.

- \_\_\_ 1. Rejected the heavy romanticism of Wagner and the so-called imprecision of Debussy and Ravel
- \_\_\_ 2. Notably known for composing the ballet Romeo and Juliet and the opera War and Peace
- \_\_\_ 3. His compositions were characterized as coolly elegant modernity and tempered by a classical sense of proportion
- \_\_\_ 4. Most of his operas were opera was left unfinished, due in part to resistance by the performers themselves to the seemingly offensive musical content
- \_\_\_ 5. He was a member of the group of young French composers known as “Les Six”

### Activity 3: Film Review. West Side Story (1961)

Watch and analyze the film entitled “West Side Story” by clicking this link in your browser.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1W20527SQ5xCS4PV\\_xvCRILJeANb0B0vp](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1W20527SQ5xCS4PV_xvCRILJeANb0B0vp)

After watching the film, in a separate one whole sheet piece of pad paper, answer the following guide questions encapsulating the concepts of avant-garde music.

Guide Questions:

1. What is the message of this movie? Do you agree or disagree with it?
2. What did you like best about the movie? Why?
3. What did you like least about the film? Why?
4. What concepts of avant-garde music are presented in the film? How?
5. Did you like the avant-garde music that was employed in the film? Why? Why not?





## What I Have Learned

Generalizations Questions:

In terms of musical style, what is primitivism? How does primitivism differ from other musical art forms?

\_\_\_\_\_

What are the characteristics of neoclassicism in its musical context?

\_\_\_\_\_

What is the difference between classical music to neoclassical music?

\_\_\_\_\_



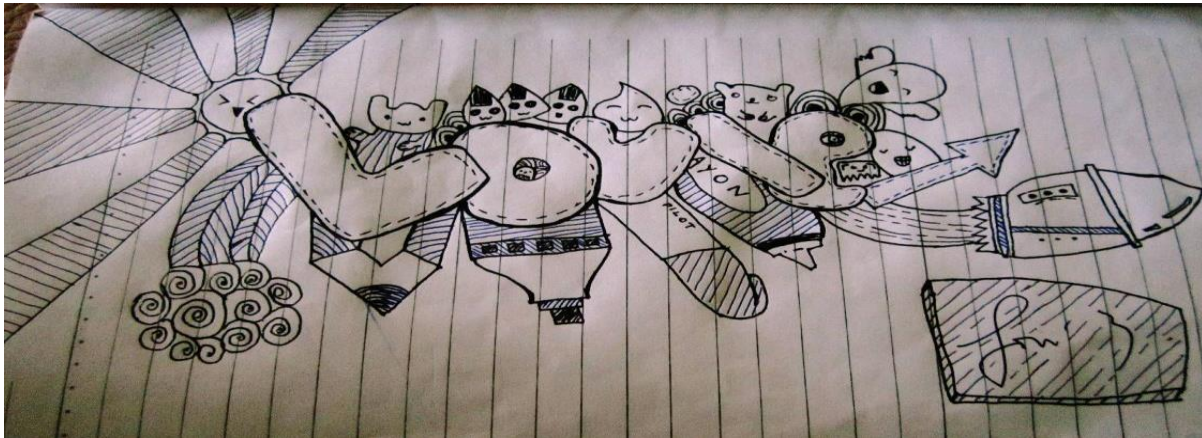
## What I Can Do

Let's Draw! **Freestyle Doodle Art for Neoclassical Music!**

Draw a doodle art related to Neoclassical Music. While creating the meme, bear in mind that you have the **freedom** to draw whatever you feel while listening and evaluating "Sonata for Flute and Piano" composed by Francis Poulenc by clicking this link in your browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2dXTfjYPbE>

Below is the sample and rubrics for the doodle art.



Criteria	4	3	2	1
Neatness	Student's work shows that extreme care was used while completing a drawing.	Student's work was satisfactorily neat, no major mistakes	Student's work was below average in neatness.	Student was careless in completing work/did not follow directions.
Originality	The Students' work is very creative and unique.	Student's work was satisfactorily creative and almost unique.	Student's work shows little sincere creativity.	Student's work shows little or no evidence of original thought
Whitespace	The student left very minimal sections of whitespace in their finished piece.	The student left small sections of whitespace in their finished piece.	The student left multiple sections of whitespace in their finished piece.	The student left large sections of whitespace in their finished piece.





## Assessment

Choose the letter of the best answer. Encircle the letter of the correct answer.

1. Which of the following is not a concept of primitivism in music?
  - A. It is in connection with the use of materials from other cultures
  - B. It is a combination of romantic and classical music
  - C. Use of indigenous materials in a specific country
  - D. Use of materials from European ethnic groups
2. It is a person who studies music in a sociocultural context.
  - A. Sociomusicologist
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3. Ethnomusicologist noted for the Hungarian flavor of his major musical works.
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4. Method that includes the use of hand signals during singing exercises to provide a visual aid for the solfa syllables.
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  - C. Kodaly Method
  - D. Dalcroze Method
5. It is a style of music that drew inspiration from the 18th Century music which became popular between WWI and WWII.
  - A. Primitivism
  - B. Neoclassicism
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  - D. Modern Nationalism
6. A composer with a style that is uniquely recognizable for its progressive technique, pulsating rhythms, melodic directness, and a resolving dissonance.
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7. It is a lighthearted orchestral work intended for children, to appease the continuing government crackdown on avant-garde composers at the time.
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10. It is a French word for ‘advance guard’ or ‘vanguard,’ which is used to describe the musical styles that evolved after 1945.
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B. Avant-Garde  
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D. Waterfront (1954)
15. He mentioned that the universal language of music is basically rooted in tonality.
- A. George Gershwin  
B. Sergei Prokofiev  
C. Leonard Bernstein  
D. George Gershwin



## Additional Activities

### Self-Assessment

Put a check 😊 or ☹ before each statement that describes your feelings during and after doing the activities in the whole 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Music Lessons.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. I listen perceptively to selected 20<sup>th</sup> century music.  
\_\_\_\_ 2. I have described the musical element of given pieces in 20<sup>th</sup> century styles.  
\_\_\_\_ 3. I can relate 20<sup>th</sup> century music to its historical and cultural background to the present era.  
\_\_\_\_ 4. I can explain performance practice (setting, composition, role of composers, and audience) of the 20<sup>th</sup> century music.  
\_\_\_\_ 5. I have explored other arts and media that portray 20<sup>th</sup> century elements through recorded or live performances.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. I have performed various musical performances using my knowledge of 20<sup>th</sup> century styles of music.  
\_\_\_\_ 7. I am so happy with my work.  
\_\_\_\_ 8. Doing activities individually is a worthwhile experience.  
\_\_\_\_ 9. I appreciate the work of others because of music.  
\_\_\_\_ 10. I have discovered that I improved my musical knowledge this quarter.







## References



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