

Name (Last, First)

Period

J. S. Bach video questions

1. For what three things was Bach best known during his own lifetime?
 - a. His symphonies, operas, and waltzes
 - b. gambling debts, love of horses, and inventing jazz
 - c. a great organist, terrific improviser, and the father of four famous composers
2. Who rediscovered Bach as a *composer* and reintroduced his major works to the world?
 - a. Felix Mendelssohn
 - b. Warner Brothers
 - c. Maurice Ravel
3. What influenced Bach to become a musician?
 - a. he thought that playing the pipe organ would be a babe magnet
 - b. it was the family business
 - c. it was the only way he could make enough money to support his huge family
4. For whom did Bach write most of his music?
 - a. various German dukes and other nobles
 - b. the church
 - c. movie soundtracks
 - d. Mr. Blocher's iPod
5. Why did Bach write the six Brandenburg Concertos?
 - a. To get the Margrave of Brandenburg to give him a job (it didn't work)
 - b. to overthrow the baroque style and establish the romantic style
 - c. to form a background for the stage plays
6. What instruments are featured in the fifth Brandenburg Concerto?
 - a. harpsichord, violin, and flute
 - b. cello, piano, and clarinet
 - c. bass, timpani, and trumpet
7. Which instrument has the long cadenza in the first movement?
 - a. piano
 - b. trumpet
 - c. harpsichord
8. How did the Margrave of Brandenburg show his appreciation for these concertos?
 - a. he gave Bach a gold watch and a jeweled snuff box
 - b. paid him the equivalent of six months salary
 - c. he didn't acknowledge them at all

Vocabulary:

Fugue: A sort of musical "conversation" in which two, three, or four themes (or "voices") can be heard at times one after the other and at times simultaneously.

Concerto: A musical composition for orchestra that features one or more solo instruments (usually in three movements).

Cadenza: A portion of a composition set aside for the soloists to really show off, sometimes with improvisation.