

Name (Last, First)

Period

# Maurice Ravel video study questions

1. From whom did young Ravel acquire his love of Spanish music?
  - a. Claude Debussy
  - b. His fencing coach
  - c. His sister
  - d. His mother
2. Which instrument is sometimes said to be the real conductor of Ravel's Bolero?
  - a. The Baton
  - b. The Violin
  - c. The Snare Drum
  - d. The Flute
3. What is meant by "color" in music?
  - a. The differences in sound quality that distinguish one instrument from another
  - b. The yellowing of the paper the score is printed on caused by age
  - c. The different moods expressed by various major and minor keys
  - d. None of the above
4. According to the video, Why is Ravel's Bolero so popular with orchestras? ...
  - a. The rhythmic structure makes it easy to learn
  - b. It gives each section of the orchestra a chance to show off
  - c. There is so much opportunity for improvisation
  - d. Plucking the violin strings (that is, playing pizzicato) is more fun than bowing them
5. What was Ravel's attitude toward this piece?
  - a. He grew to hate it because its popularity overshadowed his other "more important" work
  - b. He loved it because it finally gained for him the fame he thought he deserved
  - c. He was so busy with other projects that he put The Bolero out of his mind
6. What was Ravel's personal life like?
  - a. He was always the life of the party
  - b. He sought quiet and solitude to concentrate on his compositions
  - c. He loved being with his wife and many children
7. When was Ravel happiest?
  - a. When he was deeply involved in engineering a complex piece of music
  - b. When in a pub surrounded by his many close friends
  - c. When on vacation far from the demands of inventing new musical compositions

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## Vocabulary:

**Pizzicato:** played by plucking rather than bowing the strings of an instrument

**Crescendo:** gradual increase in the volume or intensity of sound

**Modulation:** changing from one tonality (or key) to another through a regular melodic or chord progression