

Guide to Music Literature in Academic Competitions

Prepared by Dr. Howard J. Buss (July 2005)

1. Any musical composition in any style may be excerpted for questions pertaining to music theory, style, instrumentation, performance practice, and/or cultural background.
2. Patriotic songs, marches, military theme songs, and folk songs from our American heritage, such as those by Stephen Foster and African-American Spirituals, may be used for title and/or composer identification questions. Also, excerpts from time-tested American musicals may be employed for this purpose. Most notably would be works such as *West Side Story*, *Candide*, *South Pacific*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma*, *The Sound of Music*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Porgy and Bess*.
3. Title and/or composer identification questions will emphasize, but not be limited to, the 50 compositions on the following list:

Bach, Johann Sebastian.

Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor
Brandenburg Concerto #2

Barber, Samuel

Adagio for Strings

Beethoven, Ludwig van

Für Elise
Symphony #5
Symphony #9

Berlioz, Hector

Symphonie Fantastique

Bizet, George

Carmen

Brahms, Johannes

Symphony #2
Violin Concerto

Copland, Aaron

Appalachian Spring
Fanfare for the Common Man

Debussy, Claude

La Mer
Prelude to Afternoon of a Faun

Dvořák, Antonín

Symphony #5
(New World Symphony)

Gershwin, George

Rhapsody in Blue

Grieg, Edvard Hagerup

Peer Gynt Suite #2

Grofé, Ferde

The Grand Canyon Suite

Handel, George Frederick

Messiah
Water Music

Haydn, Franz Joseph

Symphony #94 (The Surprise Symphony)
Symphony #101 (The Clock Symphony)

Holst, Gustav
The Planets

Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus
Eine Kleine Nachtmusik
Symphony #40 (K. 550)

Orff, Carl
Carmina burana

Prokofiev, Sergei
Peter and the Wolf
Symphony #5

Strauss, Richard
Also sprach Zarathustra

Rossini, Gioacchino
William Tell Overture
The Barber of Seville

Schubert, Franz Peter
Symphony #8 (Unfinished Symphony)

Stravinsky, Igor
The Rite of Spring
(Le sacre du printemps)
The Firebird

Verdi, Giuseppe
Aïda

Wagner, Richard
Overture to Tannhäuser
Die Walküre (The Valkyrie)

Mendelssohn, Felix
Violin Concerto
Italian Symphony

Mussorgsky, Modest
Pictures at an Exhibition
Night on Bald Mountain

Puccini, Giacomo
Madama Butterfly

Ravel, Maurice
Bolero

Rimsky-Korsakov, Nicolas
Scheherazade
The Flight of the Bumble Bee

Saint-Saëns, Camille
The Carnival of the Animals

Schumann, Robert
Album for the Young

Tchaikovsky, Peter Ilyich
Symphony #5 [Pathétique]
1812 Overture

Vivaldi, Antonio
The Seasons