Date \_\_\_\_\_

## MUSIC OF THE USA



# AMERICAN CLASSICAL MUSIC

### **UNIT AIMS**

 Identify instruments of the orchestra, recognise them in performance and find out how the different instruments are played.
Discover Nationalist music by listening to Fanfare for the Common Man and Hoe-Down from Rodeo.
Find out more about the composers Aaron Copland and Anton Dvorak.
Perform the New World Symphony.

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## **CLASSICAL MUSIC 1** FANFARE FOR THE COMMON MAN Aaron Copland

In this unit, we have begun learning about the composer Aaron Copland and the piece Hoe-Down.

In this worksheet, we are going to look at another famous piece by Copland – the Fanfare for the Common Man.

A **fanfare** is a piece of music often used to announce the arrival of a special guest like a president or member of the royal family. For instance, if Prince Charles was to visit your school, you might be asked to compose a fanfare. It would generally use brass instruments, sometimes accompanied by percussion.

However this fanfare is for the "common man", reflecting the idea of the American Dream – that anyone could achieve anything they wanted, regardless of where they came from.

Have a listen to Fanfare for the Common Man by clicking on the QR Code here or going to https://youtu.be/ZdgjcMmjeaA

*Questions – circle the correct answer* 

What instruments are used at the start?

Strings Woodwind Brass Percussion

What instruments are used next?



What instruments are used (circle 2)? If you are not sure about one of the instruments, look it up on Google to see what it looks/sounds like!

Timpani	Violin	Piano	Clarinet	Trumpet

Would you expect these instruments to be used in a fanfare? Give a reason.

Here is a another version of **Fanfare for the Common Man**. You can find it using the QR Code or at <u>https://youtu.be/c2zurZig4L8</u>



What instruments are used? Write down at least 3.

What style of music would you say it is?

Which version do you prefer and why?



## CLASSICAL MUSIC 2 HOE DOWN from RODEO



#### Choose words from the box below to complete the paragraph.

Violins	Snare Drum	Xylophone	Bowing	Plucking
Striking	Piano	Wood Block		
Hoe Dowr	n starts with the	accompar	nied by the	
·•	The violins are p	layed using a	technique	e called
bowing/pl	lucking (circle the co	orrect answer).		
In the nex	ct section, the	is joined by t	he	to
	horse's hooves. The	_		
as well	as the	, wh	ich is a	tuned
	instrument.	It is played by		
with a bea	ater.			

What do you think of when you hear this music?

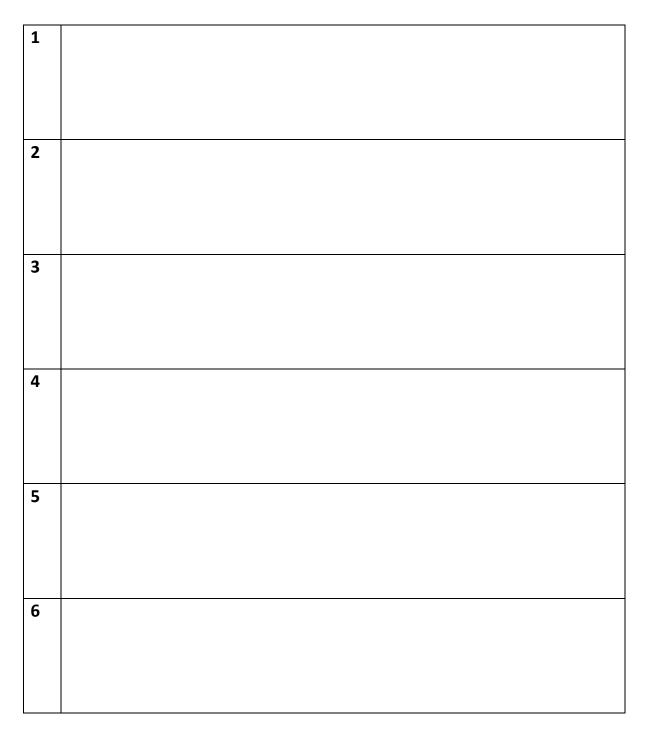
5

What instrument do you hear that you would not expect to hear

in an orchestra? \_\_\_\_\_

#### If this music was telling a story, what do you think might happen

in it?



## CLASSICAL MUSIC 3 AARON COPLAND

#### **Aaron Copland: CV**



Job Title:	
Nationality:	
Year of Birth:	_
*Year of Death:	_
Most famous piece of music:	
for the	•

\* This information is not normally found on a CV!

## **Hoe Down from Rodeo**

Ballet	Opera	Musical	Orchestra	
Folk	Рор	Rock	Dance	

Hoe Down is from a larger work called *Rodeo*. It would have been heard in a theatre in a production featuring lots of dancing.

What would you call a theatrical production with dancers on stage accompanied by an orchestra?

Α\_\_\_\_\_.

Rodeo was written in 1942 and features American \_\_\_\_\_ tunes.

A Hoe Down is a type of \_\_\_\_\_ with two beats in bar.

What Scottish dance also has two beats in a bar?

Reel	Waltz	March

What sort of people take part in rodeos in real life?

Cowboys Athletes Baseball Players



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## Classical Music 4 The New World Symphony Anton Dvorak

From their discovery by Columbus and others, the Americas were known as the New World. Later, as the USA became an independent country it began to be known as the "land of opportunity" where people could go and achieve wealth and prosperity. Between 1836 and 1914, over 30 million Europeans emigrated to the United States in pursuit of the *American dream*, fleeing poverty, religious persecution or specific difficult events, such as the Potato Famine in Ireland.

Anton Dvorak was a composer from the Czech Republic born in 1841. Following a successful career in his native country he moved to the United States in 1892, where he lived and worked in New York City. His 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony is entitled "from the New World" and contains much of this sense of optimism and hope that new settlers to the United States might have felt. In addition, Dvorak was influenced by the spirituals sung by freed slaves, as well as the sound of Native American music.

The second movement of the symphony – the Largo – has since become a very famous piece of music, notably used in the Hovis advert in the UK.

Watch the exciting introduction here:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05dssp6



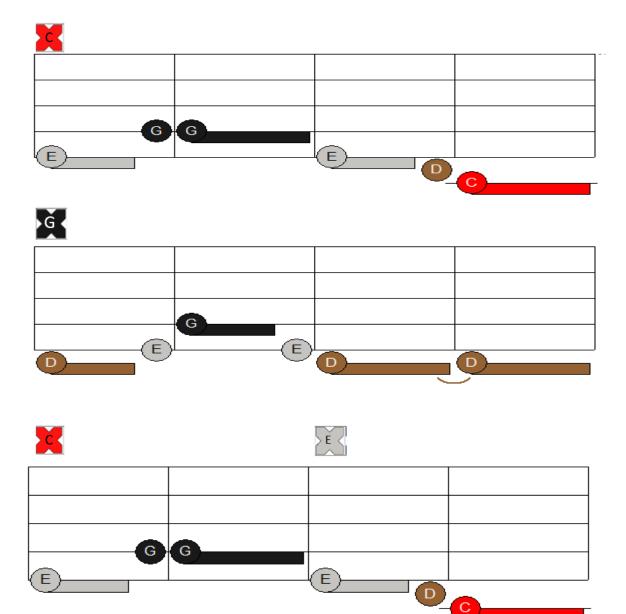
Now try to listen to the first 2 minutes and 30 seconds of music, answering the following questions:

The full music can be found here: <u>https://youtu.be/J3QZd4KDNoU</u>

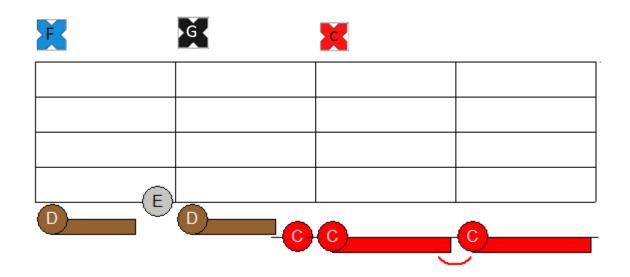


Questions – circle the correct answer						
What instru	ments are us	ed at t	he start?			
Strings	Woodwind		Brass	Percussion		
What is the	mood?					
Нарру	Sad	Scary	Romar	ntic	Spooky	
Other						
	ne is heard a (the one play			n family of in	struments is the solo	
Strings	Woodwind		Brass	Percussion		
What instru	ment is it?					
Flute	Cor Anglais		Trumpet	Bass	Drum	
What family are the accompanying (background) instruments in?						
Strings	Woodwind		Brass	Percussion		
What mood	does this see	ction h	ave?			
Нарру	Sad	Scary	Romar	ntic	Spooky	

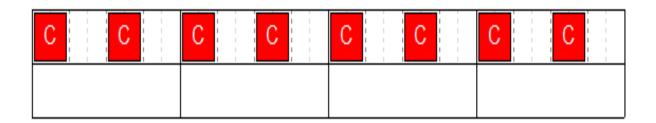
Other \_\_\_\_\_







**Dvorak: New World Symphony (Part 2 or Bass Part)** 



GG	GG	GG	GG

C	С	E	EE

FF	GG	С	