

International week music

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Reflection on the course

Last year, my second choice for the international weeks was Vienna and its music week. Unfortunately, the date of the week did not fit into my program in Belgium, so I went to Norway (also a very nice and interesting international week). So, when I had to plan my curriculum this year, there was no doubt that the international week should be in it.

In Belgium, as I already mentioned in the drama course, we have a combined course with arts, music, drama and movement. I am not a very talented musician myself. I have never played an instrument and my singing is not always as pure as it should be. A course, completely devoted to music was like music to my ears 😊 I was really looking forward to new background information about music education, new ideas to do with my pupils and learn new things about how to use music in class. I did not expect a whole lot of ideas about Beethoven, but I was positively surprised when I heard that he was the main subject of the course. I think it is wonderful to teach pupils about the '*stars of classical music*'. Because it is his 250th birthday this year, I think it is a perfect year to talk about him and work with his music and ideas. Although I really loved reading about and listening to him, I think it is such a shame that we did not have the possibility to do it in Vienna. After all, that is the city of music.

Does historical cultural knowledge give me an understanding of current/contemporary cultural events?

For this question, I did not immediately understand what you meant by it and what you wanted us to answer. So, I tried to form an answer and I hope it is what you expect it to be. I also looked some things up online to get to know more about it.

For me personally, historical cultural knowledge gives me an understanding of current cultural events. My parents started going to museums with my sister and I since we were young. Looking at art, listening to music and plays. It is something we have been doing for quite some time now. I have the feeling that it helps me sometimes understanding new art or things that happen in the world. Sometimes you can link something to something else you have heard/seen somewhere, and I think that is very valuable. We also talk about incidents that we see on the news and when we want more background, my parents are not afraid to give it to us or let us look it up.

I also think it is important to teach children about it. To give them some historical cultural background so they can understand why some things happen as they do and what the impact on those things can be.

I want to give an example linked to what has happened a couple of weeks ago to George Floyd and the reaction it provoked for the rest of the world. It touched a part of history that a lot of people are not proud of, a history some have forgotten, or others still act on. I think it is important to talk about such events and talk about the history of it for better understanding. Knowing what happened a long time ago can help us understanding why it still hurts people nowadays.

Am I interested in Ludwig van Beethoven? - Do I want to share my interest with others? If so, why - if not, why not?

I had not really thought about this before. To be honest, I did not know a lot about Beethoven before I read this course and the information in the *Incomings Austria* handouts. I knew his name and some of his pieces, but his background was completely new for me.

After reading more about him, I think I am interested in him and his music. Especially as a part of music education. I would love to use him and his music in my music lessons. I also think it is very nice that his music is still used in today's series and films. It is a great example to teach children that classical music is not just something the elderly people listen to or is only used for a ballet or an opera or something. Even in the blockbusters you can find some of his work. I am thinking of *Jurassic Park* and *the Avengers* where they used Beethoven's piano sonatas and symphonies.

What would be generally and particularly important if I worked with children/young people on the subject of «Beethoven»?

I think the most important part of teaching children about Beethoven is letting them listen to it a lot. You cannot work on with a musician if you have never heard a song of him. Talk about what his music makes you feel, which memories they evoke etc. I think it is important to teach them what he wanted to achieve with his music, but also let the pupils know that music is something individual. It is different for everybody. If you find a piece is very beautiful and it tears you up, another might find it very sad or even do not like it because there is too much going on.

Ludwig von Beethoven



These worksheets belong to:

Task 1

Write the words in the right place in the text.

to compose	57	symphony	the age of 5	Joseph Hayden
an opera	Bonn	deaf	Fidelio	gravestone
Für Elise	1827	Vienna	W.A. Mozart	mother
Wiener Zentralfriedhof	nine	concert	violin and piano lessons	

Ludwig von Beethoven was born on December 17th in 1770 in At he received his first He gave his first when he was eight years old. When his died in 1792, he left his elderly house and decided to make his own career. He moved to and almost met two famous composers, and He wrote his first at the age of twenty-nine.

When he was forty-nine, Beethoven fell ill. He became Yet he continued In total, Beethoven wrote symphonies and

..... , the opera is called

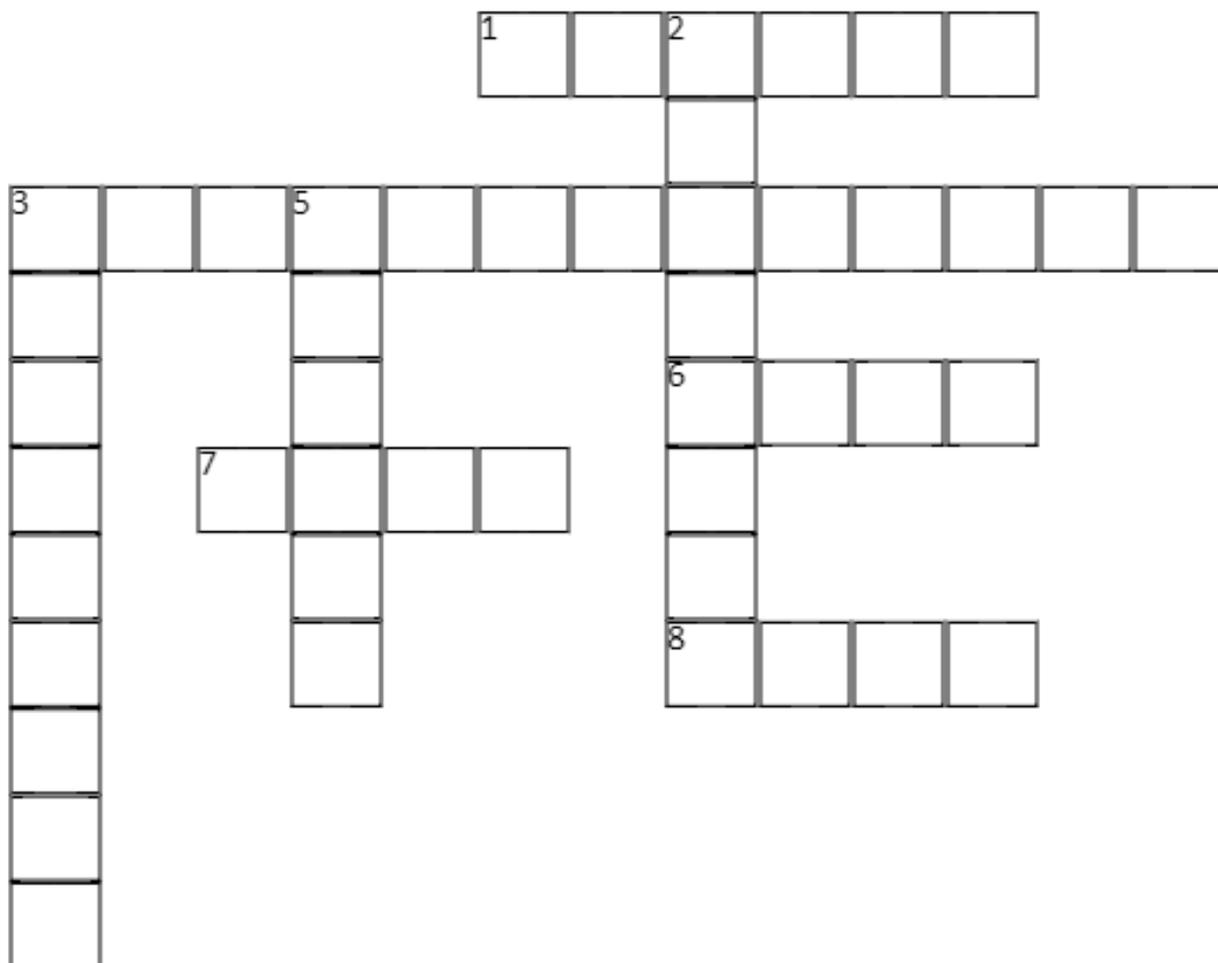
On , Beethoven deceased in He was only years old.

His can be found on



Task 2

Fill in the crossword puzzle.



Horizontally	Vertically
1. At the age of ... , he published his first music pieces.	2. The ninth symphony is the ... anthem.
3. Beethoven was a He was a very talented musician.	3. Beethoven did not have a happy
6. Beethoven was born into a ... family.	5. Beethoven was often alone. he felt very ...
7. Beethoven became ... at the age of thirteen.	
8. Beethoven wrote ... symphonies.	

Task 3

Listen to the music samples.

Connect the sample with the matching score by giving them the same colour.

European Anthem (Ode to joy)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEKDTqDM8v8>

Musical score for the European Anthem (Ode to joy). The score is in G major, 3/4 time, and is marked 'Piano' (p). It consists of two systems of music. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble clef and a bass clef. The second system shows a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.).

Moonlight Sonata (1st Movement)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbTVZMJ9Z2I>

Musical score for the first movement of the Moonlight Sonata. The score is in D major, 3/4 time, and is marked 'sempre pp e senza sordini'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble clef and a bass clef. The second system shows a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.).

5th Symphony

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=py3V4vTM-Lo>

Musical score for the 5th Symphony. The score is in D major, 4/4 time, and is marked 'Allegro'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble clef and a bass clef. The second system shows a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.).

Für Elise

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wff0zHeU3Zs>

Musical score for Für Elise. The score is in A minor, 3/4 time, and is marked 'Allegro con brio'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble clef and a bass clef. The second system shows a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.).

Task 4

Listen to the music sample. Answer the questions below.



1. Write down the different emotions you hear to

describe the music. http://www.beethovenseroica.com/Pg3_anal/2mov/ex2_1.mp3

“Beethoven intended this to be a funeral march and, even though they were common in the early 1800s, it was considered a bold, new idea to include one as a movement for a symphony.

Beethoven composed this piece just after he had spent many months in Heiligenstadt, a little town near Vienna, Austria, where he had learned that his deafness was irreversible. This movement is unusual in that Beethoven’s music usually concludes with a hopeful tone, but this piece just sadly fades away.”

2. Think about a tough time you have experienced. Listen to the 3rd Symphony. If you want to draw or write something, you can use the blank space below. If you just want to listen and think, that is fine too.

https://open.spotify.com/album/67yUDJXChIRiexznAkiyu7?highlight=spotify:track:1q9rhrwm_bTl6bcKKNR7DpY

“It’s risky to focus on negative emotions but an important part of being human. Beethoven’s final symphony, no. 9, will take us to the opposite end of our emotions with a theme, Ode to Joy.”

Task 5



Watch the clip from the film *Beethoven* (1992). Fill in the questions below.

In this scene, the Newton family struggles to come up with a name for their new puppy. Until he takes matters into his own paws.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyYIJ6YQp3I>

1. How do they call the dog eventually?

.....

2. Why do they call him like that?

.....

3. Which famous music piece does Emily (the smallest girl) play on her piano?

.....

4. Who composed this piece?

.....

5. When was this music piece first published?

.....

6. If you had a dog, what would you call him and why?

.....

.....

Sources:

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