Chapter 1 Test

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The element of music often described as being vertical, not linear, is:
   a. Rhythm
   b. Texture
   c. Expression
   *d. Harmony
   Difficulty: Easy

2. Adagio and allegro refer to differing types of:
   a. Texture
   b. Rhythm
   *c. Tempo
   d. Dynamics
   Difficulty: Easy

3. Which two subcategories make up the musical element of "expression"?
   a. Accent and meter
   b. Contour and climax
   c. Phrase structure and movements
   *d. Tempo and dynamics
   Difficulty: Medium

4. The loud or soft quality of an individual musical tone (rather than a passage of music) is called:
   a. Expression
   *b. Amplitude
   c. Dynamics
   d. Forte
   Difficulty: Hard

5. What do monophony and polyphony have in common?
   a. Both are types of meter used frequently in music of the Classical era
   *b. Both focus on melody alone without material intended solely to provide harmonic accompaniment
   c. Neither can be performed at loud dynamic levels
   d. Both are relatively recent additions to Western conceptions of music
   Difficulty: Hard

6. To what does "notation" refer in music?
   a. The way that a composer reinforces the tonal center of a work
   *b. Symbols used by composers to represent sound
   c. In music with text, the pairing of syllables with notes
   d. The shorthand used by medieval musicians to remember chant texts
   Difficulty: Easy

7. The way that the composer of a piece uses melodic and harmonic structures in repetition, contrast, and/or variation is known as:
   a. Rhythm
   b. Meter

*c. Form
d. Phrase structure
Difficulty: Medium

8. The Italian word "piano" indicates that a piece of music should be played:
   a. Slowly
   *b. Softly
   c. Without accenting beats
   d. At least three times
   Difficulty: Easy

9. Which term is used to describe the point of highest intensity in a melody?
   a. Amplitude
   b. Accent
   *c. Climax
   d. None of the above
   Difficulty: Easy

10. Sections and phrases are considered smaller units of what within a larger piece of music?
    *a. Form
    b. Rhythm
    c. Texture
    d. Tempo
    Difficulty: Medium

11. Tune, theme, and motif are all synonyms for what element of music?
    *a. Melody
    b. Rhythm
    c. Expression
    d. Form
    Difficulty: Easy

12. To what does "frequency" refer in terms of musical sounds?
    a. An organizational device used to tell performers how to group rhythms in a piece of music
    b. The loudness or softness of a musical phrase
    c. The rate at which the chords in a harmonic progression change
    *d. The measurable rate of vibration that determines how high or low a sound is
    Difficulty: Hard

13. What is the term for a piece of music in which every third beat is accented?
    a. Tertiary texture
    *b. Triple meter
    c. Polyphonic
    d. Heterorhythmic
    Difficulty: Medium

14. Consider the following statement and choose the best response: "The way in which melodies, which are often considered the linear aspect of music, rise and fall is known as contour; the way in which melodies start and stop is called phrase structure."
    *a. The statement is true.
    b. The statement is false because melodies are considered the horizontal aspect of music.

c. The statement is false because the rise and fall of melodies is referred to as accent, not contour.
d. The statement is false because phrase structure refers to an aspect of rhythm, not melody.
Difficulty: Hard

15. This component of musical form is compared to the acts in a play.
*a. Movement
b. Phrase
c. Sentence
d. Notation
Difficulty: Medium

16. The basic unit of rhythmic measurement is:
a. The chord
*b. The beat
c. The accent
d. The meter
Difficulty: Easy

17. A series of related chords that creates and resolves tension is known as:
a. Chord
b. Tonal center
*c. Progression
d. Homophony
Difficulty: Medium

18. What is the relationship between the terms "timbre" and "tone color"?
a. They are unrelated
*b. They are synonyms
c. They are antonyms
d. The first is a subcategory of the second
Difficulty: Hard

19. A sound that appears to be complete or stable is referred to as:
a. Syncopated
*b. Consonant
c. Adagio
d. Structured
Difficulty: Medium

20. Much of the earliest recorded music, especially that of the early Christian church, is in which texture?
a. Polyphonic
b. Homophonic
c. Octophonic
*d. Monophonic
Difficulty: Easy

21. Which of the following does NOT relate to specific characteristics of a musical tone?
a. Amplitude
b. Duration
*c. Tempo

d. Frequency
Difficulty: Easy

22. Consider the following statement and choose the best response: "The tonal center, or key, of a given piece is the musical note around which the piece centers; this is primarily reinforced by the melody and form, not harmony or rhythm."
a. The statement is true.
b. The statement is false because tonal center and key are drastically different concepts.
c. The statement is false because melody does not reinforce tonal center.
*d. The statement is false because harmony is one of the most important means of reinforcing tonal center.
Difficulty: Medium

23. Any time three or more tones sound simultaneously, the resulting combination of tones is referred to as a:
*a. Chord
b. Triad
c. Amplitude
d. Progression
Difficulty: Hard

24. Consider the following statement, and choose the best response: "Texture in music refers to the interplay of melodies and harmonies in a given work, and is traditionally divided into three categories: monophonic, polyphonic, and heterophonic."
a. The statement is true.
b. The statement is false because this is the definition of form, not texture.
c. The statement is false because there are five principal types of texture, not three.
*d. The statement is false because the third type of texture should be homophonic, not heterophonic.
Difficulty: Hard

25. If a piece of music involves three singers, each singing melodic lines simultaneously, at a quick and lively speed, what terms would you use to describe it?
a. Forte and syncopated
*b. Polyphonic and allegro
c. Duple meter and melodic
d. Tonal and homorhythmic
Difficulty: Hard

FILL-IN-THE-BLANK (5 each)

1. Homophony, polyphony, and monophony are three types of __texture__, one of the seven elements of music.
2. When three notes are sounded that are separated by notes that are not sounded, the resulting chord is called a __triad__.
3. When musical accents fall on weak beats or divisions of beats, this is called __syncopation__.
4. A __dissonant__ sound is full of tension and does not seem complete.
5. A piece of music marked __forte__ should be played loudly,


ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. Choose a piece of popular music that you enjoy and describe it in terms of at least four of the seven elements of music.

2. In your own words, describe the difference between rhythm and meter and describe the three different types of meter covered in this chapter.