Name _____ Date _____

Romantic Composers and the Growing Orchestra: Schubert, Chopin, Brahms and Tchaikovsky

Directions: These questions cover the Romantic period of European music, from its composers to its orchestra. Treat any date marked *about* as a close estimate.

1. Complete the sentence about when the Romantic period happened.

Word bank

1820 • 1600 • 1750 • 1900 • 2000

The Romantic period in European music follows the Classical period and runs from about _____ to about _____.

2. Match each set of well-known works to the composer who wrote it.

Write the letter of the matching answer on each line.

1. _____ hundreds of songs for voice and piano, including *Erlkönig*
2. _____ nocturnes, études and many other pieces for solo piano
3. _____ four symphonies and *A German Requiem*
4. _____ the ballets *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*

A. Johann Sebastian Bach
B. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
C. Johannes Brahms
D. Frédéric Chopin
E. Franz Schubert
F. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

3. Frédéric Chopin (1810 to 1849) was born near Warsaw, Poland, and left Poland for good as a young man. In which city did he make his home for the rest of his life?

A. Moscow B. Paris C. Hamburg D. Vienna

4. In 1880, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 to 1893) wrote a concert overture remembering how Russia drove back Napoleon's invading army. Which piece is it?

A. the *1812 Overture* B. *The Magic Flute*
C. *Erlkönig* D. *Hungarian Dances*

5. Johannes Brahms (1833 to 1897) grew up in the German port city of Hamburg. Later he settled in another city and lived there for the rest of his life. Which city was it?

A. Vienna B. Saint Petersburg C. Paris D. Leipzig

6. In 1822, Franz Schubert (1797 to 1828) wrote two complete movements of a symphony and then set it aside. By what nickname is that symphony known?

A. the *Surprise* Symphony B. the *Jupiter* Symphony
C. the *Pathétique* Symphony D. the *Unfinished* Symphony

7. Over the course of the Romantic period, how did the orchestra change?

A. It shrank to a small group of string players.

B. It replaced its violins with harpsichords.

C. It grew larger, and composers wrote for a wider range of instruments.

D. It stopped using brass and percussion.

8. Choose the word that completes the sentence about horns and trumpets.

Word bank
mutes • valves • bows • reeds

In the early 1800s, horns and trumpets began to get _____, which let players switch to extra lengths of tubing and play many more notes.

9. Many Romantic composers wrote instrumental pieces meant to describe a scene, a poem or a story, without any singing. What is this kind of music called?

A. program music B. chamber music C. opera D. absolute music

10. Chopin wrote many mazurkas and polonaises, pieces built on Polish dances. Other Romantic composers drew on the folk songs, dances and stories of their own countries. What is this trend called?

A. nationalism B. serialism C. minimalism D. Impressionism