Name _____ Date _____

Dynamics: Pianissimo to Fortissimo, Crescendo and Decrescendo

Directions: Dynamics tell singers and players how loud or soft to be. You will meet Italian words and the letters that stand for them.

1. Match each marking to how loud or soft it asks you to play.

Write the letter of the matching answer on each line.

1. _____ pianissimo (pp)
2. _____ piano (p)
3. _____ mezzo piano (mp)
4. _____ mezzo forte (mf)
5. _____ forte (f)
6. _____ fortissimo (ff)

A. soft
B. moderately soft
C. very soft
D. moderately loud
E. loud
F. very loud
G. very fast

2. Rosa plays a lullaby on her flute. She wants the last part very soft so the baby stays asleep. Which marking fits that part?

A. mezzo forte B. pianissimo C. piano D. forte

3. Choose the marking for the calm part of the school song.

Word bank

forte • piano • mezzo forte • fortissimo

In the calm middle part of the school song, the choir sings softly, so that part is marked _____.

4. Priya's class sings the verses moderately soft. They save a bigger sound for the chorus. Which marking fits the verses?

A. fortissimo B. mezzo piano C. mezzo forte D. pianissimo

5. Complete the sentence about the parade song.

Word bank

mezzo piano • piano • pianissimo • mezzo forte

The band starts the parade song moderately loud, so the start is marked _____.

6. When the drums come in, Malik's band gets loud, but not very loud. Which marking goes there?

A. pianissimo B. fortissimo C. forte D. piano

7. The last chord of a party song should be very loud. Which marking fits it?

A. mezzo forte B. forte C. pianissimo D. fortissimo

8. In a song about a storm coming closer, the music starts soft and gets louder bit by bit. Which word names that change?

A. pianissimo B. fortissimo C. accelerando D. crescendo

9. At the end of a song about a train going far away, the music gets softer bit by bit. Which two words both name that change?

A. crescendo and diminuendo B. diminuendo and pianissimo

C. decrescendo and diminuendo D. crescendo and decrescendo

10. Which list goes from softest to loudest?

A. pp, p, mp, mf, ff, f B. pp, p, mf, mp, f, ff

C. p, pp, mp, mf, f, ff D. pp, p, mp, mf, f, ff