

## Student Weekly Learning Targets

Exploring the Symphony Orchestra

### Reminder

- The paper should reflect quality over quantity. Write a paper that would be useful to you or others that are looking to explore your subject.
- The paper should consist of an introductory paragraph, at least three body paragraphs and a concluding paragraph.

## Monday – Friday Two Week Project

### Course Reflection Paper

The orchestra originated in the 17<sup>th</sup> century but can be traced as far back as the time of the ancient Greeks. The term is derived from the part of the stage where the chorus and the musical instruments met. Since then, it has evolved. In Europe, the orchestra membership was comprised of those musicians that were hired to perform with the opera. During the early to mid-nineteenth century, as Europeans migrating to America, they brought along with them culture including their musical taste. Since America did not have a strong operatic taste, for the first time the purely instrumental symphony orchestra took center stage.

The first major American symphony orchestras from before the turn of the twentieth century include The New York Philharmonic Symphony Society, The New York Symphony Society, Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, and Cincinnati Symphony. All of these orchestras took on a uniquely different approach to both musical selections and how they interacted with the public. While some were concerned with strict European traditions, others were bent on creating a purely American style of musical experience. Through the years, some would maintain programs that included the great European composers like Beethoven, Wagner and Tchaikovsky. Others would explore the diversity of the American landscape. Dvorak's New World Symphony explored the plight of American slaves. Leonard Bernstein incorporated Latin themes in his adaptation of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, West Side Story.

Today, the American Symphony Orchestra performs music to suit all taste. From the classics of the seventeenth century to pop stars such as Price, Michael Jackson, Frank Sinatra, and others, it continuously seeks to diversify to attract a wider audience. They also have performed music from hit cinematic productions, musicals, video games, and TV shows.

This week explore the world of the symphony orchestra. Reflect on music that you hear in movies, TV shows, online, in live performances, incorporated into pop music, video games, and elsewhere. Think about how that music shaped the experience and how it would be different with a different type of ensemble performing.

Write a paper reflecting on your experience with music of the symphony. This does not necessarily mean classical music, just music performed by the symphony orchestra ensemble which include percussion, brass, woodwind and string instruments.



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## Student Weekly Learning Targets

Home Practice: Students will practice the following rhythmic figures by writing the counts under each rhythm, clapping and counting aloud, then playing them on your instrument.

### Rhythm Challenge

Level 4



## Student-Produced Weekly Product

Reflection Paper: My Experience with the Symphony Orchestra.

Use a cover page to include name, school, period, and name of teacher.