

## Program Notes Writing Assignment

In the style of program notes for a professional musical organization, write a 1-3 paragraph, historically informative, commentary on a musical work. Choose the work from among the pieces you will perform at your next concert. One student's writing, per piece, will appear alongside the work in the concert program.

To complete this task, include the following elements.

1. The composer and his or her background, culture, and historical period.
2. The circumstances which drove the creation of this composition.
3. The relationship of the musical work to other works in the same genre or era.
4. The relationship of the musical to other works by the same composer.
5. The circumstances of the premier performance of the piece (if available).
6. General information about the musical period of origin (including dates), and/or genre (if folk music).
7. The text or story inspiring the work.
8. Any interesting "fun facts" or stories of not related to the work.

When writing the commentary please,

1. Print your name, date, period, and assignment title.
2. Use formal English.
3. Pay attention to syntax and grammar.
4. Use appropriate musical vocabulary.
5. Spell words correctly.
6. Be concise and specific with your information. (Less is more.)
7. Cite sources of information for direct quotes of other authors' material using MLA format. (See link below)
  - a. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

You will turn in this assignment both on Turnitin.com and as a physical copy.

This assignment is a standing assignment to be completed 2 weeks before each major concert.