

Western Families of Musical Instruments Study Guide

Percussion Family

Two Types

Pitched Percussion-Can play a tune

-Xylophone

-Marimba

Non-Pitched-Sounds only

-Maracas

-Rhythm Sticks

-Cabasa

Three things that make Percussion instruments

-Hit them

-Shake them

-Scrape them

Listening:

Cadence

Georgia Tech Drumline

Stomp

Stomp Out Loud

Ionisation

Edgar Varese

Toccatà in D Minor for Marimbas

Johann Sebastian Bach

Yuwi Maiwe

Dumisani Maraire

Drumming

Steve Reich

Brass Family

Air vibrating in tubes

Vibration created by buzzing into a mouthpiece

Tubing shortened and lengthened by valves

Listening

Flight of the Tuba Bee

Rimsky Korsakov

Tuba Polka

Canadian Brass

Prince of Denmark's March

Jeremiah Clarke

Solo for Sliding Trombone

John Cage

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

The Marines Hymn

John Philip Sousa

Woodwinds

Air vibrating in tubes

Air vibrating in tubes

Vibration created by blowing into single or double reed, except flute blowing across hole.

Tubing shortened and lengthened covering, uncovering holes

Listening

Three Shanties for Wind Quintet Sir Malcolm Arnold

Fantasy for Flute

Sir Malcolm Arnold

Adagio

Samuel Barber

Quartet for Oboe, Violin, Viola and Cello in F Major

Amadeus Mozart

Concerto for Bassoon and Orchestra in Bb Major

Amadeus Mozart

String Family

Strings vibrated by plucking, strumming, or bowing
String length changed by fingers, except for harp.

Listening

Prelude from Suite No. 1 in G	Johann Sebastian Bach
Zapateado	Pablo de Sarasate
Emily's Reel	Yo Yo Ma
String quartet No.2 Arguments	Charles Ives
Lonely Woman	Kronos Quartet
Midnight Awakening	Guitar Monks

Keyboard Family

All keyboard instruments have a keyboard that triggers
air to vibrate through pipes
picks to pluck strings
hammers to hit strings

Listening

Jesu, Joy of Mans Desiring	Johann Sebastian Bach
Goldberg Variation 16-18	Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude and Fuge #6 in D minor	Johann Sebastian Bach
Excursions, Op. 20	Samuel Barber
And the Earth Shall Bear Again	John Cage
Toccata in D minor	Charles Villers Stanford