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| Claude Debussy Exercises | museducation.org/272 | Video and exercises |

**Match terms**

*Task: Match each term with the appropriate explanation!*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (A) | Pelléas et Mélisande | (1) | art style focusing on mood |
| (B) | Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune | (2) | prestigious French scholarship |
| (C) | Heft für das Klavier | (3) | famous Debussy composition |
| (E) | Orchestration | (4) | contains „Clair de Lune“ |
| (N) | Chamber music | (5) | popular Debussy piano piece |
| (S) | Impressionism | (6) | Debussy’s successful opera |
| (S) | Suite Bergamasque | (7) | small ensemble compositions |
| (T) | Clair de Lune | (8) | Debussy’s piano works |
| (U) | Prix de Rome | (9) | arrangement for orchestra |

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| **Keyword:** | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

**Complete sentences**

*Task: Match the beginning of each sentence with the end!*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (C) | Debussy was born ... | (1) | ... in France in 1862. |
| (N) | Clair de Lune ... | (2) | ... Prix de Rome scholarship. |
| (O) | He won the ... | (3) | ... considered impressionistic. |
| (R) | He also composed ... | (4) | ... is often played. |
| (T) | He wrote an ... | (5) | ... opera called „Pelléas et Mélisande“. |
| (U) | His music is ... | (6) | ... chamber music. |
| (Y) | Debussy died ... | (7) | ... in Paris in 1918. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Keyword:** | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

**Questions (multiple choice)**

*Task: Answer the questions!*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. | What is the Prix de Rome? |
| (D) | a French scholarship |
| (R) | a painting prize |
| (V) | a music competition |
| 2. | What is „Clair de Lune“? |
| (A) | a poem by Baudelaire |
| (E) | a piano piece by Debussy |
| (S) | a painting by Monet |
| 3. | What is „Pelléas et Mélisande“? |
| (N) | a play by Molière |
| (R) | a ballet by Tchaikovsky |
| (S) | an opera by Debussy |
| 4. | What did Debussy compose besides orchestral works? |
| (E) | chamber music |
| (R) | paintings |
| (V) | novels |
| 5. | When did Debussy die? |
| (A) | in 1920 |
| (R) | in 1918 |
| (S) | in 1900 |
| 6. | What is Debussy’s contribution to music? |
| (R) | invented the piano |
| (T) | significant in harmony theory and orchestration |
| (V) | developed the symphony |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Keyword**: | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

**Right or wrong?**

*Task: State whether the statements are true or false!*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| right | wrong |  |
| (B) | (V) | 1. Debussy was born in 1862. |
| (F) | (A) | 2. Debussy wrote „Pelléas et Mélisande“. |
| (R) | (S) | 3. Debussy’s music is considered impressionistic. |
| (K) | (R) | 4. Debussy won the Prix de Rome. |
| (E) | (T) | 5. Clair de Lune is a popular piece. |
| (A) | (T) | 6. Debussy wrote chamber music. |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Keyword:** | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

**7 Questions about the text**

*Task: Answer the questions in one or two complete sentences!*

What is the significance of Debussy’s „Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune“?

What is contained in the „Suite Bergamasque“?

What is special about Debussy’s opera „Pelléas et Mélisande“?

What influence did Debussy have on French music?

What kind of music did Debussy compose in addition to his orchestral works?

When and where did Debussy die?

What is Debussy’s significance in the modern era?

**Solution sheet 1**

**Claude Debussy**

**Match terms**

Impressionism = art style focusing on mood

Prix de Rome = prestigious French scholarship

Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune = famous Debussy composition

Suite Bergamasque = contains „Clair de Lune“

Clair de Lune = popular Debussy piano piece

Pelléas et Mélisande = Debussy’s successful opera

Chamber music = small ensemble compositions

Heft für das Klavier = Debussy’s piano works

Orchestration = arrangement for orchestra

Keyword: SUBSTANCE

**Complete sentences**

Debussy was born | in France in 1862.

He won the | Prix de Rome scholarship.

His music is | considered impressionistic.

Clair de Lune | is often played.

He wrote an | opera called „Pelléas et Mélisande“.

He also composed | chamber music.

Debussy died | in Paris in 1918.

Keyword: COUNTRY

**Questions**

What is the Prix de Rome?

a French scholarship

What is „Clair de Lune“?

a piano piece by Debussy

What is „Pelléas et Mélisande“?

an opera by Debussy

What did Debussy compose besides orchestral works?

chamber music

When did Debussy die?

in 1918

What is Debussy’s contribution to music?

significant in harmony theory and orchestration

Keyword: DESERT

**Right or wrong?**

right

1. Debussy was born in 1862.

4. Debussy won the Prix de Rome.

5. Clair de Lune is a popular piece.

wrong

6. Debussy wrote chamber music.

2. Debussy wrote „Pelléas et Mélisande“.

3. Debussy’s music is considered impressionistic.

Keyword: BASKET

**Solution sheet 2**

**Claude Debussy**

**Questions and answers**

What is the significance of Debussy’s „Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune“?

Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune is one of Debussy’s most famous compositions and established him as an important modernist composer.

What is contained in the „Suite Bergamasque“?

The „Suite Bergamasque“ contains the famous piano piece „Clair de Lune“.

What is special about Debussy’s opera „Pelléas et Mélisande“?

Pelléas et Mélisande was a critical success and demonstrated Debussy’s ability to effectively combine music and drama.

What influence did Debussy have on French music?

Debussy had a great influence on French music and also influenced international composers.

What kind of music did Debussy compose in addition to his orchestral works?

In addition to his orchestral works, Debussy also wrote chamber music and piano works.

When and where did Debussy die?

Claude Debussy died in Paris in 1918.

What is Debussy’s significance in the modern era?

Claude Debussy is considered one of the most important and innovative composers in music history. His contribution to the development of modern music is significant in both harmony theory and orchestration.