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| Giacomo Puccini Exercises | museducation.org/283 | Video and exercises |

**Match terms**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (B) | Lucca | (1) | realistic themes in opera |
| (C) | La Bohème | (2) | city in Italy |
| (E) | Manon Lescaut | (3) | music school in Milan |
| (E) | Turandot | (4) | Puccini’s first successful opera |
| (I) | Madama Butterfly | (5) | one of Puccini’s famous operas |
| (J) | Milan Conservatory | (6) | one of Puccini’s famous operas |
| (O) | Verismo | (7) | one of Puccini’s famous operas |
| (T) | Tosca | (8) | writers of opera texts |
| (V) | Librettists | (9) | Puccini’s last opera |

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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!*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (A) | La Bohème, „Tosca“ and ... | (1) | ... in Lucca, Italy. |
| (C) | He worked with librettists ... | (2) | ... the Milan Conservatory. |
| (H) | Puccini’s last opera, Turandot, ... | (3) | ... was „Manon Lescaut“. |
| (M) | Puccini was a representative ... | (4) | ... of verismo in opera. |
| (O) | His first successful opera ... | (5) | ... „Madama Butterfly“ are famous. |
| (S) | Puccini was born ... | (6) | ... like Illica and Giacosa. |
| (T) | He studied at ... | (7) | ... remained unfinished. |

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

**Questions (multiple choice)**

*Task: Answer the questions!*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. | Where was Puccini born? |
| (R) | in Rome, Italy |
| (S) | in Lucca, Italy |
| (V) | in Milan, Italy |
| 2. | What was Puccini’s first successful opera? |
| (A) | Manon Lescaut |
| (B) | Tosca |
| (S) | La Bohème |
| 3. | What is verismo? |
| (D) | a realistic theme in opera |
| (N) | a city in Italy |
| (R) | a type of Italian food |
| 4. | Who were Puccini’s librettists? |
| (D) | Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa |
| (R) | Giacomo Puccini and Luigi Illica |
| (V) | Amilcare Ponchielli and Giacomo Puccini |
| 5. | What was Puccini’s last opera? |
| (A) | Tosca |
| (L) | Turandot |
| (S) | La Bohème |
| 6. | When did Puccini die? |
| (E) | in 1924 |
| (R) | in 1893 |
| (V) | in 1858 |

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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 |  |
| (C) | (V) | 1. Puccini was born in Lucca. |
| (F) | (A) | 2. Puccini was born in Milan. |
| (R) | (M) | 3. Puccini disliked opera. |
| (E) | (R) | 4. Puccini studied in Milan. |
| (R) | (T) | 5. Manon Lescaut was Puccini’s breakthrough. |
| (E) | (A) | 6. La Bohème was Puccini’s first opera. |

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

**7 Questions about the text**

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

What was Puccini’s early life like?

What influence did the Milan Academy of Music have on Puccini?

What was Puccini’s breakthrough?

What is verismo?

What are some of Puccini’s well-known works?

What was Puccini’s compositional style?

What is Puccini’s legacy?

**Solution sheet 1**

**Giacomo Puccini**

**Match terms**

Verismo = realistic themes in opera

Lucca = city in Italy

Milan Conservatory = music school in Milan

Manon Lescaut = Puccini’s first successful opera

La Bohème = one of Puccini’s famous operas

Tosca = one of Puccini’s famous operas

Madama Butterfly = one of Puccini’s famous operas

Librettists = writers of opera texts

Turandot = Puccini’s last opera

Keyword: OBJECTIVE

**Complete sentences**

Puccini was born | in Lucca, Italy.

He studied at | the Milan Conservatory.

His first successful opera | was „Manon Lescaut“.

Puccini was a representative | of verismo in opera.

La Bohème, „Tosca“ and | „Madama Butterfly“ are famous.

He worked with librettists | like Illica and Giacosa.

Puccini’s last opera, Turandot, | remained unfinished.

Keyword: STOMACH

**Questions**

Where was Puccini born?

in Lucca, Italy

What was Puccini’s first successful opera?

Manon Lescaut

What is verismo?

a realistic theme in opera

Who were Puccini’s librettists?

Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa

What was Puccini’s last opera?

Turandot

When did Puccini die?

in 1924

Keyword: SADDLE

**Right or wrong?**

right

1. Puccini was born in Lucca.

4. Puccini studied in Milan.

5. Manon Lescaut was Puccini’s breakthrough.

wrong

6. La Bohème was Puccini’s first opera.

2. Puccini was born in Milan.

3. Puccini disliked opera.

Keyword: CAMERA

**Solution sheet 2**

**Giacomo Puccini**

**Questions and answers**

What was Puccini’s early life like?

Puccini was born into a musical family in Lucca, Italy. After his father’s death, he became the church music director and showed an early interest in music.

What influence did the Milan Academy of Music have on Puccini?

At the Milan Conservatory, Puccini learned important music creation techniques and was strongly influenced by opera. His teacher, Amilcare Ponchielli, recognized his talent and encouraged him.

What was Puccini’s breakthrough?

Puccini’s breakthrough was his opera „Manon Lescaut“, which premiered in 1893 and made him internationally known.

What is verismo?

Verismo is a current in opera that deals with realistic and everyday themes. Puccini was an important representative of this movement.

What are some of Puccini’s well-known works?

Puccini’s most famous works include „La Bohème,“ „Tosca,“ and „Madama Butterfly.“ These operas are known and performed frequently around the world.

What was Puccini’s compositional style?

Puccini was known for his ability to craft melodies and harmonies to effectively convey the emotions of the characters and the plot of the opera. His style is often described as lyrical and expressive.

What is Puccini’s legacy?

Puccini’s influence on the opera world is still felt today. His works are performed around the world and have inspired many subsequent composers. He is often considered one of the greatest opera composers of all time.