

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS

Read the text and then answer the questions.

Do you enjoy listening to music? Do you wonder what it would be like to be a musician? Musicians work very hard, but they love what they do. They do not mind the work because they love creating music. Most musicians start taking lessons when they are little. They spend many years learning to play. They practice as much as they can, and when they are ready, they get jobs in music. There are various kinds of musicians who play many different instruments. Some play in bands, and some play in orchestras. Some work in music studios, and some give music lessons. But they all love music. Musicians practice every day. They want their music to sound its best. Even the best musicians have to practice. That is how they keep playing well.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total**1.** Which statement is true?

- (A) Musicians do not take many lessons.
- (B) Musicians work hard because they love music.
- (C) Musicians do not practice very much.
- (D) Musicians only play in orchestras.

2. Why do musicians practice every day?

- (A) They get jobs in music.
- (B) There are many kinds of musicians.
- (C) They work hard.
- (D) They want their music to sound its best.

3. Which has the same root word as *musician*?

- (A) sick
- (B) must
- (C) musical
- (D) physician

4. What is an *orchestra*?

- (A) a school
- (B) a restaurant
- (C) a musical group
- (D) a store

5. What does it mean if you *do not mind* something?

- (A) You don't care.
- (B) You aren't bothered by something.
- (C) You care too much.
- (D) You don't take care of yourself.

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2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total

Some musicians play in orchestras. *Orchestras* are special musical groups. They are led by conductors. Conductors have many jobs. One job is to lead the musicians when they practice. Conductors also lead the orchestra during concerts. It is important that everyone play as a team. Conductors are in charge of making sure that happens. So they have to be good musicians. They also have to be very good leaders. Conductors have to know a lot about music, too. They choose the music for the orchestra. They have to know what people want to hear. They have to know what the musicians can play. Musicians who want to be conductors take classes. They work with other conductors. They practice. They start with small orchestras. Then, they are ready for big ones. Some conductors get to be very famous.

1. What is this text mostly about?

- (A) going to a concert
- (B) the parts of an orchestra
- (C) how to play music
- (D) what conductors do

2. What is **not** something a conductor does?

- (A) sell tickets
- (B) choose music
- (C) lead concerts
- (D) lead practices

3. Which definition of the word *lead* is used in the text?

- (A) main
- (B) guide
- (C) top
- (D) starring role

4. Which of these is a prepositional phrase?

- (A) *one job is*
- (B) *other conductors*
- (C) *good musicians*
- (D) *during concerts*

5. What else is a special group with members who have to work together?

- (A) a class
- (B) a soccer team
- (C) a family
- (D) all of the above

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DIRECTIONS

Read the text and then answer the questions.

Orchestras have been around for a long time. They began in Ancient Egypt. Ancient Egyptian instruments were different from the ones you know. But people still played music. They liked listening to music. In the 16th century, people began to write a new kind of music. It was meant for a group of instruments. The new music sounded better when a group played it. That was when the orchestra as we know it was born. Today, there are many kinds of orchestras. Some are large, and some are small. Some play mostly traditional music. They use classical instruments. Others use modern instruments, such as electric guitars. There are many kinds of orchestras. But they all make wonderful music.

1. Which would be a good title for this paragraph?

- (A) Life in the 16th Century
- (B) Music in Ancient Egypt
- (C) The Story of the Orchestra
- (D) How to Play the Electric Guitar

2. Which happened first?

- (A) There were orchestras in Ancient Egypt.
- (B) Some orchestras use electric guitars.
- (C) People began to write music for a group of instruments.
- (D) Today, there are many kinds of orchestras.

3. Choose the dependent clause in the following sentence: *In the 16th century, people began to write a new kind of music.*

- (A) people began to write a new kind of music
- (B) in the 16th century
- (C) a new kind of music
- (D) people began to write

4. Which is the antonym of *modern*?

- (A) recent
- (B) expensive
- (C) difficult
- (D) ancient

5. Which example of onomatopoeia would fit with this text?

- (A) the loud drums
- (B) the guitar's amplifier
- (C) the talented musician
- (D) the honk of the horns

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

TUNING UP

An orchestra is like a team. All of the musicians have to work together and help one another. All of the musicians have to listen carefully to the other musicians. They all have to play the right thing at the right time for the music to sound its best. So, orchestra musicians have to work as a team.

There are different kinds of orchestras. But many orchestras have four sections. That is because there are four major families of instruments. The instruments in each family are similar to one another. One family is the *strings*. Stringed instruments make music when you move their strings. A violin is a string instrument. So is a harp. Another family is the *brass* family. Instruments in this family are made of brass. They can get very loud! A tuba is a brass instrument, and so is a trumpet. Instruments in the *woodwind* family make music when you blow into them. A flute is a woodwind instrument. So is a clarinet. Finally, there is the percussion (per-KUHSH-uhn) family. These instruments make music when you hit, shake, or scrape them. Drums are percussion instruments. So are tambourines. Each family has its own section of the orchestra.



Orchestra musicians sit in a semicircle. This is so that they can see the conductor. The conductor leads the orchestra. He or she uses special arm and hand signals to tell the musicians when to play and what to play. So, everyone has to be able to see what the conductor is doing.

Some orchestras have their own concerts. Others play the music you hear in movies. Others play the music you hear at the ballet. Some play the music you hear at plays. But they all work very hard. They want to make their music sound wonderful.

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DIRECTIONS

Read "Tuning Up" and then answer the questions.

1. What does the photograph tell the reader about this text?

- (A) It is about math.
(B) It is about science.
(C) It is about music.
(D) It is about cooking.

2. What might happen if the musicians could not see the conductor?

- (A) They would watch what the conductor was doing.
(B) They would be able to hear the conductor.
(C) They would not play the right thing at the right time.
(D) They would work very hard.

3. What was the author's purpose for writing this text?

- (A) to tell about orchestras
(B) to get you to play an instrument
(C) to tell about the history of music
(D) to tell how to buy an instrument

4. To which family of instruments does the flute belong?

- (A) woodwind
(B) percussion
(C) brass
(D) string

5. Why do orchestra members have to work as a team?

- (A) They cannot see the conductor.
(B) They cannot hear one another.
(C) Some orchestras play the music you hear in movies.
(D) They all have to play the right thing at the right time.

6. What is likely true about orchestra musicians?

- (A) They do not work very hard.
(B) They practice a lot.
(C) They do not watch the conductor.
(D) They do not like music.

7. What is an important quality of a person who plays in an orchestra?

- (A) obedience
(B) strength
(C) cooperation
(D) kindness

8. What can people learn from an orchestra?

- (A) Too much practice is not realistic.
(B) A conductor deserves all the praise for working the hardest.
(C) Teamwork is required to make big things happen.
(D) Competition makes each group perform better.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

6. (Y) (N)

7. (Y) (N)

8. (Y) (N)

___ / 8

Total

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS

Reread the text "Tuning Up." Then, read the prompt and respond on the lines below.

SCORE

___ / 4

What is your favorite instrument? Why? Explain your answer.

A series of 20 horizontal lines for writing an answer.