University at Albany Music 100 Placement Exam

1. In what country was opera invented?
   a) France  b) Italy  c) England  d) Spain

2. Eighteenth-century comic opera was known as
   a) opera buffa  b) opera seria  c) opera vérité  d) opera omnia

3. Who wrote the *Symphonie Fantastique*?
   a) Haydn  b) Beethoven  c) Schumann  d) Berlioz

4. Who wrote the opera *Tristan und Isolde*?
   a) Gluck  b) Wagner  c) Verdi  d) Weber

5. Rubato refers to the treatment of which musical element?
   a) melody  b) harmony  c) rhythm  d) form

6. The section of a sonata form movement that first presents the piece’s themes is called
   the
   a) exposition  b) development  c) recapitulation  d) coda

7. The opera *Aida* takes place in which country?
   a) Italy  b) Lebanon  c) Egypt  d) Spain

8. J. S. Bach based many of his cantatas on tunes taken from
   a) chorales  b) masses  c) madrigals  d) opera

9. What is the form of a da capo aria?
   a) binary  b) ternary  c) fugal  d) ritornello

10. Handel’s *Messiah* is an example of
    a) opera  b) cantata  c) Passion  d) oratorio

11. Major and minor keys with the same tonic note are said to be
    a) parallel  b) relative  c) affiliated  d) analogous

12. A Classical sonata form movement in the major mode presents its second theme in
    which key?
    a) subdominant  b) dominant  c) relative minor  d) supertonic

13. What is *Sprechstimme*?
    a) a dance  b) a vocal technique  c) a piece by Weber  d) an artistic movement

14. Who composed the *Rite of Spring*?
    a) Berg  b) Strauss  c) Stravinsky  d) Copland
15. The form of the first movement of a Classical symphony is usually
   a) sonata  b) theme and variations  c) minuet and trio  d) aria

16. Which of these genres best characterizes Tchaikovsky’s *Romeo and Juliet*?
   a) ballet  b) opera  c) concerto  d) symphonic poem

17. J. S. Bach wrote two sets of twenty-four preludes and fugues for what instrumentation?
   a) strings  b) orchestra  c) winds  d) solo keyboard

18. Arnold Schoenberg devised a method of tonal organization called the
   a) circle of fifths  b) twelve-tone system  c) neo-classicism  d) whole-tone scale

19. Who was the most prolific composer of German art songs in the nineteenth century?
   a) Schubert  b) Beethoven  c) Schumann  d) Mendelssohn

20. Chopin wrote almost exclusively for
   a) chamber ensembles  b) orchestra  c) vocal ensembles  d) solo piano

21. The contrasting middle section of a Classical minuet movement is called the
   a) bridge  b) trio  c) scherzo  d) episode

22. A Baroque suite is a
   a) vocal genre  b) another term for fugue  c) a type of concerto  d) a collection of dances

23. Clara Schumann was a famous 19th-century
   a) conductor  b) patron  c) piano virtuoso  d) singer

24. What compositional technique did Richard Wagner use to tie together music, character, and story?
   a) leitmotiv  b) expressionism  c) variation  d) call-and-response

25. Who wrote *Rhapsody in Blue*?
   a) Copland  b) Bernstein  c) Gershwin  d) Ives

26. The distance between two pitches is called ________________________________.

27. Degrees of loudness or softness in music are called ___________________________.

28. The instruments in a string quartet are______________________________________.

29. Words such as *adagio*, *allegretto*, and *moderato* refer to ________________________.

30. Two or more simultaneous independent melodies create a______________________
    texture.
31. Which instrumental genre contrasts an orchestra and a soloist? _________________
32. The home base of a scale is called the _________________________________.
33. The nineteenth-century orchestra has how many principal instrumental groups? _____
34. Moving from one key to another is called _________________________________.
35. The Classical-era symphony usually contains how many movements?___________
36. What city was home to Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven?____________________
37. Köchel numbers usually follow listings of works by _________________________.
38. The style associated with the music of Debussy and Ravel is called ____________.
39. Music with no tonal center is called _________________________________.
40. Music with no particular extra-musical associations is called _________________.
41. In German, the term for Art Song is the word _____________________________.
42. Music with an extra-musical plot or story is called _________________________.
43. The scheme ABACA describes which musical form? ________________________
44. The fifth degree of any scale is called the _________________________________.
45. What is the Italian word that describes notes of a chord played in sequence rather than simultaneously? _________________________________