

ACTIVITY FIVE PATTERNS IN SOUND

MUSIC PREVIEW TRACKS

20: Symphony No. 5, mvt. 1 - Ludwig van Beethoven

STEP ONE

Review with your class how music contains patterns, like those you find in your classroom, school, written texts, a math problem, etc.

- ▶ Ask students what kinds of patterns (visual, audible, or intangible) they experience daily. For example, a pattern on someone's shirt, the pattern of a car alarm, or a pattern to how they get ready in the morning.

STEP TWO

Listen to Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*.

- ▶ Can they hear any patterns in the music? What is the pattern? Can students sing or demonstrate it?
- ▶ Listen a second time to learn more about the pattern. Does it only appear in one instrument, or do many instruments have it at times? Does it stay the same throughout the piece, or change? How does it change? When does it change?

EXTENSION

Watch this video as a class to show the complexity of this piece, and how the pattern gets passed around the orchestra: www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRgXUNfKIY

STANDARDS

AZCCRS 3-8.SL.6 AZCCRS 3-5.MP.7



LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN [1770-1827]

Beethoven (BAY-toh-ven) is widely regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time. While he was gifted with music at a young age, Beethoven was a poor student, and many historians believe he may have been dyslexic. In his late 20s, Beethoven came to a horrific realization - he was going deaf! 10 years later he experienced total hearing loss, and even though it was a struggle, he still composed another six symphonies while completely deaf.

SYMPHONY NO. 5 [1808]



The opening to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony is known worldwide, with its distinctive short-short-short-long **motif** (a short musical idea or fragment repeated throughout a piece). Beethoven took 4 years to write his Fifth Symphony, and at its **premiere** (first performance of a new piece) the audience did not like it at all. It wasn't until several years later that it became famous and considered a work of genius.

It is so popular today, that many musicians reference it in their own music, even pop, jazz, and rock musicians. Listen carefully at Young People's Concerts to see if you can catch the reference to this piece!