

Chapter 1 Music in Antiquity

1. (4) What civilizations have influenced European culture?
Near East — agriculture, writing, cities, trade; Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome for math, calendar, astronomy, medicine; philosophy — Greece and Rome; religions — Near East and Greece; literature — Greek and Latin; governments — Greece and Rome
2. What culture wrote about music theory?
Greece
3. Describe the situation for music notation.
Few examples survived and few could read music until the 16th century. Mostly an oral tradition
4. (5) What are the four historical traces of past eras?
Physical remains of instruments and performance spaces; visual images of musicians, instruments and performances; writings about music and musicians; the music itself
5. When did sound recordings begin?
1870s
6. "In the Stone Age, people bored finger holes in _____ bones to make _____."
Animal; whistles and flutes
7. In the Neolithic era, there were :
Pottery flutes, rattles, and drums
8. In the Bronze Age, there were _____ instruments, such as _____.
Metal; bells, jingles, cymbals, rattles, horns
9. Also in the Bronze Age, there were _____ instruments, but they did not survive. Why?
Strings; made of perishable materials
10. Dates: TQ: How many years are there between "third century B.C.E. and fourth century C.E."? Do you know the meaning of *C.E.* and *B.C.E.* and what do they replace? What does the sixth millennium B.C.E. mean? What would be the years for the 18th century?
700 years; Common Era and Before Common Era; Before Christ (B.C.) and year of our Lord (A.D.); 6,000 B.C.E. to 5,000 B.C.E.; 1701 to 1800
11. (6) Cuneiform?
Sumerian wedge notation system on clay tablets
12. Lyres and harps date from ca. _____. What does *ca.* mean?
2,500 B.C.E.; abbreviation for *circa* = *about*
13. What is a bull lyre?
A lyre with a bull's head on the soundbox
14. (7) What were the uses of music in Mesopotamian cultures? Which one is no longer current?
Weddings, funerals, military, work songs, nursery songs, dance, tavern, entertainment, music to address the gods or accompany ceremonies and processions, epics sung with instrumental accompaniment. Epics.
15. Which class of people generally is allowed to have music as a common experience? Until what century?
Wealthy; 19th
16. The earliest writings contain what kind of information about music? What kind of genre is the earliest music?
Instruments, tuning, performers, performing techniques, genres. Hymn (song to a god)
17. The earliest composer is _____ who wrote _____ about the year _____. What is *fl.*?
Euheduanna, hymns, c. 2,400 B.C.E.; *fl.* = *flourished*
18. (8) Babylonians used _____ scales of _____ notes, which may have been passed on to the Greeks.
Diatonic; 7
19. The oldest notation dates from about _____.
1,400-1,250 B.C.E.
20. Musicians did not read from notation but played by _____ or _____.
Memory; improvised
21. (9) Name the Greek instruments.
Aulos (auloi), lyre, kithara, panpipes, horns, organ, drums, cymbals, clappers
22. Describe the aulos.
Two pipes, finger holes, reed mouthpiece
23. How did it sound? What is modern thought?
Two pipes in unison; unison, P5, P4, drone while other pipe plays the melody (heterophony)
24. What is a "plangent" sound?
Having an expressive and especially plaintive quality (suffering, woe, melancholy)
25. What was the aulos' function?
Dionysus, god of fertility and wine; alternated with choruses in Greek plays
26. Could a woman play the aulos? N.B. (6th edition):
"Women were limited to playing stringed instruments, since the aulos was considered suitable only to slaves, courtesans, and entertainers." Do you consider the statement about "a prostitute as well as a musician," an oxymoron?
Yes; yes, we'll play anywhere for money!

27. Lyres had ____ strings and were strummed by a _____. The _____ hand strummed and the _____ hand _____ the strings for what purpose?
7; plectrum; right; left; touched; harmonics; dampen the sound
28. (10) Which cult? What purpose?
Apollo, god of light, learning, prophecy, arts (music and poetry); dancing, singing, recitation of epic poetry, music for weddings, play for recreation
29. Describe the kithara. What is its function? What is a kitharode?
Large lyre; processions, sacred ceremonies, theater; a kitharode is a kithara player
30. What are the two kinds of writings on music?
Doctrines on the nature of music (philosophical)
Systematic descriptions of materials and patterns of musical compositions (scientific)
31. (11) The most influential were what?
Plato, Republic, Timaeus; Aristotle, Politics
32. Who were the first and last writers?
Pythagoras 500 B.C.E. to Aristides Quintilianus (4th century B.C.)
33. The word *music* comes from the word _____.
Muse
34. What is the origin of melody?
Melos indicating that music was a performing art
35. What is the texture of Greek music like?
Monophonic (heterophonic)
36. What does *heterophonic* mean? *Polyphonic*?
Variation; an independent part played against a melody
37. (12) IP: Were women allowed to play in recitals? Competitions? Could a person become wealthy? Were the performers from the upper classes?
Yes; no; possibly; no, they were slaves or servants
38. What is perfect melos?
Melody, text, and dance
39. What is the relationship between poetry and music?
They were synonymous
40. (13) What is *harmonia*?
Sounds and rhythms ordered by numbers
41. What is the "harmony of the spheres"? Who coined it?
Unheard music produced by planet rotation; Plato
42. What is ethos? Who proposed the idea?
Ethical character of way of being or behaving; Pythagoras
43. What was Aristotle's phrase for describing how music affects behavior? Modern interpretation would relate this to a _____ or _____ alone, but Aristotle probably has in mind _____.
Doctrine of imitation; mode or scale; style (contour, rhythms, poetry)
44. According to Plato and Aristotle, what two educations must be balanced? What is the result if one overshadows the other? What is the problem with too much music?
Gymnastics and music
Uncivilized, violent, ignorant; effeminate, neurotic
Distorts a person's character
45. (14) SR: T/F Two people are affected in the same way when experiencing a harmonia. Aristotle differentiates by illustrating by what means? And it isn't only melodies. What else can affect a person?
False; modes; rhythm
46. SR/TQ: Why do young people need music? Is that T/F? They need pleasure (distractions), they lack maturity, self-discipline; TRUE
47. What two modes (styles) did Plato recommend? What practices did he condemn?
Dorian and Phrygian – temperance, courage
Other modes and styles with multiplicity of notes, complex scales, missing incompatible genres, rhythms, instruments
48. "Lawlessness in art and education" led to what? TQ: What does the first phrase mean? Any modern parallels?
License in manners; anarchy in society; freedom without compunction (guilt, accountability); ragtime, jazz, rock, punk, rap
49. T/F Aristotle was stricter than Plato concerning the influence of music on humans.
False
50. Was it acceptable to be a professional musician? Why?
No; people ought to do real work; music should be for one's enjoyment not for the enjoyment of others
51. (15) What is the name of Pythagoras' most famous music treatise? TQ: What is a treatise?
He didn't write one; "a systematic exposition or argument in writing including a methodical discussion of the facts and principles involved and conclusions reached"
52. Who are the theorists who follow?
Aristoxenus, Cleonides, Ptolemy, Aristides Quintilianus
53. What is the relationship of the rhythm of music and poetry?
They are closely aligned

54. (15) TQ: What term describes the *gliding* of the voice? [*Glissando* is the instrumental version of the term I'm looking for, so that's not the right answer.] What is the term in that paragraph for the opposite condition?

Portamento; diastematic

55. What three elements are need for a melody?

Notes, intervals, scale (= three or more notes in ascending or descending order)

56. Babylonians lacked generic names for _____ except with respect to adjacent strings on a lyre.

Intervals

57. What is a tetrachord? What are the three types of tetrachords? What's the term for "types of tetrachord"?

Four notes spanning the interval of a fourth; diatonic; chromatic; enharmonic; genera (genus) is a "class"

58. What is a "shade"?

Alteration of the two interior notes of genera in a tetrachord

59. What genus is the oldest? Recent? Most refined? Which one was the Babylonian system?

Diatonic; chromatic; enharmonic; diatonic

60. (16) Define the terms *conjunct*, *disjunct*, *proslambanomenos*.

Shared a pitch; separate; added note

61. What is the range of the Greater Perfect System? Lesser Perfect System? N.B. The lesser perfect system picture disappeared in the sixth edition and I needed it for B flat.

a' to A; d' to A (so d' – c' – bb – a is the synemmenon [conjunct] tetrachord)

62. TQ: Did the Greeks have perfect pitch? Is their a' our a'=440?

See the phrase "the range A-a' [*sic*] is purely conventional." They probably had perfect pitch and relative pitch, but a'=440 is a modern standard (1938).

63. (17) What are species?

Arrangements of whole steps (T) and half steps (S) within a P4, P5, and P8

64. TQ: Do you understand the construction of Cleonides' seven species? Anything unusual?

I'd have to think about it (Dorian is e to e, Phrygian is d to d, Lydian is c to c, Mixolydian is b to b, Hypolydian is f to f, Hypophrygian is g to g, Hypodorian is a to a); the scales are ascending

65. How do the modes get their names?

Cultures

66. What are the different meanings of tonos according to Cleonides?

Note, interval, region of the voice, pitch

67. TQ: What term would we use to describe "the region of the voice"? Tessitura

68. T/F Dorians only used the dorian mode.

False

69. (18) How many examples of Greek music exist? Did Renaissance musicians know them?

45 (page 9 says 40; it was 40 in the 5th ed.); few, if any

70. Why is the Seikilos epitaph important? What mode?

~~What is a *skolion*?~~

Clear rhythmic notation; Phrygian species; a drinking song

71. Example 1.4. What tonos? What is the pitch range? Any problems?

Iastian; e' to e"; yes, it's out of the range of Greek music and where it says Example 1.2 on the fifth line, it should be Example 1.3c3.

72. (19) TQ: Why does the Iastian tonos match the text? And the melody?

Iastian is near the middle of the 15 tonoi; high is energetic and low is sedate, so 7 is moderate

The melody is neither excited nor depressed

73. Why is the Orestes fragment ascribed to Euripides?

Chromatic or enharmonic; instrumental interludes

74. Dochmaic? [*sic*]

Dochmiac; five-syllable line (sllsl);

u - -u-; The wise kangaroos / resent leather shoes

75. What do we know about ancient Greek music?

It was accompanied by instruments

Music imitates ethos

Rhythm of poetry matches the music

Genera, notation, tonoi, octave species

76. How many examples of Roman music exist? How do we know about Roman music?

None; [written accounts, bas-relief, mosaics, paintings, sculptures.] Figure 1.12 is a bas-relief

77. What is a *tibia*? ~~*Tibicines*~~? *Tuba*? *Cornu*? *Buccina*?

Roman aulos; tibia player; trumpet; G-shaped horn; small cornu

78. (20) Summarize the details of ancient music.

1. Music consisted essentially of melody
2. Melody intimately linked with the rhythm and meter of words
3. Musicians relied on their memories and on knowledge of conventions and formulas rather than reading from notation
4. Philosophers conceived of music as an orderly system interlocked with a system of nature and as a force in human thought and conduct
5. Acoustical theory founded on science
6. Well-developed music theory

79. (21) What are the links to ancient Greek music?

1. Renaissance/Baroque borrowed expression of mood, rhetorical devices, chromaticism, monody, opera, citing Plato and Aristotle in defense
2. Gluck and Wagner looked back to Greek tragedies for models
3. Messiaen and Partch used Greek rhythms and tuning systems
4. Diatonic scales for music education
5. Debates about the ethical and moral effects of music.