Turkish Rondo

from Piano Sonata No. 11 in A major

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Born: January 27, 1756
Died: December 5, 1791

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria, where his father Leopold was a violinist and composer. Wolfgang (or Wolferl, as his family called him) was a child prodigy. He composed his first piece of music at age five; he had his first piece published when he was seven; and he wrote his first opera when he was twelve. By the time Wolfgang was six, he was an excellent pianist and violinist. He and his sister Maria Anna (known as Nannerl) traveled all over Europe performing for royalty.

When he grew up, Mozart moved to Vienna and tried to earn a living as a pianist and composer. However, he had a hard time handling the fact that he was no longer a child prodigy. Mozart was still a musical genius, but after he stopped being a cute kid, people stopped making a big fuss over him. At that time, musicians were treated like servants, but Mozart did not, and could not think of himself in this way.

Mozart was only 35 when he died. During his short life, he composed in all different musical forms, including operas, symphonies, concertos, masses, and chamber music. He is considered one of the finest musicians the world has ever known.

Follow along as you listen to Mozart’s Turkish Rondo

Rondo
An instrumental composition in which the main theme is alternated with contrasting themes. If the main theme is labeled A, and the other sections are labeled B, C, and D, the form of a rondo would be A-B-A-C-A-D-A.

1. The music has a happy start.
2. Listen for the strong beat of the Rondo theme.
3. The music has fun sliding up and down the scale.
4. The Rondo theme returns.
5. Once again, we hear the happy melody from the beginning.
6. The Rondo theme appears again.
7. A coda (Italian for “tail”) ends the piece.
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MUSICAL WORD FIND

I J T J L O N C V C O F Y S Y
D N Y J P R Y A L I D N E K N
Y O S E U M O A I R O W A A O
N T R T B T S O Y C A L O I H
A A J A R S H R G I V I D P
M I L J I U E C Z S I S V N M
I S X C U S M H K S G D U V Y
C I A O O T R E C N O C O M S
S L A P R D D S N X M L T R X
I Y M M A S Q T E T E C R I P
Q O T E P M U R T I S G A J N
C P K T T R I A N G L E Z Z O
K R H Y T H M O D N O R O D T
H J N Y K K E X C Y E O M O E
U F W N J K N Y H I Z C H Z S

WORDS TO FIND

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Mozart Musician Notes
Opera Orchestra Piano
Prodigy Rhythm Rondo
Symphony Tempo Triangle
Trumpet Violin

Why not create your own original piece of art while listening to “Turkish Rondo.”

Fly high and color the hot air balloon according to the dynamic symbols.

$ff^*$ - fortissimo - very loud - red
$f$ - forte - loud - blue
$mf$ - mezzo forte - loud - yellow
$mp$ - mezzo piano - medium soft - orange
$p$ - piano - soft - green
$pp$ - pianissimo - very soft - brown

Draw a picture, or write your own story, if you wish, on blank 8 1/2” x 11” paper.
Send us your art and we may post it on our Classics for Kids® website for you to share with others.

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