



TRUMPET FAMILY TREE

Meets National Core Arts Standards 7-9, 11

OBJECTIVES

- Perceive and analyze artistic work (*Re7*)
- Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work (*Re8*)
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work (*Re9*)
- Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding (*Cn11*)

MATERIALS

- *Music Alive!* magazines (March 2018)
- *Music Alive!* Classroom Worksheet #12: Staff Paper (download at musicalive.com)
- Computer or mobile device with Internet access
- Classroom pianos
- Notation software (optional)

START

1. Ask your students to read “Trumpet FamilyTree” on pages 10-13. Then, go over the following highlighted words. [**This reinforces comprehension and vocabulary.**]

HEYDAY—the period of a person’s or thing’s greatest success or popularity

EMBOUCHURE—the way in which a player applies the mouth to the mouthpiece of a brass or wind instrument

CONFIGURATION—an arrangement of elements in a particular form, figure, or combination

ELONGATED—unusually long in relation to its width

VISIBILITY—the state of being able to be seen

DEVELOP

► **1. Play** Joseph Haydn’s Trumpet Concerto in E flat Major: II. Andante cantabile (Hear the Music **track 5** on musicalive.com).

ASK

What’s the time signature? (6/8.)

Is it in a major or minor key? (Major—E flat major.)

What instruments open the movement? (A string quartet—two violins, a viola, and a cello.)

How is the trumpet featured in the arrangement? (It plays melodies over the orchestra’s continuous part.)

“Cantabile” translates to “in a smooth singing style.” Do you think the trumpet part sounds cantabile? Why or why not? (Subjective. The trumpet plays long, legato phrases.)

How would you describe the mood of the piece? (Lighthearted, yet somewhat melancholic.)

Is it more organized and predictable, or loose and chaotic? (More organized and predictable.)

During which era in classical music was this piece composed? (The Classical era.)

Do you like this piece? Why or why not? (Subjective.)

► **2. Play** the Beatles’ “Penny Lane” (Hear the Music **track 6** on musicalive.com).

ASK

What is the song’s time signature? (4/4.)

Is it in a major or minor key? (Major.)

What instrument plays a lead melody in the introduction? (Electric bass.)

What other instruments do you hear in the first verse? (Flutes, organ, drums.)

What parts come in during the chorus that haven’t been heard previously in the song? (Vocal harmonies, horn section.)

What comes after the second verse? (A solo on the piccolo trumpet.)

On which beat do you hear a trumpet accent during the second and fourth verses? (The second beat.)

What’s different about the fourth chorus? (It raises in key; we hear a piccolo, and the piccolo trumpet comes back in.)

How does the song end? (With a short phrase played on the ride cymbal.)



► **3. Play** Miles Davis’ “Solar” (Hear the Music **track 7** on musicalive.com).

ASK

What is the song’s time signature? (4/4.)

What instrument leads the song in the beginning? (Trumpet.)

What other instruments do you hear? (Bass, percussion, piano.)

Is the trumpet reading from a part or improvising? (Improvising.)

Is the piano playing a steady rhythm? (No—it plays chords in improvised rhythms.)

Is the bass playing in a steady rhythm? (Yes—it’s playing steady quarter notes.)

What genre of music is this? (Jazz.)

What instrument begins their solo after the trumpet? (Saxophone.)

How does the trumpet tone sound like in comparison to the trumpets in the other songs? (It’s more “airy” and personalized, like a voice. The other trumpet parts were very clear, clean, and defined.)

CLOSE

Hand out copies of the staff paper worksheet for students, or have them use notation software. With the help of classroom pianos, have them transcribe the first eight measures of Miles Davis’ solo in “Solar” (seen below). Optionally, have them work on the transcription together in groups of two. When they’re done, go around the room and collect their work. Then go over the correct notation with the class.

ASSESS

Did the students read the article?

Did they discuss the three listening selections?

Did they transcribe the first eight measures of “Solar”?