

Tchaikovsky

1. Tchaikovsky is a composer from which period?
2. His dates are:
 - a) 1820 – 1850
 - b) 1840 – 1893
 - c) 1766 – 1843
 - d) 1912 – 1968
3. Which nationality is he?
4. Which famous ballet by Tchaikovsky includes singing by a choir?

See if you can fill in the blanks about his life

Son of a civil servant and became one too. Previously interested in _____ in an amateur way, at 22 he began to study it seriously. At 23 he dropped the government work and, in _____, gave himself up to the art. He studied chiefly at the St. Petersburg Conservatoire in _____ under Anton Rubinstein. At 28 he came under the influence of Balakiref and R_____ K_____. Tchaikovsky is often spoken of as no true Russian composer, yet the _____ attractions and violent antipathies of his life, the gleams of riotous happiness and clouds of doom are _____ in his music.

Once success had come to him his time was divided between short concert _____ to different parts of Europe and long _____ at a small country house he had bought. Where he lived there was _____ and quietness that he needed to compose.

At 53 Tchaikovsky drank unboiled water. Within a week he was dead of _____.

In Britain and America _____ music first became known to a large public through _____. His melodic threads, brilliant _____ colour and strong _____ expressions quickly captured the hearts and ears of many listeners. Amongst his best works are ten operas, six symphonies, symphonic _____, suites, three piano concertos, a violin concerto, ballets, chamber _____ and many songs and piano pieces.