

IGOR STRAVINSKY \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ born in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**Family background:** what was his father's musical profession? What did he want Stravinsky to study?

**Education and training:** where did Stravinsky attend school?

**Connection:** which famous Russian composer did he study with?

**Employment:** what was Stravinsky's connection to Sergei Diaghilev? What is an impresario? What works did Stravinsky write for Diaghilev?

How was Stravinsky employed later in Paris and the United States?

**Connection:** what composers did Stravinsky meet in America and elsewhere? What writers?

**Russian period:** what was Stravinsky's main source of inspiration? How did he show this in the subject of his music?

**Influence:** What stylistic era did Stravinsky emulate the most in this period?

**Neoclassical period:** When and why did Stravinsky turn to neoclassicism?

**Influence:** Which (past) composers was Stravinsky trying to emulate?

**Serialist period:** Why did Stravinsky move to the United States?

When and why did this period begin?

**Influence:** Which composer was Stravinsky's model in this period?

**Impact:** what was Stravinsky's effect on modernism in general? How did composers respond? What kinds of criticism did this attract?

What were Stravinsky's key works that influenced the following genres: modernism, neoclassicism, serialism?

**Genres:** Give a representative work for each:

ballet                      opera                      symphony                      chamber music

Russian period                      Neoclassical period                      Serialist period

LE SACRE DU PRINTEMPS (STRAVINSKY) written \_\_\_\_\_ genre \_\_\_\_\_

**Instrumentation:** what are the performing forces? What are some of the uncommon instruments used?

**Historical context:** who was it written for? What dance troupe performed the original ballet?

**Plot:** what is the setting of the ballet? What happens in the “rite” and why?

How does the ballet showcase primitivism? What musical features reinforce this?

**Structure:** does a “key” exist in the ballet? Why or why not? How does Stravinsky treat harmonies? Compare this treatment with Debussy's *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*.

**Introduction:** tempo \_\_\_\_\_ meter \_\_\_\_\_

What might be the key of the opening solo? What musical tradition does it suggest?

Find examples of polyrhythm, naming the rhythmic divisions:

**Augurs of Spring:** tempo \_\_\_\_\_ meter \_\_\_\_\_

What might the strings represent? Why is every note marked with a down bow?

Find examples of polytonality, naming the key areas:

**Ritual of Abduction:** tempo \_\_\_\_\_ meter \_\_\_\_\_

How do the constant shifts in meter affect the listener? Why might Stravinsky have used such shifts?

**Extra-musical connections:** what was the opening performance infamous for? Why was the public critical of the ballet? How did that help its fame?

What is the significance of this work in the 20th century? Why is it so important? Who are some of the (innumerable) composers who have been influenced by this work?