

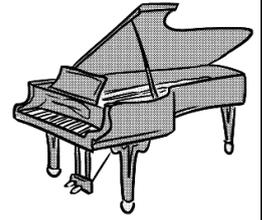


Reading
30 minutes

Beethoven's Hard Life

There is a popular saying that you have to suffer for your art. Perhaps in Beethoven's case, the greater the art, the greater the suffering.

Ludwig van Beethoven is widely acknowledged to be one of the greatest musical composers of all time. Even if you could not name any of his works, you would undoubtedly recognise at least one if it were played to you. His Moonlight Sonata and Fifth Symphony are prime examples. It is perhaps amazing that someone could create so many works of great joy and beauty when you contemplate how much pain and ugliness there was in his life.



Early years

Born in Bonn, Germany, in 1770, he was one of seven children, although only three of them survived childhood. From an early age, Ludwig was seen as having a rare gift for music and his talent was developed by a succession of local tutors. Most of them were not very kind, however, and often treated him so badly they made him cry. One of them even had problems sleeping and would drag the poor little boy out of bed in order to practise.

Despite these hardships, he was soon writing his own music and his first collection of compositions was published when he was only thirteen years old. Not long after that, he travelled to Vienna – the capital of Austria and a major centre of the arts at that time – in order to continue his education. Within a year, however, he had to return to Bonn as his mother had died and his father was unable to look after his brothers, so that responsibility fell to Ludwig for the next five years.

Along with his family tragedies, his love-life was causing him a great deal of heartache. His musical ability and reputation meant that he was often asked to give lessons to members of upper-class families. He fell in love with at least two of the young women he was tutoring but was unable to marry them as he had not been born into wealth and privilege, which meant he was not seen as being good enough for them.

Loss of hearing

Of all your senses, which would be cruellest to lose if you were a musician? Perhaps the greatest tragedy to befall Beethoven was when he started losing his hearing in his late twenties. It is not clear what caused it, but we do know that he suffered from a severe form of tinnitus – a condition which makes you hear noises which are not there, such as buzzing or bells ringing. By the time he was 44 years old, he was totally deaf. Amazingly, he continued composing wonderful music but when one of his works was performed for the first time, he had to be turned around to see the audience clapping because he couldn't hear the thunderous applause.

It also didn't help that much of Europe was at war while he was composing. The famous French general and emperor Napoleon was rampaging all over the continent and, in 1809, he attacked Vienna. The noise of the bombardment was so loud that Beethoven was worried it would ruin what was left of his hearing. In order to protect himself, he hid underground during the assault and covered his head with pillows.

Bad behaviour

Given all his problems, it is perhaps not surprising that Beethoven was known to be rather rude. If he noticed people in the audience talking while he was performing, he would just stop. He also refused to show much respect for the ruling classes. One archduke decided that the normal rules of polite society should not apply to Ludwig, presumably because there was no point in hoping he would follow them!

His health deteriorated and he eventually died in 1827 at the age of 56. Some 20,000 people turned out to show their respects at his funeral procession. For all his faults and misfortunes, he had still managed to produce an enormous collection of outstanding music. He

may have suffered terribly but we have all benefited from his genius, whether we know it or not.

Vocabulary:

1. Look at the second paragraph. **Find** and **copy** one word meaning *accepted*.

2. ... *when you contemplate* ... What does the word *contemplate* mean in this sentence?

3. ... *His health deteriorated* ... This means that his health ... Circle **one**.

stopped him working
improved

got worse

kept people away

Retrieval:

4. Where was Beethoven born?

5. How many of Beethoven's brothers and sisters died in childhood?

6. What is the name of the hearing disorder Beethoven suffered from?

Inference:

7. How does the author suggest that Beethoven had a harder life than most other people?

8. Why does the author suggest that Beethoven's hearing problems were perhaps his *greatest tragedy*?

9. How do we know that people were sad when Beethoven died?

Meaning as a whole:

10. Using information from the whole text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Beethoven was Austrian.		
Beethoven taught himself music.		
Rich people wanted him to marry their daughters.		
Beethoven lived through a time of peace in Europe.		

Authorial intent:

11. ... *so many works of great joy and beauty when you consider how much pain and ugliness there was in his life.* Why did the author use these words to describe Beethoven's music and his life?

Compare:

12. According to the text, give one way that:

- a. Beethoven's life was very difficult.

- b. Beethoven's life wasn't all bad.

GPS warm-up
10 minutes

The challenge activities provide opportunities for children to practise some of the more difficult objectives and question types. Where questions require a written answer, children should be reminded to take particular care with spelling and punctuation (e.g. use of capital letters and full stops). Children can write answers in an exercise books.

If you are unsure what the question is asking, use your homework book to find out what it means. For example if you need to know what a subordination conjunction is, turn to that page of your book and it should explain.

1. Circle each word that should begin with a **capital letter** in the sentence below.

the united states of america comprises fifty-two states including california, north carolina and the islands of hawaii.

1 mark

CHALLENGE: Explain which words must have a capital and why.

2. Draw a line to match each **prefix** to a word to make four different words. Use each prefix only once.

1) re

responsible

2) pre

inform

3) mis

take

4) ir

book

1 mark

CHALLENGE: List as many words as you can for each of the prefixes above.

Helpful hint for question 3: Relative Clause: A relative clause gives extra information to a sentence to make them more interesting.

3. Rewrite the sentence below, adding a **relative clause**.

Remember to punctuate your sentence correctly.

The teacher strode down the corridor.

1 mark

CHALLENGE: Now rewrite your sentence, adding a relative clause in a different position.

Spellings for this week:

**Words with endings
which sound like
/shuh/ after a
consonant letter**

partial

confidential

essential

substantial

torrential

sequential

potential

spatial

martial

influential

Remember to look at the spelling rule (at top of spellings), research up the meaning of each word and lastly put them into a sentence. If you would like a challenge try to write more complex sentences. But don't overdo it; one 'and' in a sentence is plenty. Any more is too many! Remember to use correct punctuation.

E.g. At 9 am, a confidential letter arrived in the post addressed to my mother.

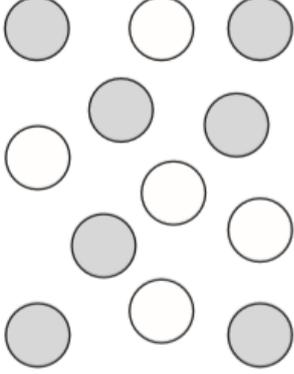
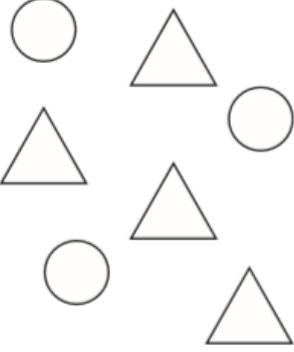
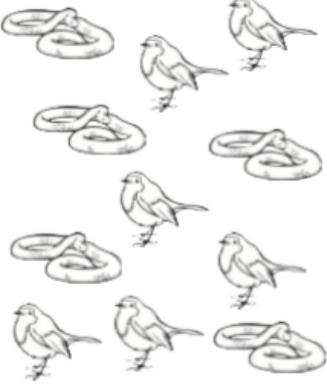
Writing

L.O: I can use the first person perspective consistently.

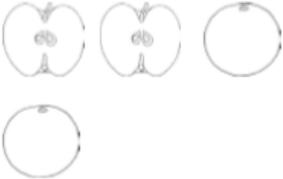
I can write ratio statements and use multiplication and division facts to calculate alternative statements.



1. For each group, write the ratio of one group compared to the other.

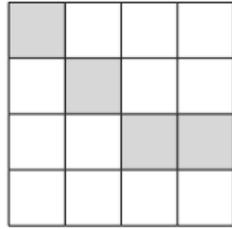
<p>What is the ratio of grey to white?</p>  <p>_____ :</p>	<p>What is the ratio of triangles to circles?</p>  <p>_____ :</p>	<p>What is the ratio of snakes to birds?</p>  <p>_____ :</p>
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2. Complete each drawing so that it makes the ratio correct:

<p>Complete the drawing to show the ratio of Oranges: Apples 4:2</p> 	<p>Draw 20 letters (A and B) in total to the ratio of A:B 2:3</p>	<p>There are 15 pieces of fruit in total – bananas and strawberries. Draw the pieces of fruit to make this ratio correct. bananas:strawberries 2:1</p>
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3. For each grid, write the ratio as you see it then write the ratio in its simplest form. Show your working out. **The first one is done for you.**

a.



shaded to blank

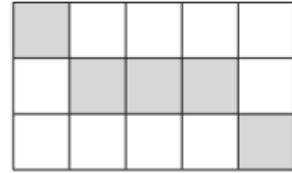
4:12

$\div 4 = 1$

$\div 4 = 3$

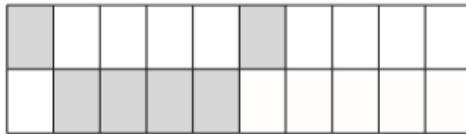
1:3

b.



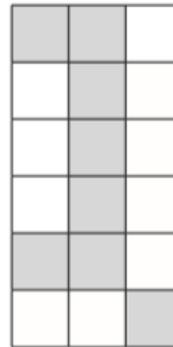
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c.



shaded to blank

d.



shaded to blank

4. Continue the sequences, counting on in multiples of the first numbers to find equivalent ratios. **The first one is done for you.**

a.	1:2	2:4	3:6	4:8	5:10	6:12
b.	1:4	2:8				
c.	2:3					
d.		10:14	15:21			
e.		4:22	6:33			
f.	3:7		9:21			

Extension task: challenge yourself on top marks and/or times table rock stars

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://play.trockstars.com/auth/school>

Enquiry/Project
work
30 minutes

RE

Use the link below to learn why Easter is the most important festival in the Christian calendar.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztkxpv4/articles/z4t6rj6>

Once you have finished reading, complete the quiz to test your new knowledge. After that, there is an Easter egg colouring template you can print off and colour too. If you are feeling as though you would like to test your design skills, why not design your own. Be as creative as you wish.

I might design a gigantic, magical unicorn shape egg that has a glittery hundred and thousand horn and a tail made of strawberry laces!