

Pictures At An Exhibition by Modest Mussorgsky(1839-1881)

Composed in 1874 in memory of his friend, the artist Viktor Hartmann, this work consists of ten movements for solo piano. Each movement is a musical depiction of a painting by Hartmann. The work begins with a stately **Promenade**, which recurs at various points during the music, representing the gallery visitor.

The work has been subjected to numerous orchestrations and arrangements, the most famous being that by **Maurice Ravel** in 1922. Other versions include those by **Henry Wood**, **Leopold Stokowski**, **Walter Goehr**, **Sergei Gorchakov**, **Lawrence Leonard** (*for piano and orchestra*) and **Vladimir Ashkenazy**. Non-orchestral versions include **Mekong Delta** (*for band*), **Ralph Burns** (*for jazz orchestra*), **Emerson, Lake & Palmer** (*for band*), **Isao Tomita** (*for synthesizer*) and **Elgar Howarth** (*for brass band*).

The sequence of movements is as follows:

Promenade

The Gnome

The Old Castle

Tuilleries

Bydlo (The Ox Cart)

Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks

Samuel Goldenberg & Schmuyle (2 Polish Jews)

Limoges (The Market)

Catacombs

The Hut on Fowl's Legs (Baba Yaga)

The Great Gate of Kiev

TASKS

1. Identify the correct movement from these **five** extracts. Give reasons for your answers:

- a)
- b)

- c)
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- d)
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- e)
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2. Now listen to **five** different orchestrations of the opening **Promenade** and describe the varying instrumentation for each one and how the sound/mood/atmosphere changes each time:

a) Ravel

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b) Gorchakov

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c) Ashkenazy

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d) Leonard

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e) (Mystery Composer)

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