

## Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, Mvt. 4 Lesson Plan No. 1 – Active Listening

### National Music Standards (rev. 2014)

<b>Artistic Process</b>	Connecting
<b>Anchor Standard 10</b>	Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
<b>Enduring Understanding</b>	Musicians connect their personal interests, experiences, ideas, and knowledge to creating, performing, and responding.

### Learning Target

The student will demonstrate and explain how intent is conveyed through interpretive decisions and expressive qualities (such as dynamics, tempo, and timbre).

### Lesson Plan

**Time:** 10 minutes

**Materials:** sound recording of Symphony No. 7, Mvt. 4

### **Prepare:**

Distribute writing materials (white boards or paper) to each student. Have students choose a partner.

**Warmup:** Teacher instructions to students:

“You will be going to a concert featuring the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra. Now we will listen to one of the pieces they will perform at the concert.”

“To be able to completely concentrate on this music, find a **comfortable position** for your body.

**Relax** your muscles. **Close your eyes** so you aren't distracted by things in the room. **Breathe** in deeply, breathe out slowly.”

“While you listen, think about what **colors or pictures** the music makes you ‘see’ in your mind. Think about what **feelings** the music makes you feel. How would you describe this music to someone who hasn't heard it before?”

**Direct Instruction:** Students share thoughts/feelings about the music

Have students listen for about 2 minutes until the original theme returns. Possible questions to ask include:

What is the mood of this music?

What were you feeling while listening to it?

What colors, pictures or scenes did you imagine?

Did it relax you or make your heart beat faster? Why?

**Guided practice:** Using the original directives for *active listening* (*relax, close eyes, breathe deeply*), have students listen to the same selection.

Ask students to turn to a partner and describe the music in five words each. Volunteers can share out from these partnerships to the whole class.

“If someone had never heard this music before, how would you describe it?”

**Independent practice:** Using white boards/markers or paper/pencils, have students write down three words to describe the music.

**Assessment:** Students will hold up their white boards (or hand in their slips of paper) so teacher can determine if they have experienced active listening.

**Sources:**

Symphony No. 7 (Beethoven), Wikipedia.org.

Fitzpatrick, F. Music and the Brain: Active Listening.

<http://earthtones.org/2012/09/music-and-the-brain-active-listening/>