

Essay on the opera Orfeo, by Claudio Monteverdi (Baroque period)

Follow this guide:

- 1.- Introduction. It must includes the title, author, genre (género) and period. (Genre: opera).
- 2.-Synopsis. You must tell the story.
- 3.- Music: Instrumental music or vocal music (voices with or without instruments), voices (or groups of voices), instruments (or groups of instruments), textures, main emotions.
- 4.- Coreography. Explain the dances.
- 5.- Scenography. Describe the sceneries, lighting and costumes
- 6.- Interpretation. Write your opinion, explaining who are the best and worst characters (according to their interpretation).
- 7.- Conclusion and personal opinion.

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Answer these questions as you watch the opera. They will help you write the essay.

0:00 -01:56. Overture. Circle the correct option:

The instruments that have a main role are: woodwinds (viento – madera), brasses (viento – metal), strings (cuerda) or percussion. (Circle only one option).

Circle all the emotions or feelings that you can find in this part: joy - fright – sadness - hope – anger – peace – excitement – intrigue

10:20 – 16:33. Wedding of Orfeo and Eurídice.

Select the texture for every part:

Chorus	Accompanied melody
Orfeo´s singing	Polyphony (homophony or counterpoint)
Euridice´s singing	Accompanied melody

Circle the correct option:

Orfeo´s voice is: tenor – bass.

Euridice´s voice is: soprano –alto.

Circle all the emotions or feelings that you can find in this part: joy - fright – sadness - hope – anger – peace – excitement – intrigue

31:20 – 34:17. A sad notice. Explain it.

Circle all the emotions or feelings that you can find in this part: joy - fright – sadness - hope – anger – peace – excitement – intrigue

46:18 -56:30. Orfeo enters hell to rescue Eurídice. Other characters: Hope (allegorical figure) and Caronte. Wich character is accompanied by a low and metallic instrument?

La ópera se puede ver en este enlace: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcRFFmgVGlc>

También se puede acceder a partir de <http://elcastigodelassirenas.blogspot.com.es> – Etiqueta “Barroco” – Música Barroca.

Circle the correct option:

Esperanza's voice is: soprano – contralto.

Caronte's voice is: tenor – bass.

As Orfeo sings the aria "Possente spirito", some instruments create the effect of the echo ¿How do they do it? (select one option):

Playing the same melody from loud to soft.

Playing the same melody from soft to loud.

Playing different melodies at the same time.

Playing the same melodie at the same time.

Circle all the emotions or feelings that you can find in this part: joy - fright – sadness - hope – anger – peace – excitement – intrigue

1:02:32 - 1:08:00. Orfeo talks to Pluto, god of the underworld. What happens to Caronte?

Circle all the emotions or feelings that you can find in this part: joy - fright – sadness - hope – anger – peace – excitement – intrigue

1:11:05 – 1:14:58. Characters: Pluto and his wife Proserpina. What does Proserpina want?

What is Pluto's answer and what is his condition?

Circle all the emotions or feelings that you can find in this part: joy - fright – sadness - hope – anger – peace – excitement – intrigue

1:17:43 -1:24:07. Explain what happens in this part.

Circle all the emotions or feelings that you can find in this part: joy - fright – sadness - hope – anger – peace – excitement – intrigue

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