

NLO Shorts: An Introduction to the Orchestra



The Brass Family

Watch the NLO Shorts videos introducing the instruments of the orchestra. You can find them on the New London Orchestra YouTube channel, or on their website at bit.ly/NLOShorts. As you are watching the videos, answer the questions below. If you're unsure about spellings, turning on subtitles might help! Some keywords are given to guide your answers to some questions.

1. Listen carefully to the extract from Richard Wagner's *Overture to the Flying Dutchman* (0:16). Does the brass melody move mainly by step or by leap? [1]
2. Draw a diagram of a modern orchestra and label where **all** members of the brass section sit. [2]
3. Listen carefully to the extract from Gioachino Rossini's *William Tell Overture* (2:10). What are the dynamics in this passage? Remember to locate changes in dynamic within the passage. [3]
Loud | Soft | The beginning | The middle | The end
4. Name two ensembles that brass instruments play in, other than the orchestra. [2]
String quartet | Brass Quintet | Piano Trio | Military Band | Wind Quintet | Brass Quartet
5. Listen carefully to the extract from George Frideric Handel's *Hornpipe* (3:05). What is the time signature of this extract? [1]
2/4 | 3/4 | 4/4 | 5/4

Extension: You have heard an extract from Lili Boulanger's setting of Psalm 24. Research her biography, and write a short essay summarising her life & career. You might like to include her dates, musical education, notable works and awards, or other significant features of her life.