

“CANON IN D”- JOHANN PACHELBEL

Johann Pachelbel was baptised on 1 September 1653 and buried 9 March 1706. He was a German composer, organist, and teacher who brought the south German organ tradition to its peak. He composed a large body of sacred and secular music, and his contributions to the development of the chorale, prelude and fugue have earned him a place among the most important composers of the middle Baroque era.

Pachelbel's music enjoyed enormous popularity during his lifetime; he had many pupils and his music became a model for the composers of south and central Germany. Today, Pachelbel is best known for the Canon in D, as well as the Chaconne in F minor, and the Toccata in E minor for organ.

Pachelbel's Canon is the common name for a canon by the German Baroque composer in his Canon and Gigue for 3 violins and basso continuo sometimes referred to as Canon and Gigue in D or Canon in D. Neither the date nor the circumstances of its composition are known but suggested dates range from 1680 to 1706, and the oldest surviving manuscript copy of the piece dates from the 19th century.

Pachelbel's Canon, like his other works, although popular during his lifetime, soon went out of style, and remained in obscurity for centuries. In the 1970s the piece began to be recorded by many ensembles; by the early 1980s its presence as background music was deemed inescapable. From the 1970s to the early 2000s, elements of the piece, especially its chord progression, were used in a variety of pop songs. Since the 1980s, it has also been used frequently in weddings and funeral ceremonies in the Western world.

The canon was originally scored for three violins and basso continuo and paired with a gigue. Both movements are in the key of D major. Although a true canon at the unison in three parts, it also has elements of a chaconne.

1. When was Pachelbel born? **Underline one** answer

- a. 1970
- b. 1706
- c. 1653
- d. 2000

2. Pachelbel was an Austrian composer. **Underline 1** answer.

True or **False**

3. What is Pachelbel best known for? **Find and copy** the sentence:

4. What 2 other names is Pachelbel's Canon known as?

1). _____ 2). _____

5. What is the suggested date range of Canon in D's composition?

Tick one answer

1970's to early 2000's

1680 to 1706

1980's to 1990's

6. When did "Canon in D" start to be recorded by many ensembles?

Tick one answer.

2000's

1970's

1980's

7. Which element of the piece was used in a variety of pop songs from the 1970's to the early 2000's? **Underline 1** correct answers.

Lyrics

Instruments

Chord progression

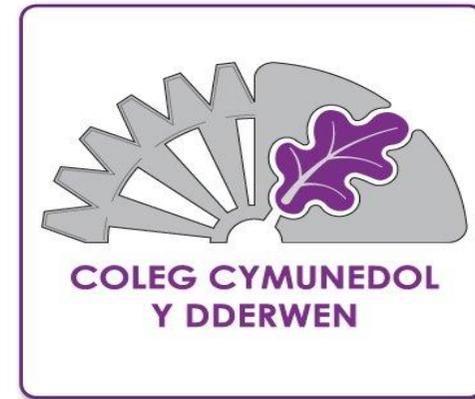
8. What key is the Canon in? **Tick one** answer

D minor

A major

D major

F major



**YEAR 8
NRT HOMEWORK "CANON IN D"- JOHANN
PACHELBEL**

Question	Marks
Q1 – 1MARK	
Q2 – 1 MARK	
Q3 – 1 MARK	
Q4 – 2 MARKS	
Q5 – 1 MARK	
Q6 – 1 MARK	
Q7 – 1 MARK	
Q8 – 1 MARK	
TOTAL = 9	TOTAL MARKS =