

Instrument of the Orchestra - Research Name

Form STRINGS 1. What kind of hair is the bow made from? **Horse hair**. 2. What is put on the bow to make the bow sticky? **Rosin or colophony**. 3. How many strings are usually on the stringed instruments? **Four strings**. 4. What makes the sound louder on the stringed instruments? **Sound box or resonator**. 5. What do guitarists sometimes use to play the strings of the guitar? **Plectrum**. 6. How many strings are there on the guitar? **Six strings**. 7. Which string instruments would you find in a string quartet? **Violin, Viola and Cello**. 8. How many violins are in a typical orchestra? **16-18**. 9. Name the stringed instruments in order from smallest to largest **Violin, Viola, Cello and Contrabass**. 10. How many strings are on the harp? **47 strings**. How many pedals are on the harp? **7 pedals**

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BRASS 1. Name the four major brass instruments. **Tuba, trombone, trumpet, French horn**. 2. How do the valves work? **Valves are used to change the length of tubing of a brass instrument allowing the player to reach the notes of various harmonic series**. 3. What horn was originally used for hunting? **French horn** 4. What is the oldest brass instrument? **Trumpet** 5. What does the trombone have that the other brass instruments don't? **the trombone has a telescoping slide mechanism that varies the length of the instrument to change the pitch**. 6. What is the largest brass instrument? **Tuba**. 7. What is the highest pitched

brass instrument? **Trumpet** 8. What is a “mute”? Describe how mutes are used on brass instruments and how this affects the sound. **A mute changes the sound of the brass instrument in a certain way depending on the type of mute used. Generally a mute for a brass instrument lowers the volume and alters the timbre of the instrument.** Page Break

WOODWIND 1. What are the two groups of woodwind instruments called? **Flutes and reed instruments.**

2. What are the three members of the flute family? **Piccolo, Concert Flute and Alto Flute.** 3. Which is higher pitched, the piccolo or the flute? **The piccolo is the higher pitched woodwind instrument.** 4. To which instrument is the Cor Anglais related? **Vienna Horn.** 5. What two kind of reeds are there? **Double reeds and single reeds.** 6. What is the name given to the lower pitch bassoon in the woodwind section? **Contrabassoon.**

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PERCUSSION 1. Percussion instruments can be grouped into two categories - Pitched and un-pitched. What is the difference? **A pitched percussion instrument is a percussion instrument used to produce musical notes of one or more pitches, as opposed to an unpitched percussion instrument which is used to produce sounds of indefinite pitch. ... Alternatively, other percussion instruments can gain pitch through variation of air volume displaced.**

2. Name three pitched percussion instruments.

Timpani, Cymbal and Triangle. 3. Name three un-pitched percussion instruments. **Bass drum, Guiro and Maraca.** 4. Is the piano a percussion instrument? Why? **On a piano, however, those vibrations are initiated by hammers hitting the strings rather than by plucking or by moving a bow across them. So, the piano also falls into the realm of percussion instruments. As a result, today the piano is generally considered to be both a stringed and a percussion instrument.** 5. Which type of drum is a pitched percussion instrument? **Timpani.**



HW AG 5

Well done Anna! I am very impressed with your accurate research.

The only answer I would disagree with is that cymbals and triangles are not really tuned percussion – you cannot play a melody on them. Aside from this though, everything else is spot on.

Hopefully you received my email last week about the next homework task (make your own instrument). Good luck – I look forward to seeing what you create.