



A Brief History of Rachmaninoff

Questionnaire

Ages: 15 - 18

Projected time: 15 - 20 min

Supplies needed: Pencil and writing paper. Computer with internet access.

Project Intro: Students will watch a brief video on the life of composer and virtuoso pianist Sergei Rachmaninoff from the *PianoTV* Youtube page and they will answer questions about the video.

PART 1: Questions

Visit this website: [A Brief History of Rachmaninoff](#)

Play and pause the video when necessary.

Questionnaire:

1. During which musical period was Sergei Rachmaninoff born on?
A. The late-romantic period of music.
2. Which instrument did Rachmaninoff play?
A. The piano.
3. Where was Rachmaninoff transferred to in 1885?
A. The Moscow Conservatory.
4. What was the reason why one of his teachers was against him getting into composing music?
A. Because composing [music] wasn't for serious people.

5. Name the piece that Rachmaninoff performed during his public debut as a pianist.

A. *Prelude in C# Minor*.

6. How successful was his first symphony after it debuted in 1897?

A. Not successful.

7. At what age did he marry his first-cousin?

A. 29

8. In 1915, his old school friend died, what is the name of his friend/composer?

A. Alexander Scriabin

9. In what year did Rachmaninoff move to New York city?

A. 1918.

10. In 1942, after having health issues, to which California city did he move to?

A. Beverly Hills.

11. Did Rachmaninoff have small hands?

A. Nope.