

Name: _____

Date: _____

I. Circle ALL nouns.

The large orchestral ensemble appeared about 1600, making its first notable appearance in *Orfeo*, an opera written by Claudio Monteverdi. Although composers such as Jean Baptiste Lully conducted orchestral ensembles for the royalty in France, the growth of the large instrumental ensemble was very slow in its first one hundred years. Then in the 1800s, the basic composition and arrangement of the orchestra were standardized by the Mannheim school in Germany. This orchestral group contained approximately forty instruments and included kettledrums. Ludwig van Beethoven carried orchestral music from the serene Classical period to the tempestuous Romantic 1800s. It was during the Romantic period that the orchestral ensemble enjoyed immense success and became the forerunner of the modern orchestra. Today the American public can enjoy the world-famous orchestra in Philadelphia led by Wolfgang Saivallisch, or the well-known New York Philharmonic. The orchestra has experienced great strides of growth since 1600, and the composer of today often uses the orchestra to express his most highly organized musical ideas.

