

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Opera Vocabulary

- Opera - A drama or comedy set to music and staged. The dialogue between the characters is sung, not spoken.
- Soprano - The highest female voice.
- Comedy - An Opera that is not as serious as most. There is a comic twist.
- Libretto - The text of an opera; the words and story of the opera.
- Trio - Sung by three people. They don't always sing the same words.
- Aria - A song for a solo (one) voice. In most operas, each principal singer sings at least one aria.
- Composer - The creator of a musical work.
- Baritone - The middle male voice.
- Orchestra - Provides the musical background and themes for the singers.
- Synopsis - A summary of the opera.
- Recitative - When the singing has more of the rhythms of talking.
- Chorus - A group of people who perform together as characters on stage.
- Duet - Sung by two people. They don't always sing the same words.
- Tenor - The highest male voice.
- Bass - The lowest male voice.

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Directions:

Use your vocabulary list to complete the following sentences. Print clearly.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ wrote the music for the opera.
2. The librettist wrote the \_\_\_\_\_, the words for the opera.
3. There were three people singing at the same time. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ on stage.
4. A song sung by two people is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. We will read the \_\_\_\_\_ or summary of the opera.
6. When the vocalist sing but it follows the rhythm of talking rather than sounding lyrical, it is called \_\_\_\_\_.
7. A \_\_\_\_\_ is the highest male voice, a \_\_\_\_\_ is lower, and a \_\_\_\_\_ is the lowest male voice.
8. The soprano sang a beautiful, lyrical \_\_\_\_\_ that expressed her happiness.
9. You would be in the \_\_\_\_\_ if you sang with a big group of singers.
10. An \_\_\_\_\_ is just like a drama or a comedy that is staged with lights, costumes and sets, but the words are set to music.

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Directions:

Match the definition to the word by putting the letter on the line.

- a. A drama or comedy set to music and staged. The dialogue between the characters is sung, not spoken.
- b. A song for a solo (one) voice.
- c. When the singing has more of the rhythms of talking.
- d. An Opera that is not as serious as most.
- e. Provides the musical background and themes for the singers.
- f. Sung by two people. They don't always sing the same words.
- g. Sung by three people. They don't always sing the same words.
- h. The creator of a musical work.
- i. The text of the opera.
- j. A summary of the opera.
- k. A group of people who perform together as characters on stage.
- l. The highest female voice.
- m. The highest male voice.
- n. The middle male voice.
- o. The lowest male voice.

\_\_\_\_\_ Recitative  
\_\_\_\_\_ Aria  
\_\_\_\_\_ Chorus  
\_\_\_\_\_ Soprano  
\_\_\_\_\_ Synopsis

\_\_\_\_\_ Bass  
\_\_\_\_\_ Orchestra  
\_\_\_\_\_ Baritone  
\_\_\_\_\_ Opera  
\_\_\_\_\_ Comedy

\_\_\_\_\_ Composer  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tenor  
\_\_\_\_\_ Duet  
\_\_\_\_\_ Libretto  
\_\_\_\_\_ Trio