

Music Scavenger Hunt

Claude Debussy

Excerpts from *La mer*

Careful listening and watching can make any piece of music come to life. We have listed some clues below for musical moments to recognize as you listen to and watch our YouTube recording of this piece here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=j35ldY8cOPY. Put a checkmark next to each clue that you notice. If there is a blank in the clue, fill in the blank. You might need to listen to each recording a few times to catch everything.

- “La mer” is French for “the sea”. Listen to the first 30 seconds of the recording. Can you hear musical waves and splashes?
- Beginning at 3:11, the horn section plays a slow melody accompanied by the harp and which two percussion instruments? (Listen closely, they are not on camera)
- Listen for harp arpeggios at 6:20.
- At 6:59 listen for a short high melody from the 1st violins.
- At 8:42 listen for a haunting oboe solo. It is accompanied by high, sustained strings and a bubbling harp. What technique do the violins use to play the high notes? (Vibrato, Harmonics, Open String, etc.)
- There is a (long/short) _____ climax at 9:50 with almost all the instruments in unison and short staccato trumpets.
- How would you describe the last few seconds of the piece? Triumphant? Calm? Exciting? Boring? Quiet? Loud?

2. Timpant &
Suspended Cymbal
5. Harmonics
6. Short