Art and Music

1. Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)
   a. Born in France (Father: Swiss and Mother Basque)
   b. His own personal style
      i. One of the most precise and refined composer at that time
      ii. Profession in form and style
         1) Igor Stravinsky : [Ravel is ] the most perfect of Swiss watchmakers.
      iii. Delicate
   c. “Boléro” (1928)

2. Modest Mussorgsky
   a. A Russian Composer
   b. One of "The Russian Five":
      A group of five Russian composers to incorporate natural and folk music elements into classical music

3. “Pictures at an Exhibition”
   a. Modest Mussorgsky, “Pictures at an Exhibition”, original version for piano (1874).
   b. Viktor Hartmann
      i. A Russian artist of Jewish origin
         1) A painting exhibition
         2) Mussorgsky visited his exhibition
            a) To express it in music
            b) A piano soda at first
            c) 1874 “Pictures at an Exhibition”
   c. Almost half a century later
      i. 1922, Maurice Ravel orchestration of the "Pictures at an exhibition"
      ii. To orchestrate
         1) Each particular instrument has its own color and quality
            a) Own color and own tone
         2) The tune and melody: provided Mussorgsky
         3) Rave: provide an entirely different texture to the piece
         4) Play more often than original piano one
         5) Each sequence represent a painting
         6) Link by a short theme: promenade
            a) The visitor walking from one painting to another
         7) 10 in total
         8) Start with the promenade, the repeat to the 2nd, 3rd...
         9) Same melody with a little variation every time

4. Music Listen
   a. Promenade
   b. “Il vecchio castello”
   c. The Old Castle
      i. Use a saxophone : unconventional in classical music
      ii. Saxophone: invented by Adolphe Sax (1846)
      iii. A Belgium instrument maker
         1) Didn't know how to make money
         2) Many of his inventions were accepted by French Army beds
         3) Sued by other instrumentalist to remove patent
         4) Involved in lawsuit for 10 years
         5) Die in abject poverty
   d. Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks
      i. Little kids performing in children's ballet

5. Maurice Ravel, "Bolero" (1928)
   a. An exercise in orchestration
b. He composed by himself, trying different instruments
c. A piece that last 17 minutes
   i. A single melody, repeated over and over again
   ii. By different instruments or instrument sections
   iii. 17 minutes of orchestra without music
d. Only the percussionist: never stops

Popular Music
6. **Edith Piaf (born Edith Giovanna Gassion)**
   a. Born in Paris
   b. Father: street acrobat   Mother: street singer
   c. Abandoned by her mother, so go with her father
   d. No permit to perform on public space
      i. Avoid police --- struggle for living
   e. "The street was my music school"
   f. 19 years old, she was spotted by a night-club owner and give him her stage name
      i. La mome Piaf
         1) Mome = urchin, waif, kid
            Piaf = sparrow
      ii. First big formal show
         1) Black dress: Insisting on wearing black for luck from then on
      iii. Symbolized the poor, successful street kids
      iv. So conventional to shock the world music pools
   g. Greatest hit
      i. "La Vie en rose" (1946) [Life in Pink]
      ii. Associated with Paris, love, their attitude toward life
      iii. See the world from rose-color glasses
   h. Edith Piaf mentored
      i. Yves Montand
      ii. Charles Aznavour
      iii. Francis Lai
   i. Listen: theme of an American Movie in 1970s.
      i. Francis Lai, theme of "Love Story" (1970)

7. **Maurice Chevalier**
   a. Trademark
      i. French accent
      ii. Straw head
      iii. French gentleman
      iv. Play in many French and Hollywood movies
   b. Al Jolson: [Maurice Chevalier is] the greatest thing to come from France since Alfayette.
   c. "Love in the Afternoon" (1957)
   d. "Gigi" (1958)
   e. Title song "The Aristocrats" (1970)
      i. At the age of 82

8. **Charles Trenet**
   a. "La Mer" (1950)
   b. Innocent smile when singing
   c. Translated into many languages
   d. Also known for his sense of humor
      i. "Walking in my funeral march"
   e. 4000 different versions (musical or language)
   f. "BEYOND THE SEA"
      i. A movie on Bobby Darin

9. "French Kiss"
   a. La Vie En Rose