

LUDWIG VAN

BEETHOVEN

(1770 - 1827)

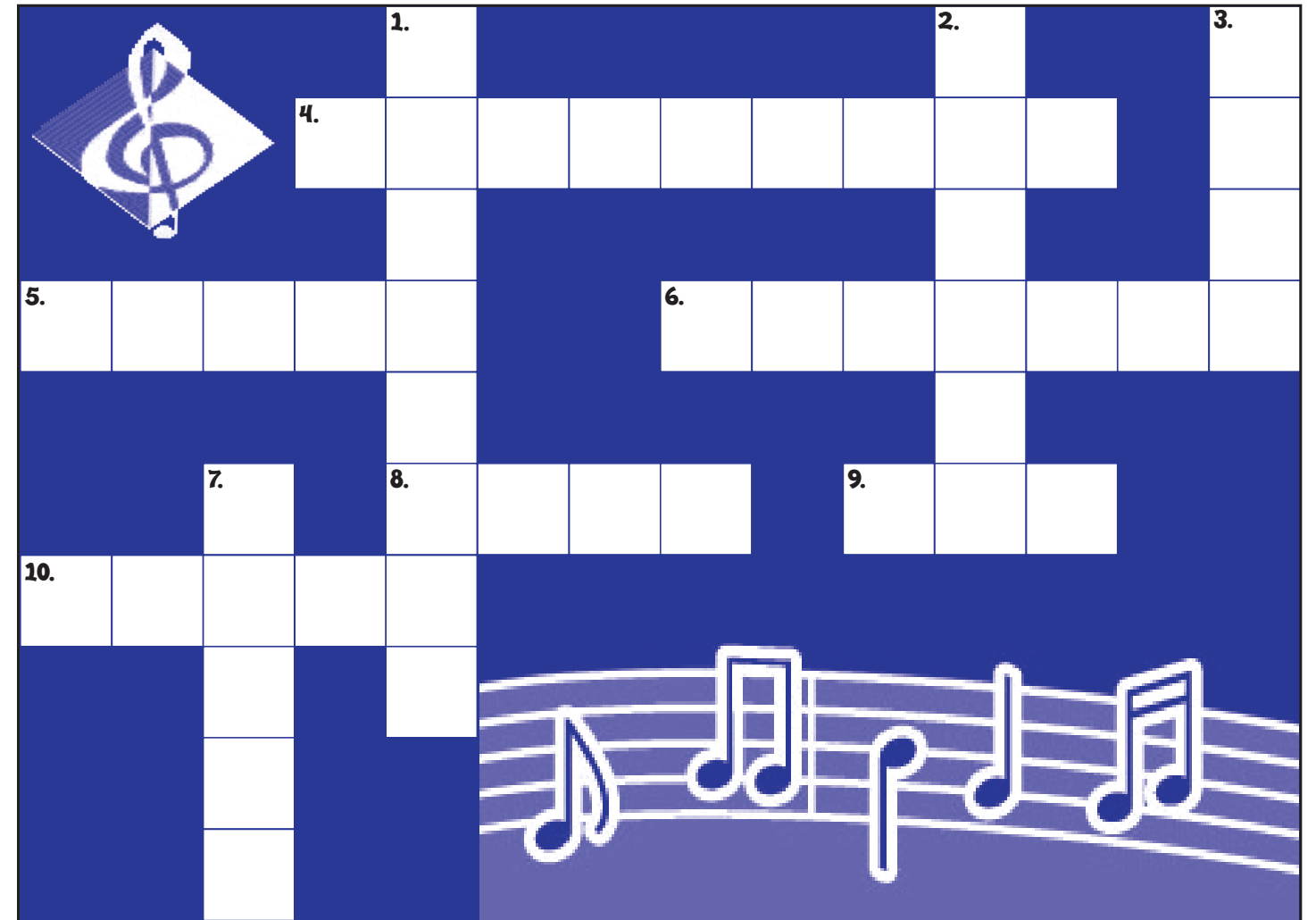


10 interesting facts about Beethoven

1. Ludwig Van Beethoven was born in 1770 in Bonn, Germany and died in 1827. He was a great composer.
2. Beethoven started piano lessons at the age of 4 and had to stand on the piano bench to reach the keys!
3. His family was very poor. Beethoven's father was a musician, although not a great one and he drank too much! He hoped that Beethoven would become good enough to earn money and help pay the bills – so he made him practise all day long!
4. Beethoven's father told everyone that he was 2 years younger, just to make him seem more talented!
5. Beethoven quit school at 11 years old!
6. At 16 years old, he got a job as an organist and started to compose.
7. He wrote nine symphonies, five piano concertos, 16 string quartets, 10 sonatas for violin and five for cello, 32 piano sonatas, two masses, one opera, four overtures and lots and lots of chamber music!
8. Beethoven never married but liked ladies. He did ask one to marry him – a singer in the Vienna Court Opera called Magdalene Willman. She refused him because, "he was so ugly and half-cracked!"
9. Beethoven had a bad temper. He once got so angry at a waiter that he dumped a plate of meat and gravy over the man's head!
10. The biggest tragedy of Beethoven's life was his deafness. He began to notice it when he was about 30 years old and was completely deaf at 50. He kept breaking strings on his piano by pounding the keys trying to hear the sounds.

**What else can you find out about Beethoven?
Try visiting your library or using the internet.**

A Musical Crossword



Clues Clues Clues Clues Clues Clues Clues Clues Clues Clues

Across:

4. A great composer
5. A musical instrument that has hammers and strings
6. These vibrate to make a piano sound
8. A piece of music that two people play together
9. This is what you need to make a flute and recorder sound
10. An instrument made from a tube of metal or wood

Down:

1. This instrument is a wooden or plastic tube with holes
2. The horoscope or astrological sign that stands for twins
3. You press these to change the pitches on a piano and some flutes
7. Organized sounds

For Teacher use only: Musical Crossword Answers, from Music Study Guide by Gemini

(Please cut along dotted line before photocopying top portion for students)

Across: 4: Beethoven 5: Piano 6: Strings 8: Duet 9: Air 10: Flute

Down: 1: Recorder 2: Gemini 3: Keys 7: Music

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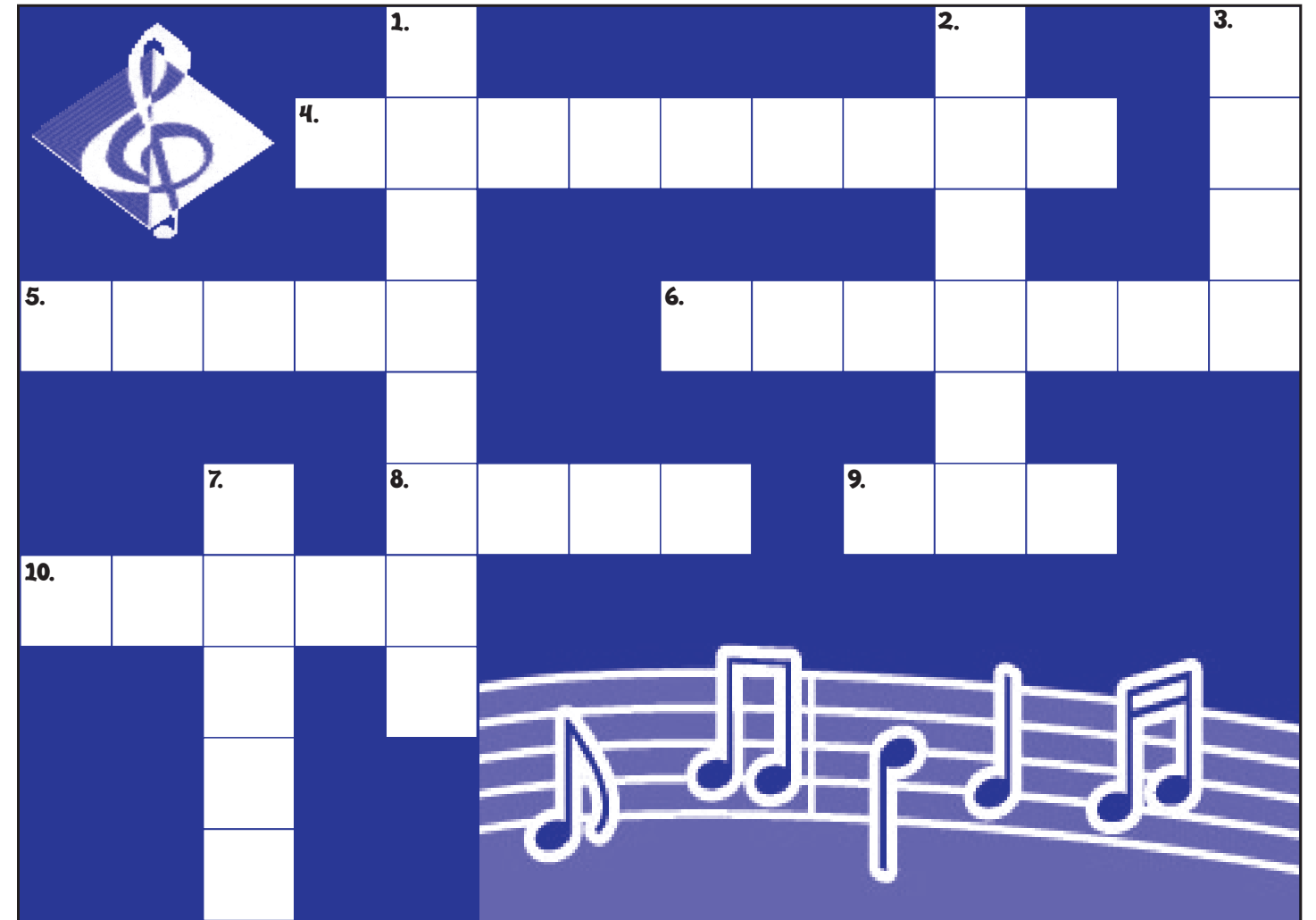


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