The development of the modern violin stems from __________________________ of instruments available in Europe during the middle Ages.

Some historians even suggest that the origins of stringed instruments can be traced back to ______________ many centuries before it appeared in __________________________.

In essence, the modern violin is one of the __________________________ stringed instruments.

Presumably, the word violin derives from the Latin word __________________________.

Other sources claim that the word violin means __________________________ viola.

Existing __________________________________ instruments hint the current look of the modern violin.

Today’s quality instruments still follow the same traditions that __________________________ or instrument makers followed in the old times.

The vielle and the __________________________ are two instruments were commonly used in Europe during the 11th century.

Throughout the __________________________, vielle makers continued changing the instrument appearance by cutting a shape similar to that of the violin.

The __________________________ was a stringed instrument used throughout the 14th century to accompany __________________________ and dancing.

The structure of the fiddle experienced changes that led to the conception of the __________________________ instrument family that include the ancestors of the violoncello and the double bass and the family of __________________________ that include the ancestors of the viola and violin instruments.
The violin is mostly made out of __________________________________.

The most commonly used woods for all the stringed instruments are: spruce, ________________, poplar, ebony and ________________.

Because of its _____________________________ character, the violin is considered to be the ______________________ voice of the string orchestra.

The violin is capable of playing more than one __________________________ at a time.

We call this technique double __________________________ technique.

A string player can produce double stops when two notes are played - __________________________________________.

The violin is able to play at a higher __________________________ than all the other instruments of the string family of the orchestra.

Major __________________________ have recognized the musical possibilities of the instrument.

Along with the piano and the voice, the violin is one of the instruments with the most extensive __________________________ repertoire.

The violin comes in different __________________________ for different __________________________ groups.

You can start training on the violin as early as ________________ years old.

Throughout all these years of teaching music, I have learned that reading music and playing a musical instrument stimulates certain areas of the __________________________ that are associated with the __________________________ and coordination of brain and muscle activities.
In classical music, the violin is used frequently as a member of the __________________________ orchestra, string quartets, opera orchestra, ballet orchestra and solo repertoire to play ____________________________.

Due to the large number of __________________________ in the orchestra, most composers divide the violins into two sections: the __________________________ violins and the __________________________ violins, thus creating more inner voices and harmonies.

The __________________________ violin part could also be compared to the __________________________ soprano part in the chorus.

The combination of first and second violins gives __________________________ more possibilities of __________________________ melodic creation and interaction.

The violin is capable of playing a __________________________ range of notes.

In general, three octaves or __________________________ notes is considered a plausible range.

In most symphony orchestras, there are about __________________________ violinists which represents about 3 times more than any of the other string __________________________ of the orchestra.

This number creates a solid sonority and an artistic __________________________ between sounds coming from the different
families of instruments within the _________________________________ orchestra.

The violin is mostly played using the ________________________.

Nonetheless, you should not be surprised if you see a violinist ______________________ the strings to produce sounds.

This plucking technique is called ______________________ and it is used by all members of the stringed family of instruments.

THE VIOLA

In the 16th and 17th Centuries the term viola had a more ______________________ meaning.

The term viola was used to describe a variety of __________________________ instruments.

Later, the term viola referred to specific instruments.

Originally, the instrument was known by the ________________________ name, "viola da braccio."

In English, braccio means "arm." In Germany, the viola is known as Bratsche, which refers to the word ________________________ and also to the instrument.

As a member of the viol instrument family, the ________________________ gets its name from the fact that it is an instrument played on the arm of the performer.

The Italian word violino means "small" ________________________.
Some scholars and performers believe that the viola may have appeared earlier than the _____________________________.

______________________________ are happy to believe that they might be the earliest link to the stringed instrument family.

String makers were building violas and liras do braccio, with ____________________________ strings since the 1500s.

Many of the ___________________________________ made to those instruments are still commonly used by modern luthiers.

These changes include: lateral pegs, F sound holes and violin ____________________________ instruments.

The tenor viol was difficult to ________________________________ because it was too large and hard to hold comfortably.

Performers and _____________________________ agreed to make changes to the tenor viol to make it __________________ to play.

As a result, some of these changes influenced the design of the modern ____________________________ and the modern viola.

Similar to the violin, the ____________________________ is mostly made out of ____________________________.

The most commonly used woods for all the stringed instruments are: _________________, maple, poplar, _________________ and rosewood.

The viola is considered to be the ____________________________ voice of the string ________________________.
The most commonly used __________________________ ranges are: Soprano (highest), Alto (high), Tenor (low), and Bass (lowest).

The viola is exactly the same shape as the ____________________________________.

It is, however, a ____________________________ of inches longer and a bit ____________________________.

The viola comes in several ____________________________ sizes.

The smallest viola measures ____________________________ inches.

The largest is 16 ½ inches, and is used by ____________________________ players.

Professional players prefer a bigger viola for ____________________________ sound.

The viola bow is slightly ____________________________ and ____________________________ than the violin bow.

Remember that the viola is larger, so its strings are ____________________________.

Because of this, the player needs a ____________________________ and thicker bow.

The thicker bow allows the viola to project the full spectrum of the viola ____________________________.

In the string orchestra, the ____________________________ of the viola is to provide ____________________________ precision to the string family.

The viola’s harmonic and rhythmical role provide musical ____________________________ for the violins’ melodic lines.
Generally, composers will use the violins to play the melodies, while the violas, violoncellos and double basses provide the ______________________ and ______________________ support.

At the turn of the ______________________ century, the viola received a more prominent role from _____________________ who were looking for new sonorities.

The modern viola is a _____________________ instrument capable of playing everything than ______________________ write for it.

Today, viola ______________________________ are commonly heard.

A viola concerto is a composition that features the viola as a ______________________ instrument with orchestral ______________________.

Throughout the _____________________________ and _______________________ periods, composers felt uneasy when writing for the viola because performers were not able to correctly play the music that was written for the viola.

The instrument playing technique was not well developed because of the ______________ of the instrument and the way it was ________________.

The viola experienced an __________________________ in its playing ________________ during the later part of the Classical and the beginning of the Romantic periods of music.

Performers became more ______________________ at the difficult requirements of the music written by composers such as Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven.
In the popular music world, the ________________________ has enjoyed some ________________________.

Country music artists Charlie Daniels and Alison Krauss have used the viola in their _____________________________.

The melody of the popular tune *Dust in the Wind* is played on the ____________________________.

Today, the viola is mostly played with the use of a _____________________________.

However, you should not be surprised if you see a violist ____________________________ the strings to play the viola.

This technique is called _____________________________ and can be used with all members of the ________________ instrument family.

**THE VIOLONCELLO**

Early references to the violoncello go as far back as the 17th century. Before using the term violoncello, composers referred to this instrument as the bas de ___________________, basso di viola da ____________________, viola da gamba, or ______________________.

The early violoncello was member of the ____________________________ instrument family, which included different sized instruments. The tenor viol and the viol da gamba are two instruments that aided in the development of the instrument that we today refer to as the ________________________________.

The term violoncello is of Italian origin meaning _____________________________. Instead of using its full name, the
violoncello is commonly just referred to as ________________________________.

Two close relatives of the modern day cello, were the *Viola de ___________________* and the *Basso di Viola*, both used during the 16th century.

Other instruments which may have played a part in the development of the cello are the ________________________________ di Viola, the *Discant-Viola (Violetta)*, the *Viola d’Alta* and the *Viola di _____________________.

The *Basso di Viola* was a part of the string quartets of the 16th century in ____________________________.

The cello is mostly made out of wood.

The most commonly used woods for all the stringed instruments are: *spruce*, *maple*, ____________________, *ebony* and *rosewood*.

The cello is tuned an _________________________ lower than a viola. Cellos have a very mellow sound which contributes to the orchestra's bass line.

A player can change the pitch of the cello in ________________ ways: by __________________________ the bow across different strings, and also by __________________________ on the strings with the fingers of the left hand. This is true for all members of the string family.

Composers occasionally use the cello to play the melody in a ________________________________ orchestra.
More commonly, composers prefer to use the first
__________________________ are the most preferred stringed instrument to play melodies within the symphony orchestra.

The cello endpin comes out of the ___________ of the instrument.

Afterwards, the player sticks it into the __________________ in order to balance the instrument.

Within the symphony orchestra, the cello makes a _______________, warm sound.

The instrument is part of the ___________________ section of the strings.

Generally, it provides rhythmic and harmonic support to the melodies of the orchestra.

The cello section and double bass section combined, are referred as the ___________________ section of the symphony orchestra.

The cello can also be a part of a string quartet. A string quartet is formed by 2 violins, 1 viola and ____________ cello.

Notice that the string quartet does not include the _____________________.

However, a string __________________________ can also include the double bass as an additional member.

The cello __________________________ within the symphony orchestra is a very important component of the string section.
The cello is highly regarded as a valued member of the string quartet and a very important member of the string family used for _________________ of all kinds.

As a solo instrument, the cello enjoys a _________________ position in the musical scene.

It is common to hear a cello solo, and these solos are usually played by the _________________ cellist.

The principal cellist is also responsible for marking all the conductor’s musical _________________ for the rest of the cello section.

The cello has a different sound partly due to its size and the special _________________ it is played.

The cello is considered to be the _________________ voice of the string orchestra because of its majestic and _________________ sound.

The sound of the cello is very rich and _________________. This is due to its larger body as compare to the smaller strings such as the violin and the viola.

Many composers have written solos and other _________________ of music for the cello.

**THE DOUBLE BASS**

According to double bass artist Lawrence Hurst, the original intent of the early double bass makers was to build an instrument similar to the _________________, which was considered the _________________ member of the viol family.
Michael Praetorius, a 17th century composer, drew sketches of a rather large instrument, about ______________ feet tall, known as ______________ da gamba.

This instrument had ______________ strings and played notes an ______________ lower than written.

The instrument also had __________________________ along the fingerboard and used a bow.

Eventually, as the performers felt more ______________ with the instrument, the frets were removed from the fingerboard.

Originally, the violoncello was the ______________ of the strings.

The violone and the violon da ________________ were introduced to the musical scene, and the sounds they produced were one octave lower than the written notes.

Therefore, the prefix ________________ means that the instrument sounds an octave ________________ than it is written.

Both the viola da gamba and the violone are the ________________ of the double bass.

It is generally believed that the double bass is an instrument with roots in the gamba and viol families.

Today, you find a variety of double bass ________________ that are descendants of these two significant ancestries.

The double bass is mostly made out of _________________________. 
The most commonly used woods for all the stringed instruments are: spruce, maple, poplar, ebony and ________________.

The double bass is also known as the contrabass, the string bass, the ________________ bass and the bass.

A person who plays the double bass is called a ________________, a double bass player or a bass player.

The double bass provides harmonic and ________________ support to the string orchestra.

It is, unquestionably, the ________________ sounding instrument of the string family.

The double bass is the only member of the string family that is tuned in ________________.

All other ones are tuned in ________________.

The double bass provides the ________________ for the string family.

In general, the music played by this section moves at a ________________ pace that the music played by most other instruments.

The ________________ double bass player is able to play ________________.

The technique for playing the bass has evolved greatly since the early part of the ________________ century.

The orchestral playing range is about two ________________ and ________________ half.
Generally, composers use the bass because of its typical ____________ and _______________ sound.

The characteristic bass sound provides a solid _______________, _______________ for melodic instruments.

__________ music and ____________ playing add new sonorities to the musical palette of the double bass.

Depending on the performer's skill, one can play the double bass up to the violin register by the use of a special technique called _______________ harmonics.

Basically, the performer presses the _______________ on the fingerboard and then taps the same string with another finger to create a note that will sound two _______________ above its thumb position.

__________________, artificial harmonics is a ____________________ technique for the performer.

Once played, it is very ____________________ for the musician.

A bassist may feel as though they have achieved a great _______________.

The double bass is the _______________ member of the stringed instruments.

It is the foundation for the rest of the _______________ family.

It is also the _______________ sounding instrument in the strings of the orchestra.
The double bass can be played up, which is different from other stringed instruments.
The double bass uses a to produce sound.
There are two different of bow styles.
The style bow requires the musician to hold the bow with the palm of the hand over the wooden stick.
The style bow requires the player to hold the bow over the palm of the hand.
Each one of these techniques is equally .
Nonetheless, it seems that more players around the world use the style of playing over the German style of bow playing.
The bass is an instrument for all kinds of music.
When it is used in music, the player produces sounds by the strings.
Plucking the is a special playing known as pizzicato.
This is used frequently in playing.
You are probably most familiar with the bass guitar.
This instrument uses an to increase its sound volume.