

NUTCRACKER – FOUR DANCES

Have students listen to each of these four dances several times. As students listen, have them do different activities to help them learn them.

- Have students list what they hear: tempo, meter, timbre, form
 - Add motions / dance movements.
 - Follow the Listening Maps (2 versions for Spanish & Arabian Dances).
 - Pass out the Four Dances handout. Have students point to (or color) which one they hear.
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- **Spanish Dance (Chocolate)** - Two Listening Maps, one simpler than the other.
 - The Spanish Dance represents chocolate since Spain was the first European country to be introduced to chocolate from Central and South America.
 - **Form - AABB**
 - **Meter - 3/4**
 - **Tempo - *Allegro brillante***
 - **Timbre** - Melody in A starts with trumpet, then flute. In B, strings, castanet (only time that the castanet is played in the whole ballet).
- **Arabian Dance (Coffee)** - Two Listening Maps, one simpler than the other.
 - **Form - ABA**
 - **Meter - 3/8**
 - **Tempo - *Commodo***
 - **Timbre** - Cello & Bass play ostinato throughout. Strings play the harmony, Woodwinds (& Strings) play the melody. Solos played by oboe, English horn, clarinet. Tambourine also present.
- **Chinese Dance (Tea)**
 - Check out yellowface.org, an organization attempting to remove racist caricatures from Nutcracker presentations and replace them with costumes and dances that reflect genuine Chinese culture.
 - **Form - ABA**
 - **Meter - 2/4**
 - **Tempo - *Allegro giusto***
 - **Timbre** - Bassoon plays ostinato. Flute and plucked strings go back and forth. Glockenspiel comes in near the end.
- **Russian Dance (Trepak)**
 - Based on the Russian/Ukrainian folk dance called the trepak (or tropak).
 - **Form - AABA**
 - **Meter - 2/4**
 - **Tempo - *Molto vivace - prestissimo***
 - **Timbre** - whole orchestra

The Nutcracker - Listening to Four Dances

Name _____ Class _____

Circle which composer wrote the Nutcracker Ballet.

a. Beethoven

b. Tchaikovsky

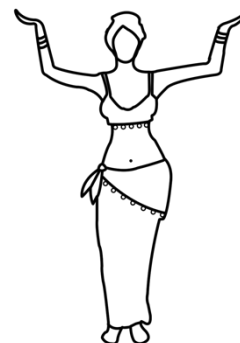
c. Bach

Put a number in the box next to which one you hear in the order you hear it (1, 2, 3, 4).

Spanish



Arabian

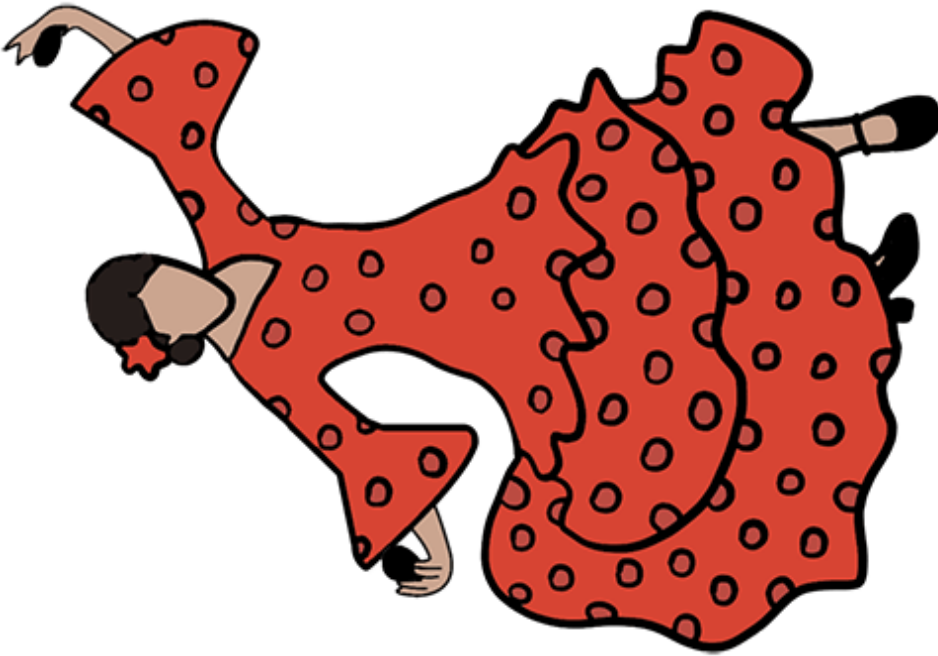


Chinese

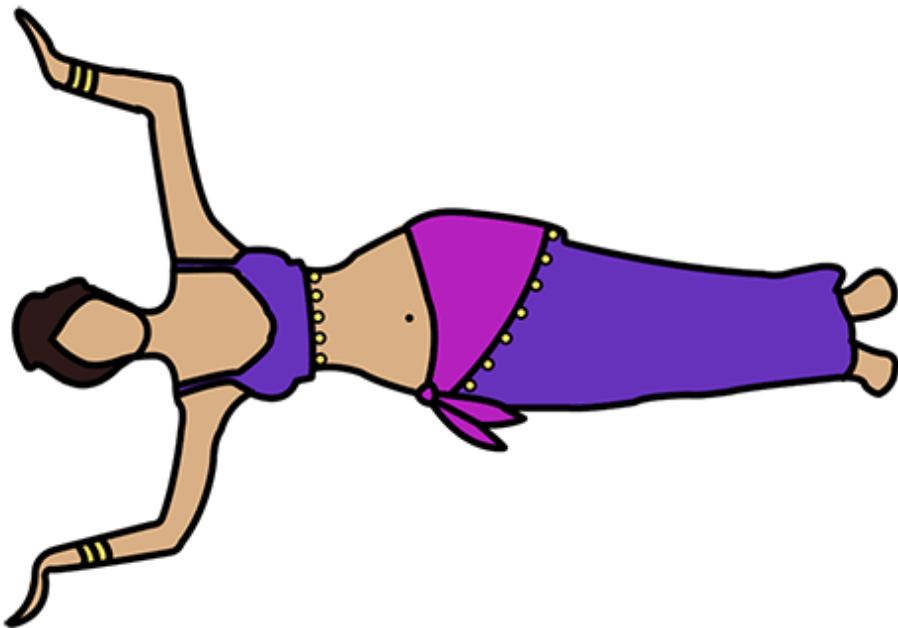


Russian

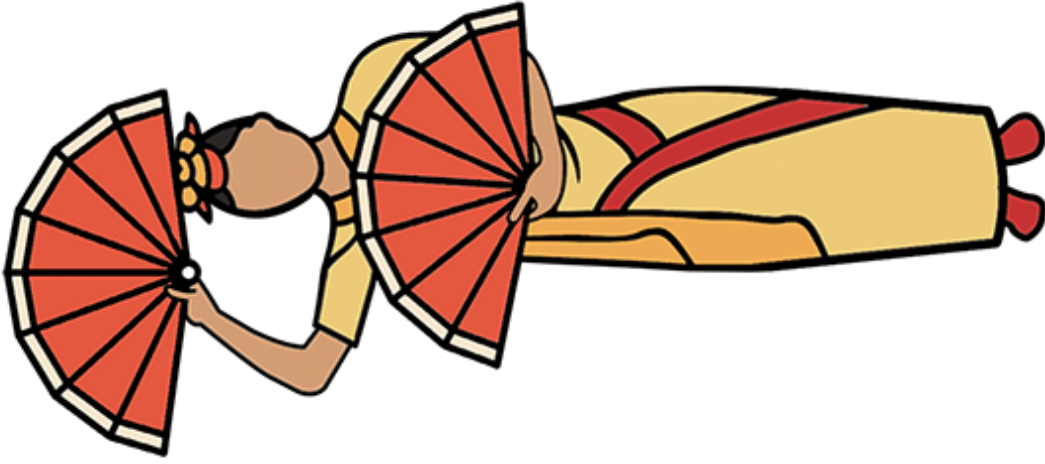




Spanish
dance



Arabian
dance



Chinese
dance

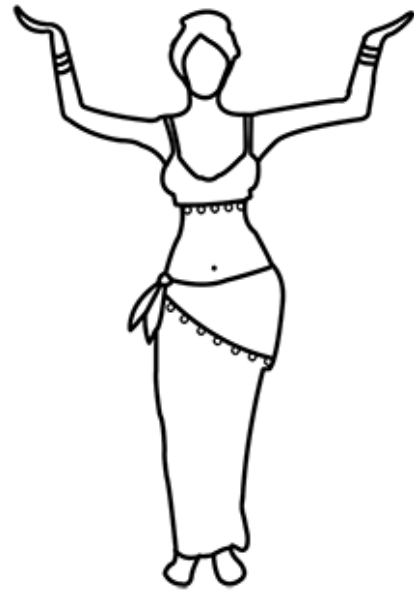


Russian
dance

The Nutcracker (Tchaikovsky) – Four Dances



Spanish dance



Arabian dance




Chinese dance




Russian dance

The Nutcracker, "Spanish Dance" 1 (Tchaikovsky)


A




A




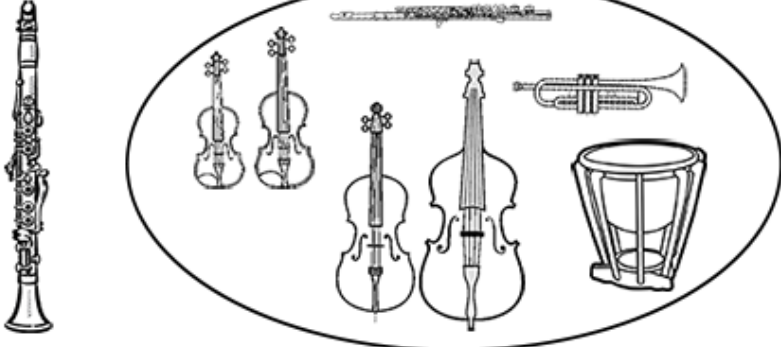
B



B

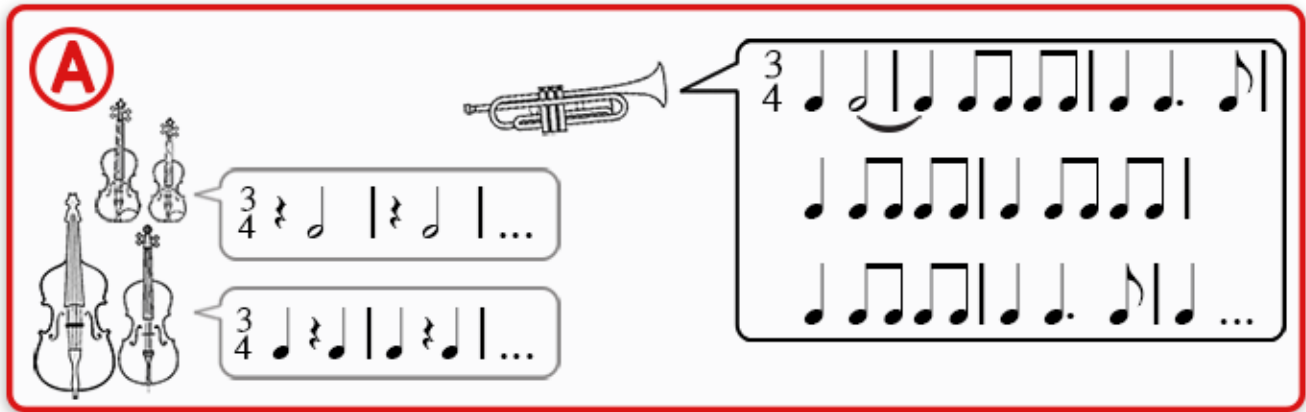


Coda



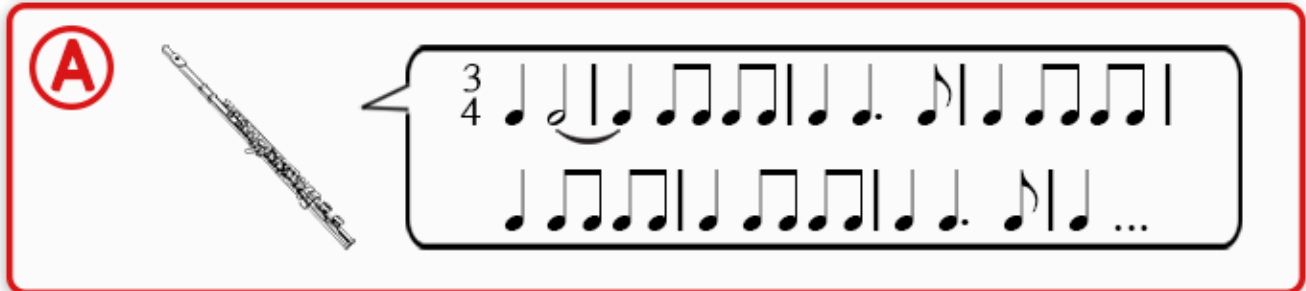
The Nutcracker, "Spanish Dance" 2 (Tchaikovsky)

A



Musical notation for the first section, featuring a trumpet and two violins. The notation is in 3/4 time. The trumpet part is in a single staff with a treble clef, showing a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes. The violin parts are in two staves with treble clefs, showing a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

A



Musical notation for the second section, featuring a flute. The notation is in 3/4 time. The flute part is in a single staff with a treble clef, showing a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes.

B



Musical notation for the third section, featuring four violins and a tambourine. The notation is in 3/4 time. The violin parts are in four staves with treble clefs, showing a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes. The tambourine part is in a single staff with a treble clef, showing a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with a 3/4 time signature.

B



Musical notation for the fourth section, featuring four violins and a tambourine. The notation is in 3/4 time. The violin parts are in four staves with treble clefs, showing a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes. The tambourine part is in a single staff with a treble clef, showing a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with a 3/4 time signature.


Coda



Musical notation for the Coda section, featuring an oboe and a group of instruments. The notation is in 3/4 time. The oboe part is in a single staff with a treble clef, showing a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes. The group of instruments (violin, viola, cello, double bass, trumpet, and drum) is shown in a single staff with a treble clef, showing a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

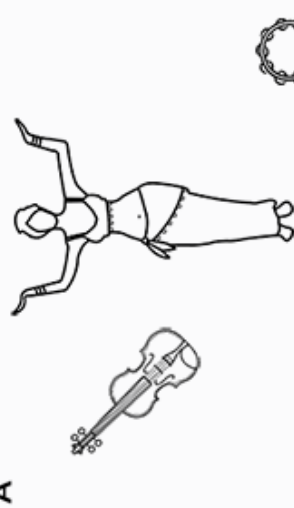
The Nutcracker, "Arabian Dance" 1 (Tchaikovsky)

Introduction



This card features a violin, a viola, and a flute. Below the instruments is a wavy line with a hatched top edge, and a small circular floral ornament in the bottom right corner.

A



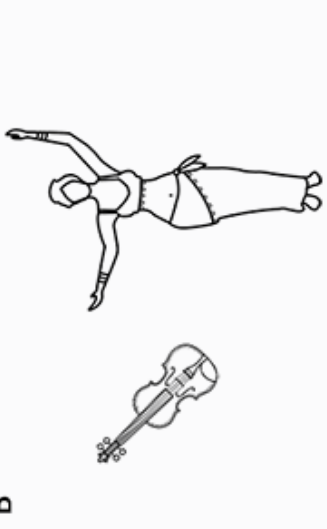
This card shows a violin and a ballerina in an arabesque pose. A small circular floral ornament is in the bottom right corner.

Interlude



This card features a flute, a wavy line with a hatched top edge, and a circular floral ornament in the bottom right corner.

B



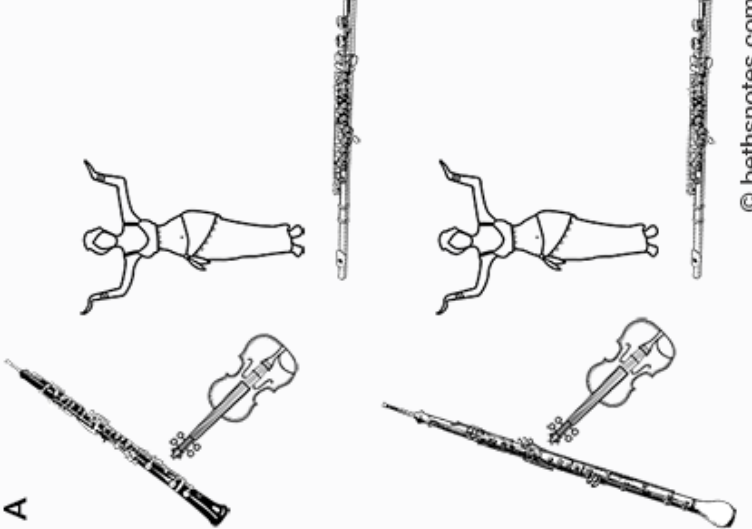
This card shows a violin and a ballerina in an arabesque pose.

Interlude



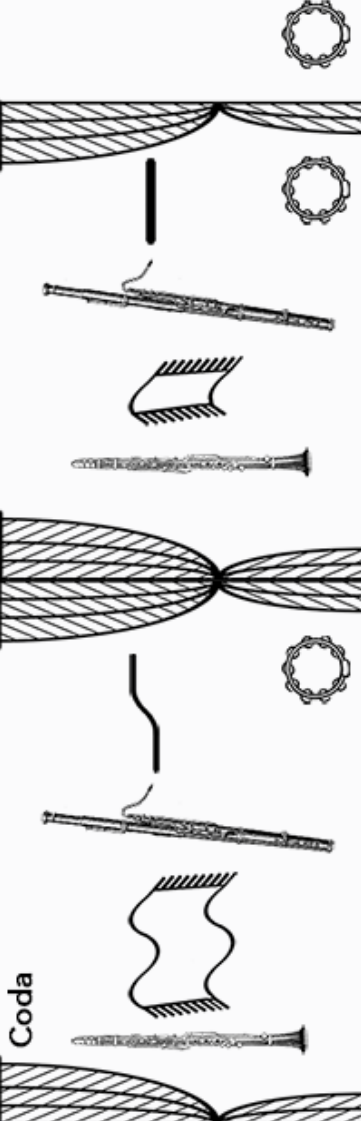
This card features a flute, a wavy line with a hatched top edge, and a circular floral ornament in the bottom right corner.

A



This card features a flute, a violin, a ballerina, and another flute.

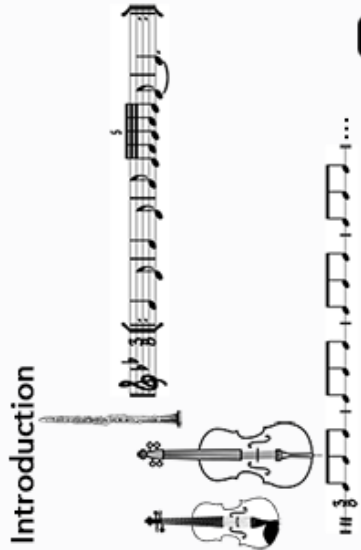
Coda



This card features a violin, a flute, a wavy line with a hatched top edge, and a circular floral ornament in the bottom right corner.

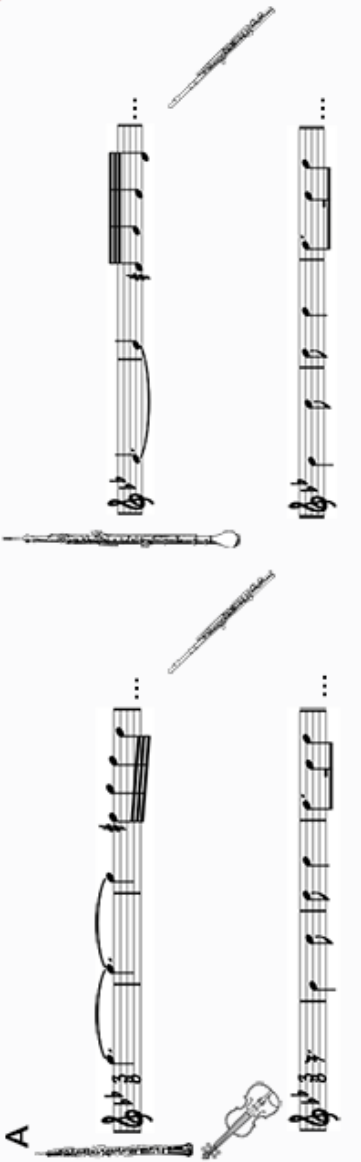
The Nutcracker, "Arabian Dance" 2 (Tchaikovsky)

Introduction



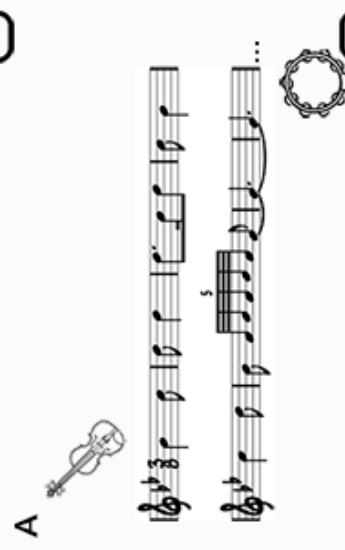
Violin and Cello parts for the Introduction section. The music is in 3/8 time and features a melodic line in the violin and a rhythmic accompaniment in the cello.

A



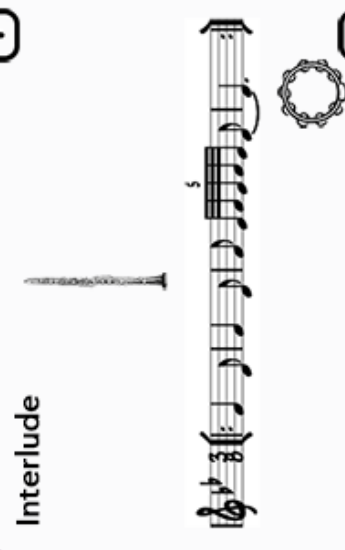
Flute and Violin parts for section A. The music is in 3/8 time and features a melodic line in the violin and a rhythmic accompaniment in the flute.

A



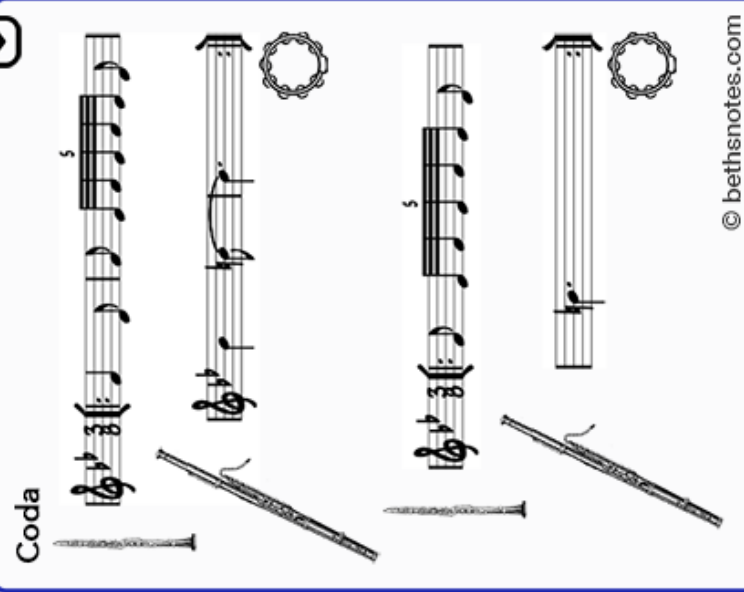
Violin and Cello parts for section A. The music is in 3/8 time and features a melodic line in the violin and a rhythmic accompaniment in the cello.

Interlude



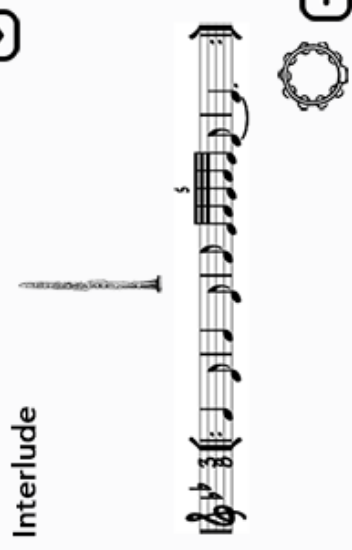
A single note in the Interlude section, marked with a vertical bar line.

Coda




Flute and Violin parts for the Coda section. The music is in 3/8 time and features a melodic line in the violin and a rhythmic accompaniment in the flute.

Interlude



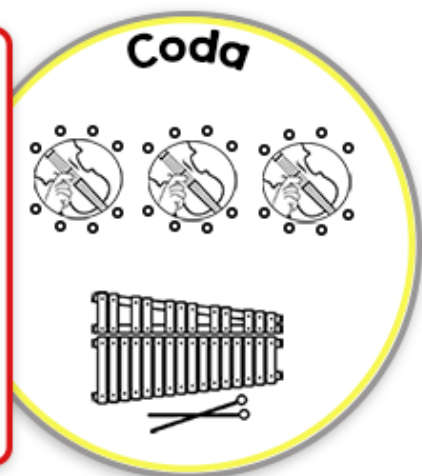
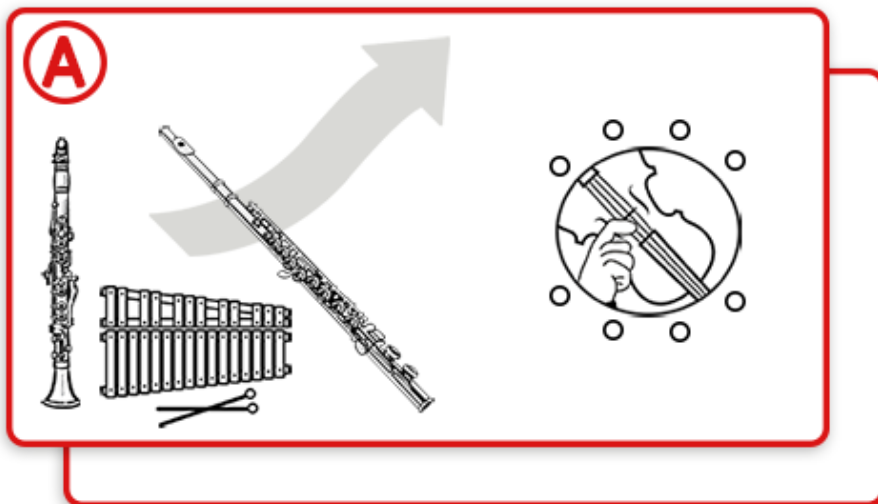
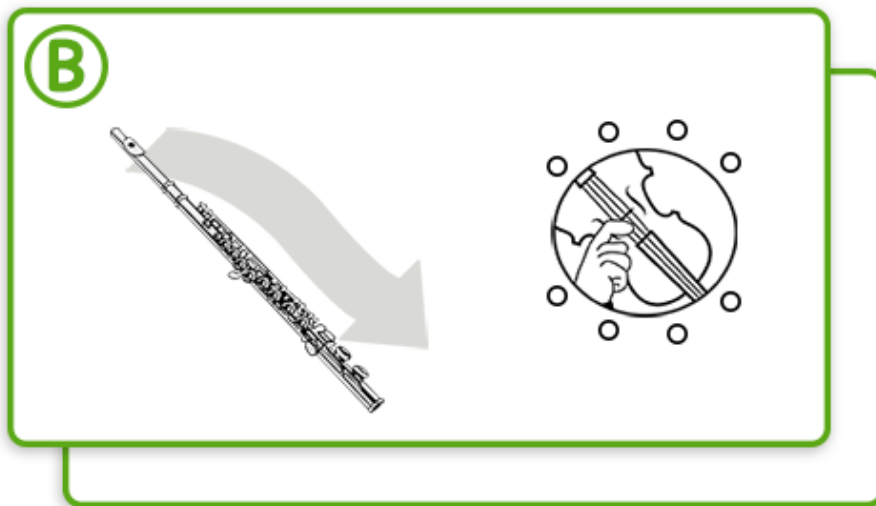
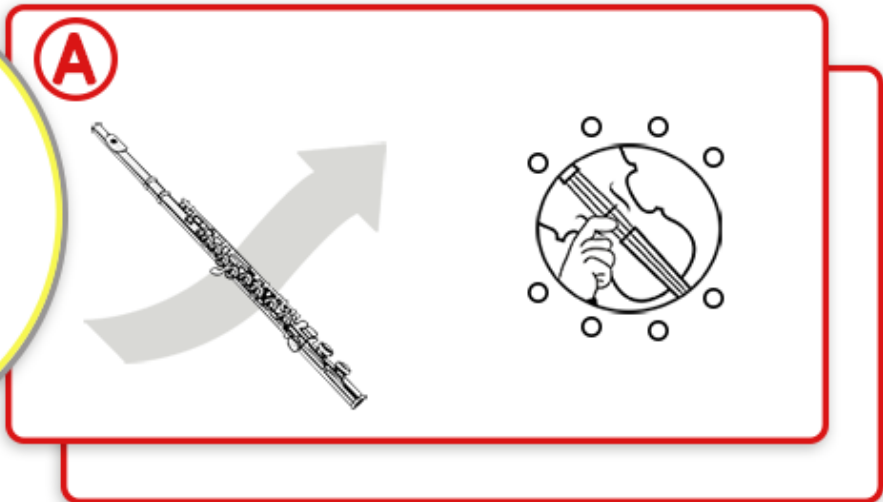
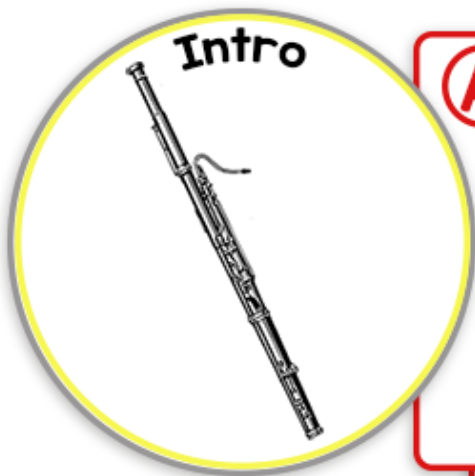
A single note in the Interlude section, marked with a vertical bar line.

B




Violin and Cello parts for section B. The music is in 3/8 time and features a melodic line in the violin and a rhythmic accompaniment in the cello.

The Nutcracker, "Chinese Dance" (Tchaikovsky)




The Nutcracker, "Russian Dance (Trepak)" (Tchaikovsky)

A



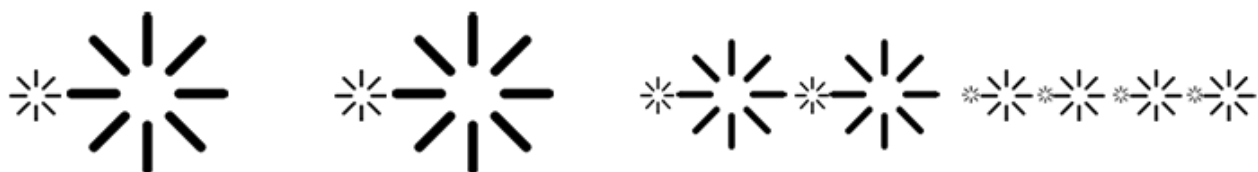
4x

B

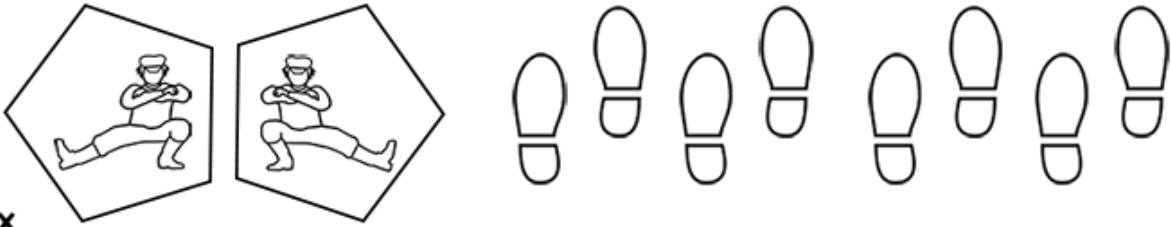


2x

Bridge



A



2x

Coda

