An illustration on an orange background featuring a saxophone on the right and a drum on the left. The saxophone is yellow and black, and the drum is red and white with a wooden top. The text 'The History of Music' is written in a stylized, bold font. The word 'The' is in a smaller font above 'History'. 'History' is in white with an orange outline. 'of' is in a smaller font between 'History' and 'Music'. 'Music' is in white with an orange outline. The background has faint, repeating outlines of musical instruments.

The History of Music

twinkl

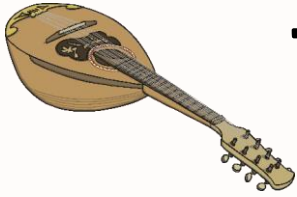
Learning Objectives

- To learn about the Modern period of music.
- To learn about famous composers from this era.

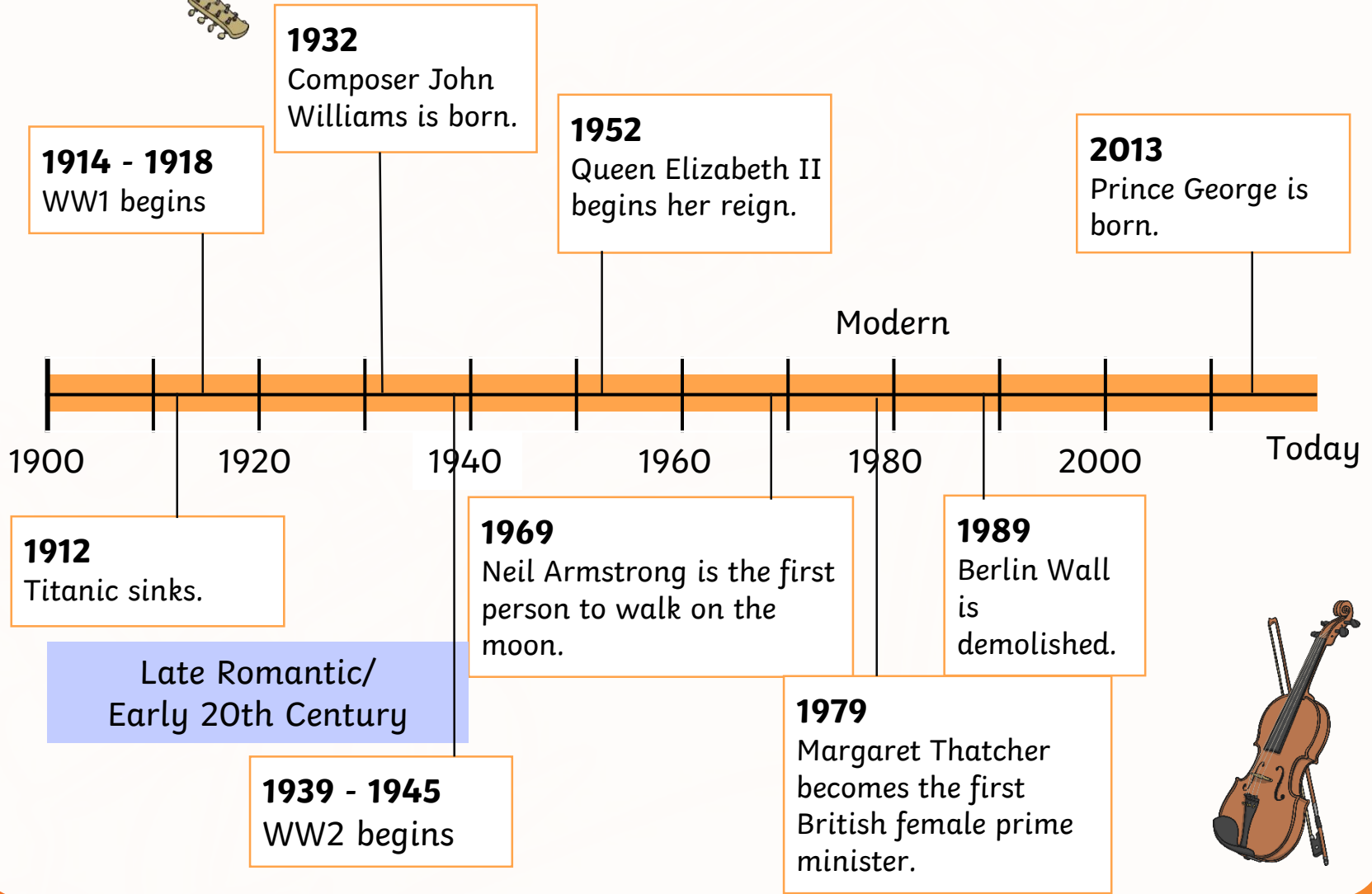
Success Criteria

- To identify where this period fits within musical history.
- To be able to name composers from this period.





The Modern Musical Period



Modern Composers

Famous composers from this period include:

Leonard Bernstein

John Williams



Leonard Bernstein

Born: August 25th 1918
Died: October 14th 1990



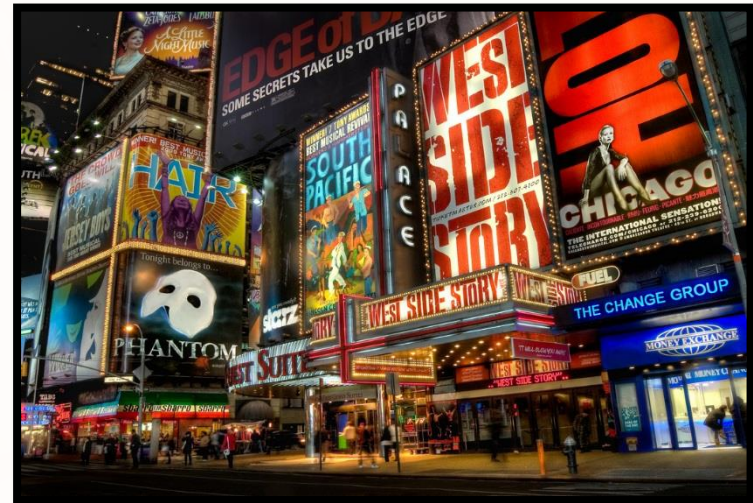
Leonard Bernstein

Leonard Bernstein grew up in Boston, USA. His father wanted Leonard to continue the family beauty business, but as this wasn't Bernstein's dream, he went on to study music at Harvard.

Leonard had a few big breaks. Firstly, he was given the role of assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and he also stepped in at the last moment to conduct a concert in Carnegie Hall. This concert was broadcast over the radio, throughout America, and was the start of his popularity. He later became music director of the New York Philharmonic – a very prestigious role.

Bernstein was the first to use television to bring classical music to a huge audience through televised concerts.

Leonard also loved musical theatre and composed some very successful shows including 'West Side Story'.



John Williams

Born: 8 February 1932

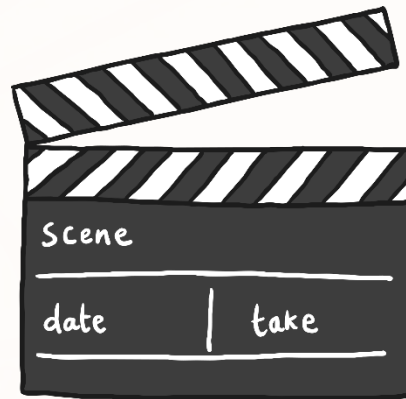


John Williams

John Williams is a famous American composer. He is best known for composing musical 'scores' or sound tracks to films.

He famously composed music for the original Superman movie, Jurassic Park, E.T., and the Indiana Jones films.

John grew up in a musical family. In 1974, a new director called Steven Spielberg asked Williams to compose music for his film. They teamed up again the following year for Jaws and have since worked on more than 20 films together, most recently including War Horse and The Adventures of Tintin.



More Pieces Composed By John Williams

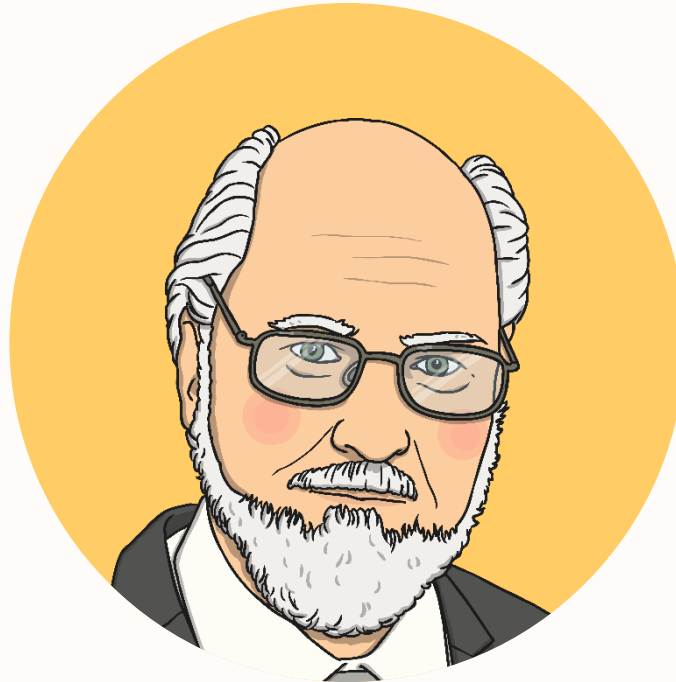
Click the headphones to listen to one of William's most famous compositions, 'Hedwig's Theme' from Harry Potter. Which instruments are being played?



Click the headphones to listen to a clip of the theme from Star Wars here:



John Williams



President Barack Obama presented Williams with the National Medal of Arts in 2010. This medal is the highest honour for achievement in the arts.

What Have You Learned?

Write down 2 facts about each of the composers from this era:

Leonard Bernstein

John Williams

Be ready to share your knowledge with the class.

