

Unit 1



Music: A Universal Language

Introduction

In this unit, you will:

- Learn how to talk about likes and dislikes.
- Get to know some famous musical works.
- Improve your listening, reading and writing abilities.
- Enhance your cultural awareness: Concert etiquette.

Lead-in

- 1 Here is the sheet music of the famous song *Silent Night*. Can you sing it out? Listen to the recording of the song and sing along.



Silent Night

words by Joseph Mohr
trans. John F. Young

tune by Franz Gruber, alt.
harm. by Carl H. Reinecke

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight,
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

round you vir - gin moth - er and child, Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild,
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia,
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace,
 Christ the Sav - iour is born, Christ the Sav - iour is born,
 Je - sus, Lord at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord at thy birth.

- 2 Tell your partner how the song makes you feel, and then discuss together what you know about the history of the song. You can refer to the information below to help you.

Silent Night is a popular Christmas carol(圣诞颂歌). The original lyrics of the song were written in German by the Austrian priest Father Joseph Mohr and the melody was composed by the Austrian headmaster Franz Xaver Gruber. In 1819, John Freeman Young, second Bishop(主教) of Florida, published the English translation that is most frequently sung today. The version of the melody that is generally sung today differs slightly (particularly in the final strain) from Gruber's original, which was a sprightly(充满活力的), dance-like tune in 6/8, as opposed to the slow, meditative(沉思的) lullaby(摇篮曲) version generally sung today. Today, the lyrics and melody are in the public domain.

Module 1 Learn to Talk

In this part, first you are going to learn how to ask and respond to questions concerning likes and dislikes. Then you are going to listen to a passage about a famous musical film.

Do You Like Classical Music?

- 1 Joe and Bob are roommates. They are talking while listening to classical music. Listen to the model dialogue and underline the expressions of likes and dislikes.

Joe: Do you like classical music, Bob?

Bob: No, not much. Do you like it?

Joe: Well, yes, I do.

Bob: Which melodies do you like best?

Joe: Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* and Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 24 in C Minor* are just fascinating.

Bob: Really? But to me, classical music is hard to understand.

Joe: Yes, it takes special knowledge and close attention to appreciate classical music. So, what kind of music appeals to you?

Bob: Pop music, of course. It's easy and often has a simple and clear rhythm. I'm crazy about Jay Chou. What about you? Don't you like him?

Joe: Ugh! His songs make my stomach turn!