

Franz Joseph Haydn
Classical Period
1736-1809



Franz Joseph Haydn was the second of twelve children. His family lived a very poor life, so they sent Haydn away to a family relative, Johann Frankh, when he was six. Frankh taught Haydn harpsichord, violin, and music theory and harmony.

When Haydn turned seventeen, he made a living by playing the harpsichord and the violin. At this age, he also began composing. He married Anna, his wife, in 1760. They separated a few years later, but Haydn supported her for the rest of her life.

In 1761, Haydn became the assistant choirmaster of Prince Paul Esterhazy. He then became the full-time court musician for the prince. He continued the job until the prince died in 1790. In 1791, Haydn heard the music of George Frederic Handel, and that inspired Haydn to write the song "Emperor's Hymn." For the last ten years of his life, Haydn's health was bad, so all he did was compose his last few songs that are now famous world wide.

1. *How many siblings did Haydn have?* _____
2. *What two instruments did Frankh teach Haydn?* _____ *and* _____
3. *In what year did Haydn marry?* _____
4. *Who inspired Haydn to write "Emperor's Hymn?"* _____