

MUSIC THEN AND NOW 4

Compare, Play, Improve!

Analyze the rhythm and melodic contour of the chorale "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme." Bach used this melody in his compositions.

1. Draw the four different kinds of notes used in the melody. _____
2. In which measures does the melody move by step? _____
 _____ by skip? _____
3. In which measures is the melody the same or similar? _____

Now, play the chorale melody on an instrument of your choice. In Bach's day, musicians improvised ornaments as they played. Improvise some of your own ornaments. To make a record of the improvisations you like the most, record your performance or write them into the music.





MUSIC THEN AND NOW 4 (CONTINUED)

When Bach used a chorale in one of his compositions, he often changed it. Compare the music below to the chorale melody on page C-5. Follow the music below as you listen to the recordings in this lesson.

4. What changes do you notice? _____
5. Does the chorale melody seem faster or slower than other parts of the composition? _____
6. Why? _____

