



In Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, brass instruments (trumpets, French horns, trombones and tubas) play the theme, alternating with timpani and cymbals. See if you can hear when all of these different instruments come in. Does the rhythm of the main theme change towards the end?

## Fanfare for the Common Man

**Aaron Copland**  
**Born: November 14, 1900**  
**Died: December 2, 1990**

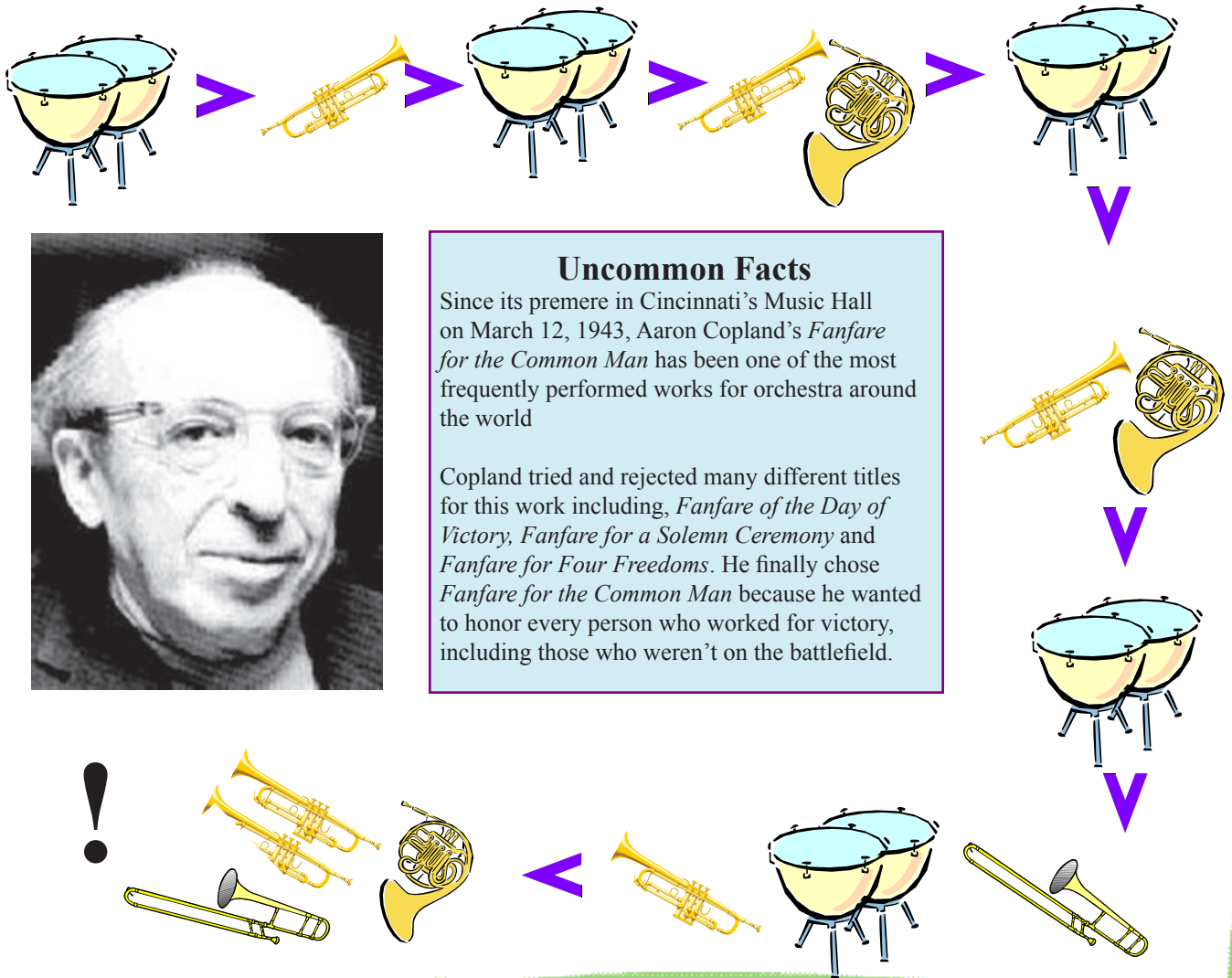
Aaron Copland is one of the most famous American composers of all time. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, and went to France as a teenager to study music with Nadia Boulanger, who helped Copland create his own style.

Copland wrote music with a very "American" sound. Some of his most famous pieces are his ballets — *Billy the Kid*, *Rodeo*, and

*Appalachian Spring*. *Billy the Kid* and *Rodeo* are about the Wild West.

Copland also wrote music for movies — *Of Mice and Men* and *Our Town*, among others.

One of Copland's best known compositions is *Fanfare for the Common Man*. Copland wrote it after the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra asked several composers to write fanfares during World War II. Copland's music has become a great part of American history.



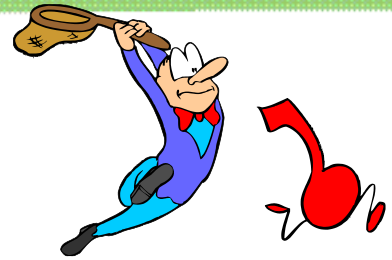
### Uncommon Facts

Since its premiere in Cincinnati's Music Hall on March 12, 1943, Aaron Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man* has been one of the most frequently performed works for orchestra around the world.

Copland tried and rejected many different titles for this work including, *Fanfare of the Day of Victory*, *Fanfare for a Solemn Ceremony* and *Fanfare for Four Freedoms*. He finally chose *Fanfare for the Common Man* because he wanted to honor every person who worked for victory, including those who weren't on the battlefield.

# Fanfare

A FANFARE is music played by a group of brass instruments, especially trumpets, and sometimes also by percussion. It is used to make an announcement, such as the arrival of an important person.



Here are some websites that include some great kid-friendly classical music and musical games!

### Classics for Kids

[www.classicsforkids.com](http://www.classicsforkids.com)

You can always find great games, an interactive music dictionary, composer facts, and music history information right here at WGUC's own Classics for Kids website!

### Dallas Symphony Orchestra Kids

[dsokids.com](http://dsokids.com)

Interactive games plus information on instruments, composers and classical music in general.

### New York Philharmonic

[www.nyphilkids.org/main.phtml](http://www.nyphilkids.org/main.phtml)

Interactive games plus information on instruments, composers and classical music in general.

### San Francisco Symphony

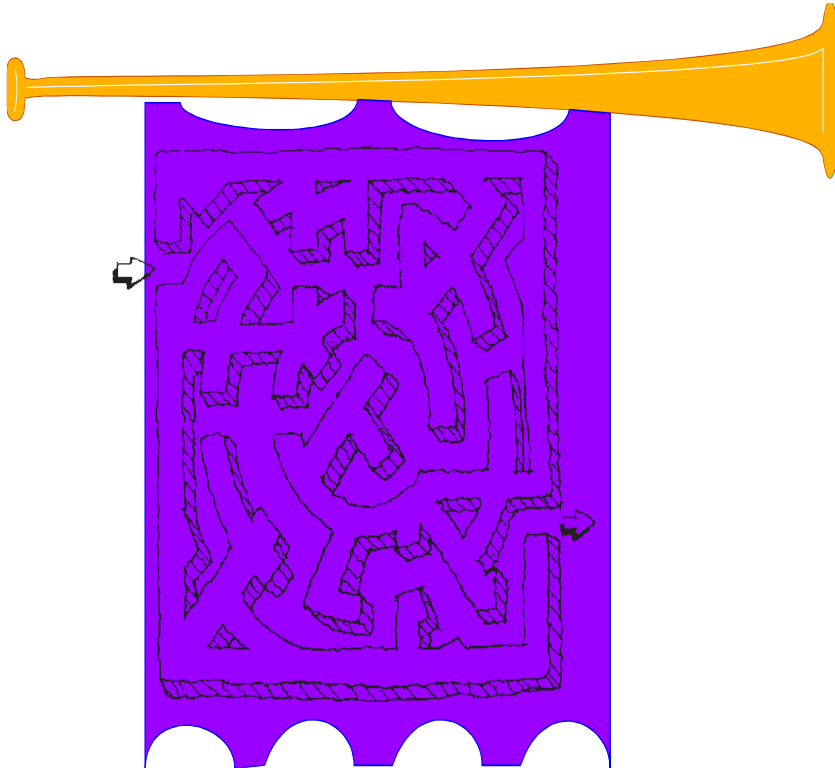
[www.sfskids.org/](http://www.sfskids.org/)

Interactive games plus information on instruments, composers and classical music in general.

### Music education at Datadragon

[datadragon.com/education/reading/](http://datadragon.com/education/reading/)

A good site for information on musical symbols, clefs, note reading, time signatures, note values, etc.



## Bugle Call or Fanfare?

Put a **B** for Bugle call and an **F** for Fanfare.

- Written for one instrument
- Usually written for many instruments
- Does not have any particular signaling purpose
- Has been used for centuries for military signaling
- "Taps" is a famous one of these
- The theme from "Star Wars" is one of these