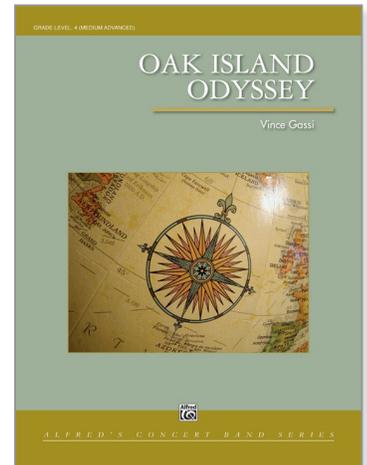


Name: _____ Date: _____

Guided Listening

Oak Island Odyssey

Accessing this piece in [smartmusic](#) will allow you to see **your individual part**. It is really interesting to explore the parts of the other instruments in the band or orchestra as well! Follow [this link](#) to see the score as you listen, which is what the director sees when conducting your ensemble.



Before you listen:

Melody is one of the primary elements of music which attracts listeners. Being able to compose a strong melody is an important skill for any composer. Here are some of the characteristics of strong melodies.

- Many times a strong melody will stay within an octave. See measures 16–23 in the flutes.
- Moving from one note to the next is mostly by step (like a scale) with occasional leaps.
- A strong melody grows out of itself. It is organic, meaning that certain characteristics are repeated (compare the first three notes of measure 16 and the first three notes of measure 18). Notice the melody extending itself from the last two notes of measure 19 into the following measures?
- Melodies all have a contour or shape, notes that ascend and descend. This helps to provide interest. Draw a line representing the contour of this melody and compare it with *Zero Gravity*.

While you listen:

- Is this piece in a major or minor key? Can you tell by listening?
- Where does the main melody start? Can you name the instruments that are playing the melody?
- Where does the melody switch to another instrument (measure numbers)?
- At measure 28, notice what instruments have the melody. How do you think that will change the sound of the piece?
- What is the melodic contour or shape of each section? Draw it.
- Background figures or BGs for short are really countermelodies. They have certain traits too. Notice that when the melody is moving, the background figure is more sustained and when the melody is more sustained or resting, the BGs are more rhythmically active. Listen to measures 16–23. Which instruments play the BGs?
- Can you find questions and answers anywhere else in this piece?