



LISTENING GUIDE

Symphony No. 5
in C-sharp minor

Gustav Mahler
(1860-1911)

PART 1

PART 2

PART 3

MOVEMENT 1

MOVEMENT 2

MOVEMENT 3

MOVEMENT 4

MOVEMENT 5

12 min. **Trauermarsch**

Opening trumpet solo	Funeral march theme	Calmer secondary theme	Turmoil represented in brass and upper strings	Trumpet call returns with extra instrumentation	Funeral march theme returns	Secondary theme returns	Variation of the funeral march	Opening trumpet call returns and slowly fades to silence	Pizzicato final note
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FUN FACT: The opening trumpet solo is in the same rhythm as the opening of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

15 min. **Stürmisch bewegt, mit größter Vehemenz**

Opening statement and "sighs" that transform into...	1st theme: "Rage" Fast scales and leaps	2nd theme: "Melancholy" Features cello soli	Alternating themes of melancholy and rage with building tension throughout	Triumphant brass chorale that quickly fades back into rage and turmoil	Quiet ending featuring strings and brief wind solos
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17 min. **Scherzo**

Horn opens this bright and optimistic movement	Ländler theme	Horn interjection	Waltz theme	Beautiful horn solo with cello accompaniment	Elaborate pizzicato passage with wind solos	Horn and trumpet solos return	Waltz theme featuring percussion	Opening horn call returns	Return of the fugue on ländler and waltz themes	Exciting overlaying of waltz and ländler themes	Final horn solo	Active strings and triumphant brass brilliantly close the movement
With contrapuntal development												

9 min. **Adagietto**

Serene and beautiful first theme accompanied by a harp	Developing intensity			Second theme: Passionate and more active			Return of the contemplative and calm first theme			Upper strings drive the melody while accompanied by bass to close the movement
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FUN FACT: This movement is said to represent Mahler's love to his wife Alma Schindler.

15 min. **Rondo finale**

Opening bassoon solo (quote from Mahler's "Wunderhorn")	Lush horn soli	Complex fugal passage	Return of the opening content and fugue	The Adagietto's theme is featured but in a fast upbeat variation	Alternation of fugal material with quotes from the Adagietto	Cello soli featuring horn solo and woodwind solos reminiscent of ländler motives	Building tension in brass; slow statement of opening theme	Glorious restatement of the chorale from Mvmt 2 that leads to...	The "finale to end all finales" (The Guardian)
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