



Mozart

Composer of the Week



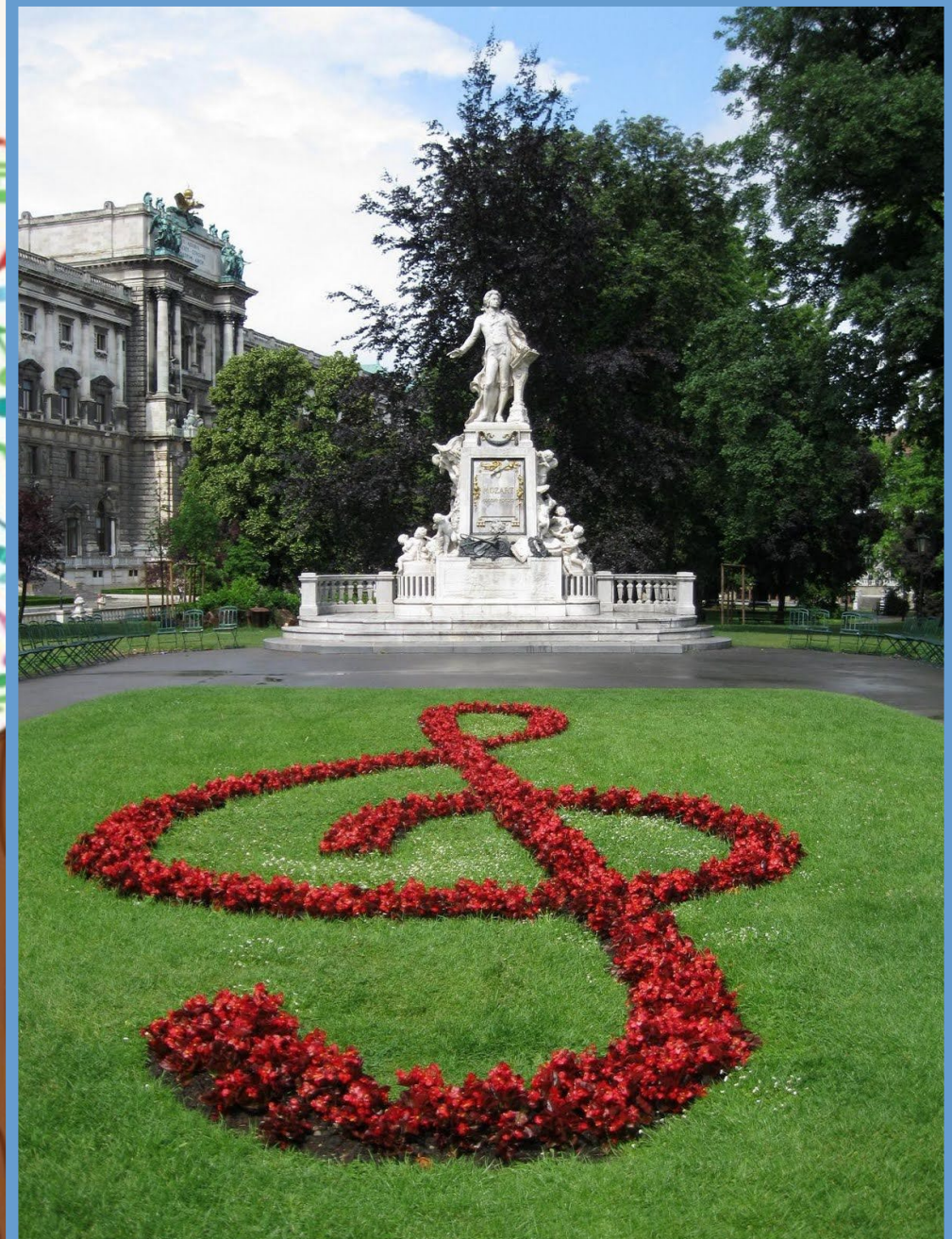


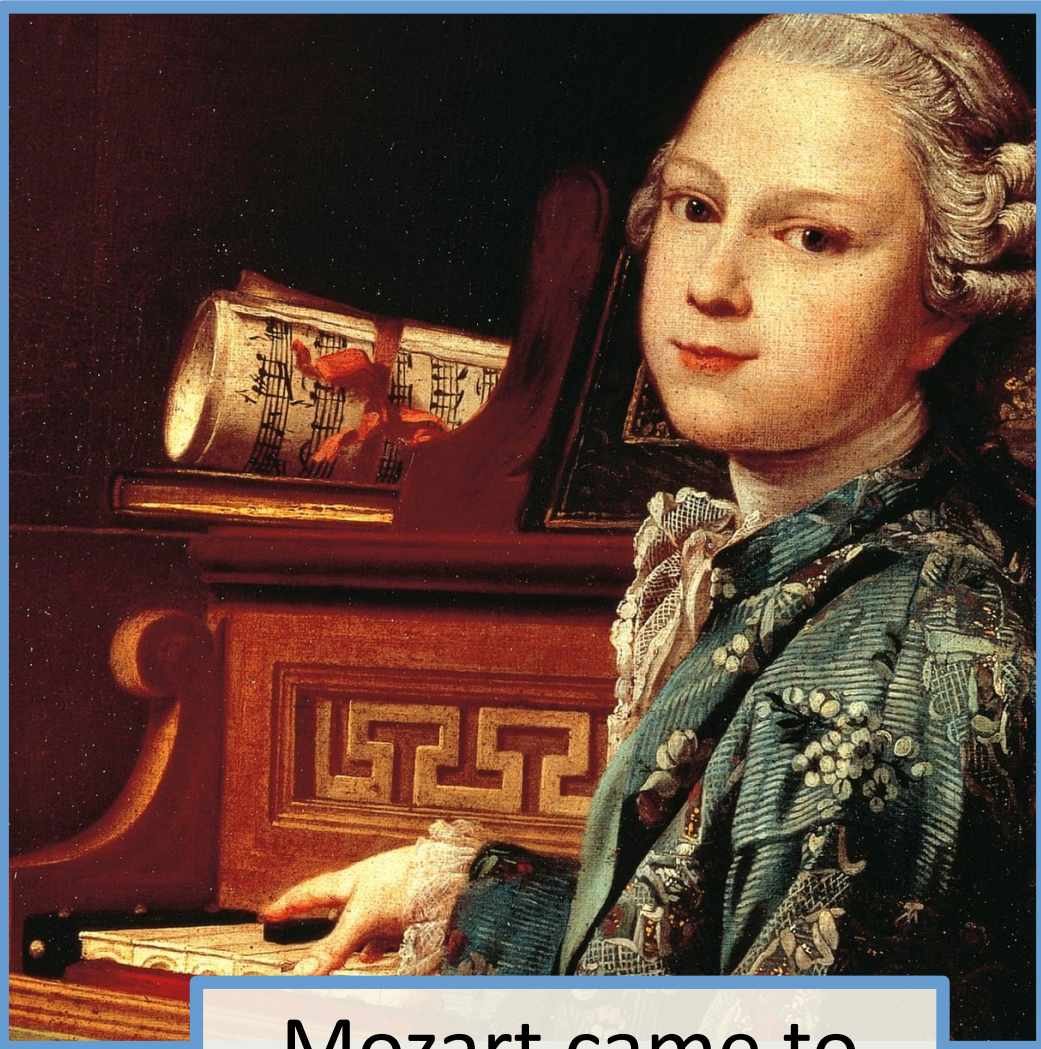
Born in Salzburg, Austria, in
January 1756.

Died in Vienna, Austria, in
December 1791.

Mozart was only 31 when he died. He was so poor that they could not pay for his funeral. He was given a pauper's grave, so no one knows where it is.

Later, the people of Vienna built this memorial to him.





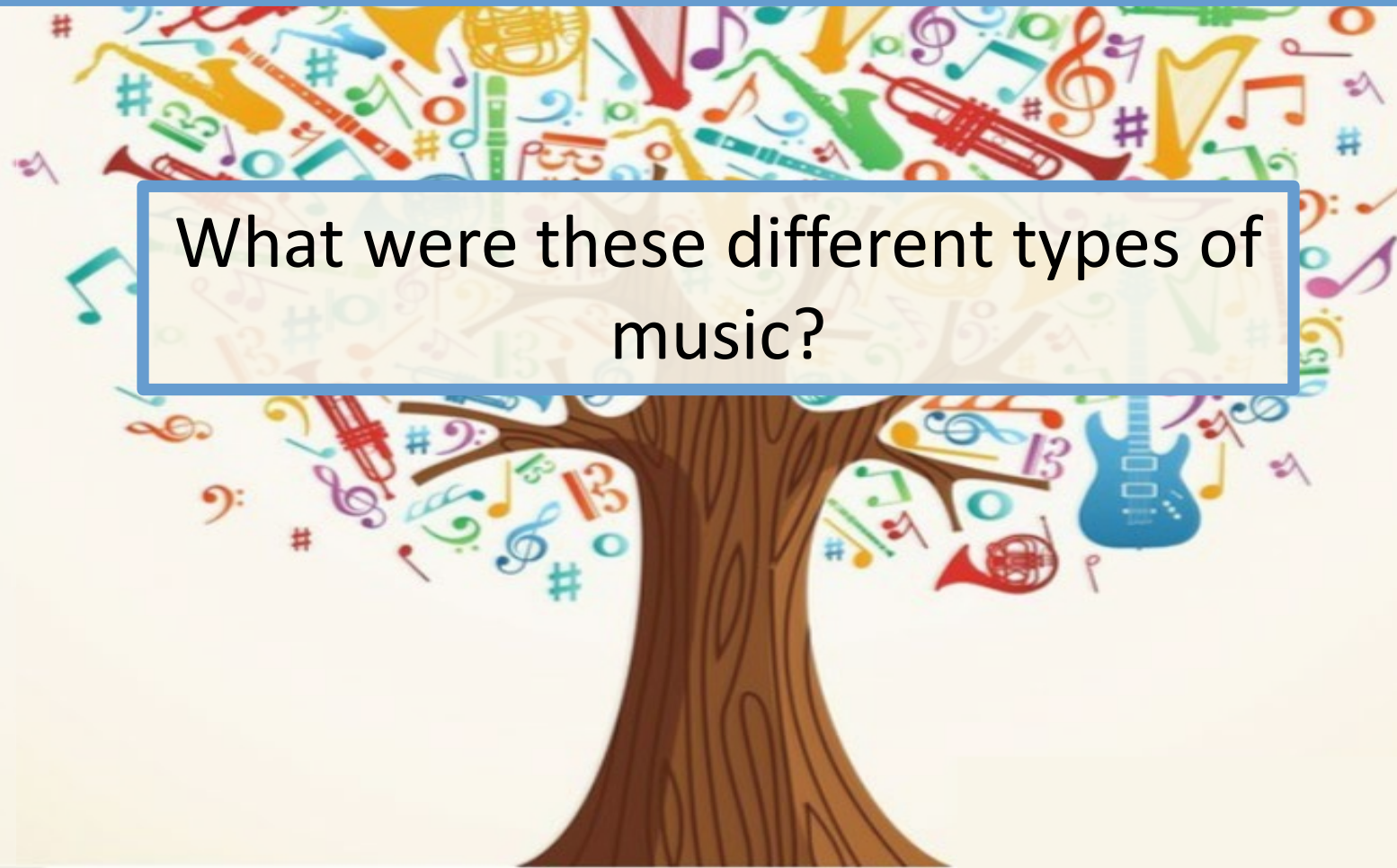
Mozart came to London in 1763. How old was he?

He was known as a child prodigy. He began playing the piano at the age of 3 and began composing music at the age of 5. People were so amazed by him that he travelled through Europe with his father, Leopold, giving concerts and writing music for many important people.



Unlike any other musical composer in history he wrote excellent music in all the musical genres (types or categories) of his day.

What were these different types of music?





Chamber Music

music for a small group of instrumentalists often played outside

Dance Music

for the courts of kings and noblemen



Symphonies

large scale pieces for orchestra

Concertos

large scale pieces for a soloist (often piano or violin) and orchestra



Religious music

music for choirs to sing at church during mass and other festivities

Opera

large scale, staged, dramatic vocal works

His music is played often today and many of his works are used on television. His operas are still performed regularly, the most popular being:

The Marriage of Figaro - written in Italian
Cosi Fan Tutte - written in Italian
Don Giovanni - written in Italian
The Magic Flute - written in German

Watch the Queen of the Night's aria from 'The Magic Flute', which was filmed at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden.

