**Chapter 6**

ATTEND AND REPORT

Attend a concert on your campus or in your community that features a concerto either with orchestra or piano accompaniment. After the event complete a report using the Hearing Music Live form.

EXPLORE: Virtuosos

<http://video.pbs.org/video/1897256482>

In this video international opera star Rene Fleming talks with Joshua Bell, one of the world’s greatest violinists about virtuosity.

RESEARCH: The Mozart Effect

In the past twenty-five years there has been much research conducted on how different types of music affect the brain. Some research shows that music of the Classical era helps stimulate some types of thinking and leads to better study habits and test taking by students. This effect has been dubbed the “Mozart Effect.” French researcher Alfred Tomatis wrote of this effect in 1991 in his book *Pourquoi Mozart?*

Try studying a tough subject with two different types of music playing in the background. First, pick a piece by a contemporary artist. Then, choose a movement of a symphony by Haydn or Mozart. Try to determine which type of music helps you concentrate and focus more on your studies. Report your feelings to the course discussion board or the textbook Dashboard.

For more information on research on the Mozart Effect conduct an online search on The Mozart Effect to determine your own opinions of these claims.

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Listen to two different recordings of the piano concerto studied in Listening Guide 6.2. You can find several versions on YouTube. Make note of the name of the soloist, the orchestra, and the conductor. Focus specifically on the cadenza. How long is this section in each of the recordings? What words would you use to characterize the style of each of the cadenzas? (For example; graceful, noble, virtuosic, difficult, very fast, slow. Use everyday words in your description rather than musical terms you have learned in this text.) Which version do you like better, and why? Share your observations with others on your course discussion board or the textbook Dashboard.

PERFORMER PROFILE: Yo-Yo Ma

<http://www.yo-yoma.com/>

<http://www.silkroadproject.org/>

<http://www.silkroadproject.org/Education/TheSilkRoad/tabid/175/Default.aspx>

Yo-Yo Ma’s interest in all types of music has led him to collaborate with musicians in all genres across the world. These sites help you understand the breadth of his experience.