

Name: _____

Class ID: RS

KEYBOARD INSTRUMENTS - a BRIEF HISTORY.

The Clavichord

- ❖ The oldest stringed keyboard instrument that we know of.
- ❖ It is meant to be a private instrument, and not a public concert instrument.
- ❖ What limit does the clavichord have because some notes share the same strings?
some notes can't be played together
- ❖ They stopped being made after 1800.

The Harpsichord

- ❖ Sound is made by plectrum plucking the strings.
- ❖ The presenter took out the whole component call the Jack that contains the plectrum and the tongue.
- ❖ It went out of fashion around 1790s.

The Pianoforte (the old piano)

- ❖ It has 58 notes.
- ❖ Composers like Mozart and the young Beethoven played pianos like this.
- ❖ Sound comes from hammer striking the strings.
- ❖ It has no pedals on the instrument and the damper is activated by the player lifting his/her knee.

The Modern Piano

- ❖ The piano shown in the clip was made by a company named Steinway.
- ❖ An American used metal to make the piano stronger.
- ❖ Modern pianos have cast-iron plates to support pressure up to 30 tons imposed by the strings.
- ❖ It has a larger range than the pianoforte, it has 88 notes.
- ❖ It is simply bigger and louder than the older pianos; it also has consistent Tone colors.

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"Harpichord 101"

- ❖ Sets of keyboards are called manuels
- ❖ The lower manual have keys that can play two strings each time.
- ❖ The upper manual is different than the lower one. Here are some of the ways:

① The upper manual nasal sound and it is quieter

② when coupled, lower manual controls the upper manual

③ The lower manual has a richer and more powerful sound (louder)

- ❖ If you "pull all the stops", the loudest sound is achieved because 3 strings are played at the same time.

Out of all the keyboards you heard in these videos, which one do you prefer the most and why?

I prefer the _____.

Because _____