UNIT 14 VIEWING GUIDE

1. The action in Wagner's The Ring of the Nibelungs is centered around the ___________________________. These four operas are based on stories from ___________________________ legends.

2. Wagner's family background would be best described as ___________________________.

3. True or False: Hitler and Wagner were close, personal friends. __________

4. Wagner became the musical “poster boy” for National Socialism because ___________________________.

5. Wagner’s first fully successful opera, ___________________________, was inspired, in part, by a real scare he had at sea when _______ ___________________________.

6. Wagner's experiences trying to “make it” in Paris were _______ ___________________________.

7. The ___________________________ is the same castle where Martin Luther hid out in _______ (year) in order to ___________________________, and where the legendary character Tannhäuser, centuries earlier, ___________________________.

8. Wagner came up with the term ___________________________ to describe a work that incorporated all of the arts, with a single creator having complete artistic control.

9. In exile, Wagner existed mostly on financial support from ___________________________ (person), who did everything he could to keep people aware of Wagner's music. Later, Wagner was financed by ___________________________ who took the money from Bavaria’s state budget!

10. Perhaps Wagner's most famous idea was using a set of pitches called the ___________________________ to represent the different ___________________________ in his complicated opera plots.
11. In Wagner’s *Festspielhaus*, the orchestra pit is located largely ______ the stage. Wagner designed it this way so that ___________________________________________. Wagner even designed a new type of instrument, which we today call the ___________________________________________.

12. True or False: Wagner wanted people in his audience to relax, socialize, and simply enjoy themselves and have a good time. ______

13. The complete *Ring* lasts approximately ______ hours! But it (circle one) was/was not intended to be seen in one long stretch.

14. The only required Wagner work for *Discovering Music* is the Prelude (his name for Overture) to ____________________. Wagner would not have liked us to hear short excerpts from his operas because ___________________________________________.

15. True or False: There are still people today who would link Wagner to Hitler and National Socialism (Fascism in the 1930s). ____________

16. True or False: The Wagner Festival at Bayreuth is a high-profile event still today. ____________