Literature Study and Preparation

The study of Music Literature, History, and Theory can greatly enhance the performance of each and every piece we play. Use the following sheet as a guide to help you better prepare the music you are performing in lessons and on recitals.

Checklist:
- Read a brief biography of the composer
- Research the specific piece in as much detail as you can
- Study the style period that best matches the piece for additional clues to interpretation
- If the piece is a transcription, obtain the original part
- Look up all terms
- Find and mark interesting musical events (melodic, harmonic, rhythmic, textural, etc.)
- Listen to at least 2 different recordings if possible; for transcriptions, listen to recordings of the work in its original format as well

Composer/dates: _______________________________________________________

Relevant composer information: _________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Title/date composed: ___________________________________________________

Information about the piece: _____________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Relevant style period information: _________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Recording #1: ___________________________________________________________

Recording #2: ___________________________________________________________

Recording #3: ___________________________________________________________