**Idomeneo, re di Creta** (‘Idomeneus, King of Crete’)



# *-*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Dramma per musica in three acts, K366, by [Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart](http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/grovemusic/documentId/omo-9781561592630-e-5000007498) to a libretto by [Giovanni Battista Varesco](http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/grovemusic/documentId/omo-9781561592630-e-5000905426) after [Antoine Danchet](http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/grovemusic/documentId/omo-9781561592630-e-5000002874) Idomenée; Munich, Residenztheater, 29 January 1781.

An **opera** is created using all art forms – 1) drama/story, 2) music, 3) singing/acting,

4) dance, 5) costume, 6) painting/scenery, 7) machinery/special effects, 8) lighting…

the famous German composer Richard Wagner called opera a **Gesamtkunstwerk**.

(all/entire-art-work)

Write a reflection on your experience with ***Idomeneo, re di Creta*** composed by [Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart](http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/grovemusic/documentId/omo-9781561592630-e-5000007498):

Compare the video performance by Riccardo Muti and Teatro alla Scala ([**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ba9K\_T5ivTQ**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ba9K_T5ivTQ))

and the live performance by Opera Atelier.

* Provide a **TITLE PAGE** for each assignment. The template is at earlhaig.ca.
* Do **not** **use subtitles** before paragraphs
* Write in essay form: **DOUBLE SPACE** your writing.
* Write in essay form: **INDENT** the first line of each paragraph**.**
* Use **ITALICS** for the names of published works: *Idomeneo, re di Creta* ***.***
* Write a paragraph on each of the following topics (eight art forms) as they apply to : *Idomeneo*.
* Be sure to mention each art form in the **topic sentence** (first sentence) of each paragraph.
* **Be sure to provide concrete examples or information to support your ideas.**
* Write your paragraphs in the order shown in this assignment page:

**Part 1: Friday March 8th**

**Introduction** – what were your thoughts about “opera” before you saw the video and Opera Atelier?

**20% [MECHANICS]** **[KNOWLEDGE]: [THINKING]: [APPLICATION]: [COMMUNICATION]:**

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**20% [KNOWLEDGE]: \* Write a good opening sentence for this essay project.**

**\* What were your thoughts about opera before you began study of** ***Idomeneo?***

**20% [THINKING]:\* What were your experiences of opera or music theater before you went to Opera Atelier?**

**20% [APPLICATION]: \* What did you find interesting about the making of an opera at the OA workshop?**

**20% [COMMUNICATION]:**

**\* When was the Munich, Residenztheater (**also known as the Cuvilliéstheater) **built? (Picture?)**

**\* Write one or two sentences about the Residenztheater.**

**\* When was the Elgin Theater built? (Picture?)**

**\* Write one or two sentences about the Elgin theater.**

**Part 2: Friday March 29th**

**The story** - is contained in the script or play called the ***libretto*** (Ital.) *livret* (Fr.)

**20% [MECHANICS]** **[KNOWLEDGE]: [THINKING]: [APPLICATION]: [COMMUNICATION]:**

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**20% [KNOWLEDGE]:** - who wrote the libretto for ***Idomeneo, re di Creta* (Mozart’s opera)**

- provide a few details about the playwright **(focus on Mozart’s librettist)**

**20% [THINKING]: -** what book(s) did Mozart’s playwright get thestory come from **(focus on earlier French version)**

**-** provide a few details about early Greek sources: **(focus on Homer and Apollodorus of Athens)**

**20% [APPLICATION]:**  - when was the original source of the story written? **(focus on Homer and Apollodorus of Athens)**

- when was the libretto written? **(focus on early French version, and on Mozart’s version)**

- why was the opera written? what occasion was the opera created for? **(focus on Mozart)**

**20% [COMMUNICATION]:** - what do you think about the story of ***Idomeneo, re di Creta****?*

- explain your response in several sentences with specific details

**Part 3: Thursday April 18th**

**20% [MECHANICS]** **[KNOWLEDGE]: [THINKING]: [APPLICATION]: [COMMUNICATION]:**

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**The music** (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**10% [KNOWLEDGE]:** - Mozart wrote the music for the singers (***recitative*** *and* ***arias***)

- Explain the difference between recitative and aria

**10% [THINKING]: -** What are some differences between period and modern instruments?

**10% [APPLICATION]: -** Compare and contrast the instruments used in the video and the live productions

**10% [COMMUNICATION]: -** What do you think or feel about Mozart’s music in ***Idomeneo*?**

**The Singers** (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**10% [KNOWLEDGE]:** - Which characters have high voices? Which characters have low voices?

**10% [THINKING]:** - What do you think is the reason for giving different characters their voice ranges?

**10% [APPLICATION]:** - Did you observe any different conceptions of character between the video and live?

**10% [COMMUNICATION]: -** What did you think of the singers in the video and in Opera Atelier?

**Part 4: Friday May 3rd**

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**20% [MECHANICS]** **[KNOWLEDGE]: [THINKING]: [APPLICATION]: [COMMUNICATION]:**

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**Dancing**  (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**10% [KNOWLEDGE]: -**What is ballet?

**10% [THINKING]: -**What do you think about the dance choreography in Opera Atelier?

**10% [APPLICATION]: -**Do you think that the dances fit into the story well?

**10% [COMMUNICATION]: -**Do you think that the video suffered from a lack of dance?

**Costumes** (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**10% [KNOWLEDGE]: -**Explain which production used 18th century and which used modern costume.

**10% [THINKING]: -**Describe the costume differences

**10% [APPLICATION]: -**Which costumes do you prefer: 18th century or modern?

**10% [COMMUNICATION]: -**Explain why you think each production chose a particular era of costume.

**SUMMATIVE: Friday May 24th**

**20% [MECHANICS]** **[KNOWLEDGE]: [THINKING]: [APPLICATION]: [COMMUNICATION]:**

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**Scenery** (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**5% [KNOWLEDGE]: -**What is scenery (think about physical set construction and painting)

**5% [THINKING]: -**Describe the video’s set design.

**5% [APPLICATION]: -**Compare Opera Atelier’s set design to that shown in the video.

**5% [COMMUNICATION]: -**Which do you like better? Or perhaps you like both for different reasons?

**Machinery** (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**5% [KNOWLEDGE]: -**What is the meaning of special effects?

**5% [THINKING]: -**Are there any special effects in the video? Describe them.

**5% [APPLICATION]: -**Were there any special effects in the Opera Atelier production? Describe them.

**5% [COMMUNICATION]: -**What do you think about the special effects that you experienced?

**Lighting** (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**5% [KNOWLEDGE]: -**What wasused for stage lighting in 1781?

**5% [THINKING]: -**What lighting effects did you notice in the video?

**5% [APPLICATION]: -**What lighting effects did you notice in the Opera Atelier live production?

**5% [COMMUNICATION]: -**What do you think about the effectiveness of lighting in the two productions?

**Conclusion** (Do **not** use as a subtitle above your paragraph)

**5% [KNOWLEDGE]: -**Have your thoughts about opera changed after experiencing ***Idomeneo*?**

**5% [THINKING]: -**What for you **has** or **has not** changed concerning your thoughts about opera?

**5% [APPLICATION]: -**Do you think that you will visit the opera again? Why, or why not?

**5% [COMMUNICATION]: -**Has your experience with ***Idomeneo*** sparked a new interest, or was this a once-

in-a-lifetime experience?