

SYMPHONY NO. 5
by Ludwig van Beethoven

Ludwig van Beethoven's Fifth Symphony is the most famous symphony of them all. Its first four notes, three shorts and a long, sound the main theme of the symphony. According to one story, Beethoven was asked the meaning of this opening theme. He is supposed to have said: "It is Fate knocking at the door." This symphony seems to be about the struggle of human beings against fate. And it seems to be saying that through struggle human beings can achieve victory over the forces of nature and tyranny.

The first movement develops the theme and is repeated at different levels of the scale. People who claim that this theme is a call to victory over tyranny point to a fascinating coincidence. Beethoven finished writing his Fifth Symphony in 1808, decades before the invention of the telegraph. Yet his three short one long theme is also the international Morse code symbol for the letter "V" — for Victory!

The first movement of the Fifth Symphony develops the theme with great energy and speed. The second movement is much slower, gentler and more like a song. At the end of the second movement is another call to victory. The third movement repeats the opening theme, signaling that triumph is at hand. The fourth and final movement is a celebration of victory.

Beethoven was losing his hearing as he completed this symphony. Surely he knew what it meant to struggle against fate!

Directions: Find the words listed below in the word search puzzle. Words may be spelled left to right, right to left, top to bottom, bottom to top, and slanted in all directions. Use a pencil to darken each letter in every word. Then place the unused letters in the blanks at the bottom. Be sure to bring the letters down in order, left to right, line by line, from top to bottom.

BEETHOVEN
FIFTH
SYMPHONY
THEME

FATE
KNOCKING
DOOR
STRUGGLE

TRIUMPH
VICTORY
FORCES
NATURE

MORSE
CODE
TELEGRAPH
TYRANNY



From its first _____ notes,
 Three shorts and one _____,
 To its slow second movement
 Gentle as a _____,
 Then, again, the _____ state
 The _____ of

