**Bach** – Toccata – “to touch” - a fast-moving musical composition for a keyboard instrument designed to exhibit the performer's touch and technique. Originated late 1500s

2 types

– sectional, sometimes reaching heights of extravagance. Sectional piece without regular tempo, improvisational feel – eg. Bach T & F in D minor

– “modern” – Schumann etc

D major toccata – likely early work, not in Bach’s mature style. More repetitive (“tedious”), tempo and dynamic markings given, frequent recitative-like passages, flourishes at beginning & end

**Beethoven**

“Hotshot virtuoso” who everybody had been looking for after Mozart’s death

Published age 27

“Grand sonata”

Dedicated to one of his students, Countess Babette von Keglevics, who lived not far away at the time. B often turned up at her house for lessons still wearing his slippers, dressing gown and peaked nightcap

**Chopin**

Written at the time of the November uprising against the Russian Empire (“Revolutionary” Etude may have been written at similar time.

“Dark, suspenseful, full of chaos” – Wikipedia

Middle section based on an old Polish Christmas song – “Sleep little Jesus”