

Notes Between Songs

What do these words have in common?:

COALITION-(Cheetahs)

BED-(Clams)

CAST-Falcons

ARMY-Frogs

CHARM-Hummingbirds

They are all the names of GROUPS of things.

Musicians don't seem to have this.

1. A **HERALD** of **TRUMPETS**
2. A **SLIDE** of **TROMBONES**
3. A **TRILL** of **PICCOLOS**
4. A **BATCH** of **BARITONES**
5. A **SCORE** of **COMPOSERS**
6. A **STICK** of **DRUMS**
7. A **CASE** of **BASSES**
8. A **FLIGHT** of **FLUTES**
9. A **FRANC** of **FRENCH HORNS**

NAPS:

Naps are frequently observed among the audience members (and sometimes the musicians) during band concerts, regardless if:

1. The concerts are indoors or outdoors,
2. The concerts are in the afternoons or evenings,

3. The audience members are either “more experienced” or “less experienced”. *(That is the polite way of saying that the audience members are either old or NOT old!),*
4. The audience members are related in any way to any musicians in the band.

It is amazing how some people can fall asleep at a band concert given that the chairs are always uncomfortable, they are almost always too short to support your head and neck comfortably, and the band does tend to produce some loud, distracting, and unexpected noises from time to time.

Interestingly, for these same people to fall asleep at home however, all the nights have to be out, the kids have to be totally quiet, absolutely no one can talk or watch TV, and the mattress and pillows have to be of just the right shape, firmness, and textures!

However, all of the above requirements are irrelevant if it is a Sunday afternoon, there is football on TV, and no other family members have yet laid claim to the couch.

Words of Wisdom for Musicians:

1. Portable toilets are not big enough for either tubas, or bass drums. Don't ask me how I know, I'm just sayin'.....

But above all, when using a portable toilet, always, always, **ALWAYS**, keep your mouthpiece in your pocket!
2. Parades would be more fun for the musicians if the parade units stood still and the people walked past the bands and floats!
3. The football games exists merely to give the Marching Band enough time to warm up!
4. Old trumpet players never die, they just play an octave lower.
5. Old trombone players never die, they just “slide “ away!

6. A little rain never hurt a brass instrument, but definitely give it up when there is lightning!
7. The closer you sit in front of the trombones, the more times you will get hit in the butt.

And don't even get me started on where they dump their spit valves!
8. Looking cool during a performance requires a lot of sweat during practice.
9. Old musicians never die, they just "*decrescendo*".
10. Football teams exist for those who weren't good enough, or tough enough, for the Marching Band!
11. Band is NOT an extracurricular activity. It IS a lifestyle!
12. If athletics are THAT important, then who were the famous athletes in Beethoven;s time?
13. If athletics are supposedly so exciting, why do they need a "Pep Band"?
14. Without the bands and music, your CD would be 65 minutes of silence!
15. Sports are seasonal...music lasts all year round!
16. If athletes are such great role models, name the last time you saw one of the band members spit and scratch himself/herself on national TV during the national anthem?
17. Music and electric blankets...they both make you feel warm all over!