

Adapted from http://artsalive.ca/pdf/mus/map/map_saskatchewan_en.pdf

Note to Teacher: The following is a coordinated list of lines from the sonnet and measures of Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons." This list will aid the teacher in correlating lines in the text with musical concepts.

"The Four Seasons" sonnet texts are indicated in sections in each concerto with capital letters (e.g. (B)). Other instructions or information for the performers indicated by Vivaldi in the score are shown in bold.

Concerto No. 1 in E Major La Primavera ("Spring")

Movement I: Allegro (Fast)

Bar	Timing	Italian	English	Weather
1	0'00"	(A) Giunt' è la primavera	Spring has come	Sunny
13	0'33"	Il canto degl'uccelli (A cont'd) E festosetti	The song of the bird and birds greet it	Breezy
22	1'10"	(B) La saluntan gl'augei con lieto canto	Festively with a cheerful song	Sunny
31	1'19"	Scorrano i fonti. (C) E i fonti allo spirar de'zefretti. Con dolce mormorio scorrono intanto	Trickling of the springs. And with the breath of gentle breezes, springs trickle with a sweet murmur.	Breezy
	1'35"			Clouds forming (partly cloudy)
44	1'52"	Tuoni. (D) Vengon'coprendo l'aer di nero amanto, E lampi e tuoni ad annuntiarla eletti.	Thunder. Lightning and thunder, elected to announce it, Come and cover the air with a black cloak.	Thunder and Lightning storm (Stormy)
	1'59			Rainy
59	2'28"	Canto degl'uccelli. (E) Indi tacendo questi, gl'augelletti.	Song of the birds. Once they are quiet, the birds	Rainy, partly cloudy
63	2'47"			Partly cloudy
	3'15"	(E cont'd) Tornan' di nuovo al lor canoro incanto.	Return to their enchanting song.	Sunny

Concerto No. 2 in G Minor L'Estate ("Summer")

Movement II: Adagio (slow)

Bar	Timing	Italian	English	Weather
1	0'00"	Mosche e mossoni (Violin 1 & 2) (F) Toglie alle membra lasse il suo riposo	Flies and wasp (violin 1 & 2). The repose of his tired limbs is disturbed	Sunny Heat Wave
3	0'15"	Tuoni	Thunder	Thunder clouds in distance (Cloudy)
5	0'19"	Mosche (violin 1 & 2) (F cont'd) Il timore de' lampi, e tuoni fieri, E de mosche e mossoni	Flies (violin 1 & 2) By the fear of lightening and fiery thunder, And by {a swarm of} flies and wasps.	Sunny Heat Wave
8	0'39"	Tuoni	Thunder	Thunder clouds in distance (Cloudy)
10	0'43"	Mosche (violin 1 & 2) (F cont'd) il stuol furioso!	Flies (violin 1 & 2) {a furious swarm}	Sunny Heat Wave
16	1'18"	Tuoni	Thunder	Thunder clouds in distance (Cloudy)
17	1'22"	Mosche (violin 1 & 2)	Flies (violin 1 & 2)	Sunny Heat Wave
20	1'36"	Tuoni	Thunder	Thunder clouds in distance (Cloudy)

Movement III: Presto (very fast) Stop at 46 seconds

Bar	Timing	Italian	English	Weather
1	0'00"	Tempo impetuoso d'Estate (G) Ah, che pur troppo I suoi timor' son veri.	Summer's violent weather. Unfortunately, his fears are justified. The sky thunders and fulminates,	Thunder and lightning storm (Stormy)
10	0'11"	E gradinoso tronca il capo alle spiche e a'grani alteri.	And large hail, flattens ears of corn and majestic grains.	Hail

Concerto No. 3 in F Major L'Autunno ("Autumn")

Movement III: Allegro (fast)

Bar	Timing	Italian	English	Weather
1	0'00"	La caccia (E) I cacciator' alla nov'alba a caccia Con corni, shioppi, e canni escono fuore.	The hunt. At dawn the hunters are off to the hunt With horns, rifles, and dogs.	Sunny
	0'39"			Cloudy/Foggy
	0'56"			Sunny
	1'05"			Cloudy/Foggy
	1'30"			Sunny
76	1'39"	La fiera che fugge (F) Fugge la velva, e seguono la traccia.	The wild beast flees. The wild beast flees, and they follow its trail.	Blustery wind
86	1'47"	(G) Gia sbigottita, e lassa al gran rumore De' schioppi e canni, ferita, minaccia	Frightened already, and fatigued by the noise Of rifles and dogs, wounded, it threatens	Light rain (Rainy)
	2'02"			Sunny
	2'11			Blustery wind
	2'22"			Sunny
	2'32"			Blustery wind
	2'36"			Rainy / windy (back and forth)
129	2'46"	Lafiera, fuggendo, muore (H) Languida di fuggir, ma oppressa, muore.	The beast, fleeing, dies. Languidly to flee, but, overcome, it dies.	Rainbow
	2'57"			Sunny

Concerto No. 4 in F Minor L'Inverno ("Winter")

Movement I: Allegro non molto (fast, but not too much)

Bar	Timing	Italian	English	Weather
1	0'00"	(A) Aggiacciato tremar tra nevi argenti	To tremble from cold in the icy snow	Freezing temperature (Shivering)
12	0'38"	Orrido vento (solo violin) (B) Al severo spirar d'orrido vento,	Horrid wind (solo violin). In the harsh breath of a horrid wind;	Bitter wind (Windy)
	0'44"			Freezing
	0'46"			Windy
	0'51"			Freezing
	0'54"			Windy
	1'00"			Freezing
22	1'13"	Batter de'piedi per il freddo. (C) Correr battendo i piedi ogni momento	To stamp one's feet from the cold. To run, stamping our feet every moment,	Snowy
33	1'26"	Venti (strings)	Winds (strings)	Windy
	2'04"			Freezing
	2'23"			Sunny (clear but cold day)
47	2'33"	Batter li denti (D) E pel soverchio gel batter I denti;	Chattering of teeth. Our teeth chattering in the extreme cold.	Freezing
	3'04"			Snowy

Spring (Concerto No. 1 in E Major)*Allegro*

Spring has arrived with joy
Welcomed by the birds with happy songs,
And the brooks, amidst gentle breezes,
Murmur sweetly as they flow.

The sky is caped in black, and
Thunder and lightning herald a storm
When they fall silent, the birds
Take up again their delightful songs.

Largo e pianissimo sempre

And in the pleasant, blossom-filled meadow,
To the gentle murmur of leaves and plants,
The goatherd sleeps, his faithful dog beside him.

Allegro

To the merry sounds of a rustic bagpipe,
Nymphs and shepherds dance in their beloved spot
When Spring appears in splendour.

Summer (Concerto No. 2 in G Minor)*Allegro non molto*

Under the merciless sun of the season
Languishes man and flock, the pine tree burns.
The cuckoo begins to sing and at once
Join in the turtledove and the goldfinch.

A gentle breeze blows, but Boreas
Is roused to combat suddenly with his neighbour,
And the shepherd weeps because overhead
Hangs the fearsome storm, and his destiny.

Adagio

His tired limbs are robbed of rest
By his fear of the lightning and the frightful thunder
And by the flies and hornets in furious swarms.

Presto

Alas, his fears come true:
There is thunder and lightning in the heavens
And the hail cuts down the tall ears of grain.

Autumn (Concerto No. 3 in F Major)*Allegro*

The peasant celebrates with dancing and singing
The pleasure of the rich harvest,
And full of the liquor of Bacchus
They end their merrymaking with a sleep.

Adagio molto

All are made to leave off dancing and singing
By the air which, now mild, gives pleasure
And by the season, which invites many
To find their pleasure in a sweet sleep.

Allegro

The hunters set out at dawn, off to the hunt,
With horns and guns and dogs they venture out.
The beast flees and they are close on its trail.

Already terrified and wearied by the great noise
Of the guns and dogs, and wounded as well
It tries feebly to escape, but is bested and dies.

Winter (Concerto No. 4 in F Minor)*Allegro non molto*

Frozen and shivering in the icy snow,
In the severe blasts of a terrible wind
To run stamping one's feet each moment,
One's teeth chattering through the cold.

Largo

To spend quiet and happy times by the fire
While outside the rain soaks everyone.

Allegro

To walk on the ice with tentative steps,
Going carefully for fear of falling.

To go in haste, slide, and fall down to the ground,
To go again on the ice and run,
In case the ice cracks and opens.

To hear leaving their iron-gated house Sirocco,
Boreas, and all the winds in battle—
This is winter, but it brings joy.

(Author uncertain; English translation by Betsy Schwarm) (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Four-Seasons-by-Vivaldi>)