

Peabody's Improbable History | Episode 56. Ludwig van Beethoven

Mr. Peabody and his friend, Sherman, star in short 5-minute episodes that were part of *The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle and Friends*, an animated series for television popular about 60 years ago. Improbable history was the perfect name for these episodes—"improbable," meaning not likely to be true.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnmiwo79aTg>

Watch this episode a couple of times, then choose four statements to fact check. Verify that a statement is true or explain how the statement is false. Be sure to include your sources.

1. Beethoven lived in Vienna, Austria in 1799.
2. When Beethoven had writer's block he turned to cooking instead.
3. For inspiration, Beethoven often went to a place related to the theme of a piece he was working on. He composed a piece inspired by the ocean.
4. Beethoven composed his Fifth Symphony, inspired by motor vehicles, streets, and stoplights.
5. Beethoven composed his Fourth Symphony, inspired by July 4th fireworks at the local fair. One of the attractions at that fair was a Ferris wheel.
6. Beethoven's greatest composition was "Moonlight Sonata."
7. Beethoven was a pretty happy fellow.
8. Beethoven had a son he named Kranz. Kranz was known as Leader Kranz when he became a famous orchestra conductor.