

The Important Role of Music in Enhancing Students' Comprehensive Quality

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Abstract: Music emerged at the very moment when human beings came into existence. As humanity has evolved, music has progressively matured. Music is an art of emotion; it can express people's thoughts and feelings through vivid images and nurture their personalities. Playing a crucial role in the learning process, music can deeply touch people's hearts and stimulate their potential through aesthetic experiences. Music plays a significant part in human civilization with profound and enduring influence. Currently, most works in this field focus on studying music's impact on the development of human society, such as its role in the construction of socialist spiritual civilization. This paper will focus on researching and exploring the important role of music art in enhancing students' comprehensive quality. Students are a special social group, and their growth and development are of vital importance. Through the research and discussion of these roles, it is hoped to help students gain a clearer understanding of music's impact on their all-round development, guide them to appreciate music art in a more reasonable way, and thereby promote the improvement of their comprehensive quality.

Keywords: Music; Moral Cultivation; Aesthetic View; Creative Thinking

Music is a unique audio-visual experience that brings us immense wonderful feelings; it is not merely the song of the soul, but also serves as an educational tool to help people abide by social norms. I firmly believe that music is an incomparable wonderful experience—it can stir the deepest soul of people, deepen their thinking, satisfy their hearts, and enable the sincere expression of emotions. Music can arouse enthusiasm for teamwork, help us better understand life, make us more straightforward, inspire more love, and elevate our nobility. Beyond bringing auditory pleasure, music has also played a crucial role in the history of human civilization's development. Philosophers in ancient Greece and China were well aware of music's significance in maintaining national order, constructing social order, and shaping social values. It is not just an art form, but an indispensable part of the depth of the human soul. Today, music is not only an art form but also undertakes the important responsibility of promoting the development of spiritual culture. For us students in the academic stage, this is a critical period for establishing and forming correct outlooks on life, values, and the world. Countless inspiring and uplifting songs play an important role in enhancing our comprehensive quality. By appreciating music, we can not only strengthen our aesthetic concepts, train our memory, acumen, and comprehension but also stimulate rich imagination, thereby improving our overall personal qualities. Music can not only profoundly influence our thinking but also help us better understand others' emotions, promote mutual communication, and elevate our spiritual realm to achieve physical and mental health. It is evident that music exerts a multifaceted impact on us, from ideological cognition to behavioral conduct.

1. The Role of Music in Enhancing Students' Aesthetic Ability

Aesthetic ability can be defined as a person's level of understanding of something. It helps us discover and appreciate works with profound meaning and artistic appeal, while rejecting music that lacks real value, is negative and sorrowful, or vulgar. Through the experience of aesthetic emotions, we can connect the emotions in daily life with those expressed in artistic works, thereby more deeply perceiving the ideas conveyed by musical works and inspiring love for the Party, the motherland, the people, the collective, and labor. Aesthetic education is the core of music education, aiming to cultivate students' emotions and aesthetic ability. In this way, students can not only learn music knowledge and skills but also appreciate excellent works and

better express their aesthetic emotions, thus developing good psychological qualities. Through systematic teaching, we can gradually cultivate correct aesthetic views, and music appreciation is an indispensable part of this process. By listening to music, we can not only enhance our understanding, memory, and imagination of music but also develop correct aesthetic concepts, tastes, and skills. In this way, we can better appreciate music and benefit greatly from it. Music is the crystallization of human emotions and wisdom; it is not only a pleasure of beauty but also an art. Music can not only improve our auditory ability and language expression ability but also stimulate our imagination, help purify our minds, and cultivate good personalities.

1.1 The Aesthetic Education Function of Music

Music can not only improve our aesthetic perception but also provide strong support for the development of our intelligence. It promotes the development of associative, fantasy, and creative imagination abilities, enhances abstract thinking and acute reasoning abilities, and improves memory and feedback capabilities for external information. In addition, music can profoundly influence people's non-intellectual factors, such as self-control, perseverance, carefulness, concentration, and moderation, as well as shape people's personalities and sentiments, with lasting and far-reaching effects. Since Rousseau proposed the concept of aesthetic education, its influence within the European education system has continued to expand, gradually permeating various domains of education. Modern educator Cai Yuanpei and musicologist Wang Guangqi both emphasized the importance of aesthetic education and music education. In today's society, elegant music performances and dissemination have become an important form of social education, which can not only cultivate people's moral concepts but also inspire them to pursue higher realms. However, if these performances and dissemination do not adhere to healthy aesthetic standards, music will have negative impacts and exert adverse effects on the behaviors of social members. Music that is lifeless, vulgar, and ugly will only lead to the poverty, vulgarity, and even chaos of social spiritual life. Music can not only provide educated entertainment and cultural relaxation but also relax people's moods and enhance spiritual literacy and vitality. Throughout history, from the collective singing and dancing and nursery rhymes of primitive clans to the collective singing and dancing of various ethnic groups today, as well as the singing and dancing programs performed at mass gatherings, all have played an important role in providing people with rich cultural entertainment. For example, ancient entertainment music was usually used to entertain guests at banquets to create a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere. With the development of industrialization today, music has become an important part of people's leisure and entertainment, which can not only enrich people's daily lives but also stimulate people's excitement and happiness. In the field of entertainment music, some inferior and boring content may harm people's mental health and even lead to corruption. Therefore, we should strive to avoid and resist such phenomena.

1.2 How to Cultivate and Improve Students' Aesthetic Ability in Music Appreciation

Plato emphasized that cultivating teenagers' habit of loving beauty from an early age is crucial to their future. He once proposed: We should seek out some talented artists to depict the beauty of nature, so that our teenagers, like living under warm sunshine, can be exposed to excellent works every day and feel the fresh air. In this way, they will unconsciously develop a love for beauty and form the good habit of integrating beauty with their souls. Music teaching should constantly create an artistic environment, providing students with opportunities to participate in music aesthetic experiences, cultivating their love for music, and enabling them to feel the charm of music with their ears and hearts. Music is an art form that can best express emotions; it can directly connect with people's souls, making music a most profound and pure artistic conception. *Let's Sway the Oars* is a well-known children's song. On the basis of the original monophonic melody, it adds a lead melody and a two-part chorus. In the process of listening and singing, we can not only feel the charm of beauty but also deeply understand the true meaning of beauty, thereby imperceptibly cultivating an aesthetic emotion. By carefully appreciating music, we can develop

correct aesthetic concepts, gain positive aesthetic experiences, and improve music appreciation and expression abilities. During this journey, we can not only appreciate the unique local customs from all over the world but also enjoy the splendor of various music forms. By in-depth studying the creative process of musicians, we can not only experience their unique personal charm but also improve our aesthetic level, laying a solid foundation for establishing healthy moral concepts.

2. The Role of Music in Enhancing Students' Moral Cultivation

Music appreciation is not only an aesthetic process but also the best way to carry out ideological and political education for us students. Plato once pointed out that music education should not only attach importance to moral and social purposes but also pursue beauty itself to cultivate people's virtues and kindness. The book **Western Philosophers, Writers, and Musicians on Music** provides detailed elaboration on this view. Music education aims to cultivate us educated people through various teaching methods and music's unique expression methods, enabling us to always pursue truth, kindness, and beauty, and integrate moral education into music education. Through good music education, we can not only cultivate patriotism and make us love our motherland and life more but also help us establish correct outlooks on life and values, and provide guidance for our ideals. In addition, music education can also make important contributions to the construction of our modern socialist spiritual civilization.

Music education aims to cultivate a new generation of successors with artistic accomplishment, aesthetic ability, and creativity, rather than just making them musicians. Through the unique form and method of music, we hope to cultivate talents with noble qualities, the pursuit of perfection, love for truth, and the courage to challenge themselves. Currently, our music education aims to promote students' aesthetic education by providing high-quality music courses and encouraging them to actively participate in various music practice activities to cultivate their good learning attitudes. Through rich emotional experiences, students can acquire better skills in perceiving, displaying, and appreciating music; broaden their thinking fields, and deeply understand the core concepts and practical skills of music. Through encouragement and motivation, we can help children improve their personal abilities and cultivate their teamwork spirit. Promoting national music plays a crucial role in current middle school courses. It can help us young people better understand, access, and love our national cultural heritage, thereby realizing the social significance of music education. Music is a unique art form that can convey people's thoughts, emotions, and souls, and truly reflect social life. The role of music in students' moral education can be reflected in many aspects:

2.1 Music Can Purify Students' Minds

The **Music Teaching Syllabus** emphasizes that through musical images, students' understanding and expression abilities should be cultivated, enabling them to better feel the charm of music, stimulate their revolutionary spirit, cultivate noble sentiments, enlighten wisdom, and thus promote the development of their physical and mental health. Through in-depth understanding and experience of music, students can establish correct outlooks on life, values, and the world. In addition to learning basic music knowledge and skills, we should also conduct in-depth research on the melody and rhythm of music to better comprehend the emotions contained therein, stimulate rich imagination, and truly feel the charm of music.

Through the processes of appreciating, singing, analyzing, and artistically processing songs, we fully understand the ideological content, expressive methods, and moral concepts conveyed in the songs. In this process, we can better improve our own ideological and moral qualities. By listening to music, we can not only cultivate our artistic appreciation ability but also deeply comprehend the political thoughts, ethics, and morals contained therein, thereby purifying our souls, enhancing our self-worth, further improving our personality cultivation, and achieving the highest spiritual realm. When Macao returned to China in 1999, the song **Song of the Seven*

Sons* aroused the deep love of the whole nation for the motherland and their infinite yearning for the return. When the young singer sang the first line, “Do you know? MACAO is not my real name. I have been away from my mother for too long. They plundered my body, but you still protect my soul deep inside...” A sense of national pride welled up in me. At that moment, I understood that the future and glory of our motherland are closely linked to every citizen. As the song intensified, everyone cheered in unison, “Mother, mother, I want to go home, mother...” When the national flag of the People’s Republic of China was raised high in the Macao Special Administrative Region, it was a heartfelt call—a call from every wanderer longing to return to the motherland, which moved countless Chinese people to tears. At this moment, they deeply felt this love and respect, and I was extremely proud to be a Chinese!

2.2 Music Can Cultivate Students’ Patriotism and National Mission

Musical works are an art form that includes excellent works from ancient and modern times, at home and abroad. They cultivate our patriotism, communist world outlook, and love for music. *Love My China* and *Five-Star Red Flag* are familiar classic works with beautiful melodies and profound, appealing lyrics that can arouse our love for the motherland. The Chinese nation has a long history and splendid culture. Over the long five thousand years, we have continuously created local music with unique national styles. This music not only records the traces of the rise and fall of our country’s history but also is the crystallization of the collective wisdom of the working people of our country. The formation of each excellent work embodies the wisdom and talents of thousands of working people. Understanding different local music can not only help us grasp the local customs of various places and ethnic groups but also imperceptibly stimulate our national pride, further cultivating our patriotic enthusiasm and national mission.

2.3 Music Can Cultivate Students’ Good Moral Emotions

Morality is a social ideology that regulates people’s behaviors and lifestyles. Moral emotion education is a comprehensive quality training that covers people’s moral standards, values, and cultural inheritance. It plays a crucial role in cultivating students’ all-round development. Some songs that convey family warmth, such as *A Letter from Two Places, Mother and Son*, *Mother in the Candlelight*, and *Go Home Often*, as well as those that convey friendship and teamwork, such as *Friend* and *Everyone Rows the Boat Together*, all express deep feelings for the family. Classic works like *The Youth’s Aspiration Knows No Sorrow*, *Take Off*, *Flying Songs of the Earth*, and *Great China* not only demonstrate the courage and perseverance of the younger generation but also praise the great contributions since the reform and opening up. They not only embody traditional virtues but also provide a strong model for the development of the new era. With the deepening of reform and opening up, the Chinese nation has undergone earth-shaking changes, all of which have aroused our deep love for the great motherland. Songs such as *Everyone Rows the Boat Together*, *Love My China*, and *Bless the Motherland*, with their wonderful lyrics, vividly display the beautiful scenery of our country, enabling us to have a deeper understanding of the motherland’s long history and culture, stimulate national pride, praise real life, and arouse infinite longing for beautiful ideals. Through music, students can not only enrich their inner world and spiritual world but also effectively cultivate moral emotions.

3. The Role of Music in Enhancing Students’ Innovative Ability

Music can also cultivate students’ good moral sentiments. As an ideology that regulates individual behavior and social order, the core of morality lies in guiding homo sapiens to form correct behavioral norms and value concepts. However, in response to the new era’s demand for cultivating and improving innovative ability, music not only needs to enhance our innovative awareness and spirit but also, more importantly, cultivate our creative personality traits. Music can not only improve taste and nurture sentiment but also plays a subtle role like “the wind blows at night, moistening things silently” in conscious music appreciation. Similarly, it plays a unique

and irreplaceable role in enhancing our innovative awareness, spirit, and quality.

Physiologists believe that the human brain is divided into two hemispheres: the left hemisphere, known as the “language brain,” is responsible for functions such as language, calculation, reading, and thinking; the right hemisphere, called the “music brain,” is in charge of emotions, feelings, aesthetics, and music. Music appreciation can well relax and regulate the brain, and music training can promote the balanced development of the two hemispheres, that is, the balanced development of logical thinking and image thinking. Therefore, the function of music is not limited to the category of “beauty.” It is generally believed that scientific thinking is mainly logical thinking, but inspiration and innovative thinking often show “non-logicality.” There are no particularly mysterious and unknowable factors in this; “intuition” is no longer a vague concept but a higher-level “image” thinking generated by the high integration of logical thinking and image thinking. Leibniz invented the “binary system” inspired by the hexagrams of *The Book of Changes*; scientist Gao Ge invented the flame stabilizer, which is very important in the aerospace field, inspired by the shape of sand dunes; pharmacologists also made significant breakthroughs in the design of molecular structures after being inspired by the shape of ants touching each other with their antennae. Such examples are countless. Of course, music has its own colors and architectural structures, as well as the colorful scenes of nature and the infinite wisdom and inspiration of musicians. Therefore, Einstein once stated, “Many of my scientific achievements have been inspired by music.” The above examples illustrate that music also plays an important and undeniable role in this field. The improvement of students’ innovative ability is mainly reflected in students’ active participation in various activities in music teaching.

3.1 Music Can Create an Atmosphere, Stimulate Interest, and Cultivate Students’ Imagination

Our imagination begins to develop from infancy. Rich imagination can stimulate our brain thinking, put us in an extremely excited state, and inspire infinite inspiration, which is the foundation of creative expression; it is the driving force for the development of the universe. Imagination is the driving force for the development of the world and the source of the progress of knowledge. The imagination of music can be stimulated through sound, which can not only enhance our understanding of music but also provide us with a space for imagination. Through fantasy and painting, we can realize association and discover the beauty of music. When I was a freshman in college, I listened to the orchestral piece *Tritsch-Tratsch Polka* in a music appreciation class. After listening, the teacher asked us to compare two different musical forms of *Tritsch-Tratsch Polka*: one is the orchestral version, and the other is the Vienna Boys’ Choir version. Through our own understanding and the teacher’s analysis and explanation, our auditory perception was enriched, our space for further thinking was stimulated, and we also gained a deeper appreciation of the charm of music.

3.2 Music Can Stimulate Students’ Desire to Perform and Enhance Their Expressive Ability

Expressive ability and imagination exist from childhood, and they are indispensable to each other. In early childhood, with the support of teachers and parents, most children have the opportunity to showcase their talents. However, when entering adulthood—especially adolescence—feelings of shyness and unease tend to inhibit their desire to express themselves. Over the past two semesters, our school has adopted *Music Teaching Methods*, aiming to help students build a positive musical atmosphere and thereby cultivate their music performance ability. By creating a relaxed and pleasant classroom environment and carefully designing performance content, our teachers encourage students to participate in musical activities. This not only satisfies their desire to perform but also improves their performance skills. Through this course, we learn how to establish a good teacher–student relationship: it helps students who enjoy performing become braver, while also benefiting those who are less skilled in performance. To a certain extent, music appreciation is a personal experience. Different people may have different understandings of the same musical work, leading to diverse ways of appreciating and expressing music. After learning to sing or play a musical piece, we can present it in various ways on different occasions: we can

hum it alone in our leisure time, or perform it enthusiastically in various cultural evenings; we can express it through singing or dancing, or via different musical instruments. In the process from appreciating and analyzing a musical work to reinterpreting it, our imagination is elevated, our thinking is broadened, and diverse forms of expression deepen our understanding and perception of the work. This further stimulates our desire to perform, which not only fully mobilizes our enthusiasm for performance but also boosts our self-confidence—thus providing more thorough training and improvement for our expressive ability. Music is undoubtedly an indispensable part for students, as it can promote the all-round development of their moral, intellectual, physical, artistic, and labor competencies. The 21st century will be an era full of challenges, an era that inspires innovation, and an era that demands human wisdom. As the pillars of our country, the development and improvement of our comprehensive quality are the key priorities in our growth and academic journey. As a music teacher about to enter society, I should strive to give full play to the edifying and nurturing role of music, promote its wider popularization and integration on campus, and enable it to play a more outstanding role in enhancing students' comprehensive quality!

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