

with Chinese Annotations

不列颠学生百科全书

中文注释版



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Britannica Student Encyclopedia

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Johann Sebastian Bach's music did not become popular until about 50 years after his death.

(see Bach, Johann Sebastian.)

Some kinds of bamboo can grow as much as 1 foot (0.3 meter) per day.

(See Bamboo.)

Boats were once made of wood or other natural substances. Today they are often made of metal, fiberglass, or plastic.

(See Boat.)

Bonobos, a type of ape, live only in the rain forests of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(See Bonobo.)

People have been making bronze, a mixture of copper and tin, for more than 5,000 years.

(See Bronze.)

- 1. 管风琴
- 2. 羽管键琴
- 3. 唱诗班
- 4. 管弦乐队
- 5. 勃兰登堡
- 6. 协奏曲 7. 独奏
- 8. 路德教礼拜仪式
- 9. 《B小调弥撒曲》
- 10. 独奏演员
- 11. 爱森纳赫
- 12. 管风琴演奏者
- 13. 吕讷堡
- 14. 贵族
- 15 公爵
- 16. 魏玛
- 17. 康塔塔
- 18. 莱比锡 19. 重新发现
- 20. 受到高度赞扬

Bach, Johann Sebastian 巴赫

German musician Johann Sebastian Bach is considered one of the world's greatest composers of music. He was also a gifted player of the organ¹ and the harpsichord² (another keyboard instrument).

Bach created hundreds of musical compositions, including works for choir³, orchestra⁴, and individual instruments, especially the organ. Among his many masterpieces are the six Brandenburg⁵ concertos⁶, which have parts for both an orchestra and solo⁷ instruments. Bach composed many works for Lutheran church services8. He also wrote longer sacred pieces, such as the Mass in B Minor⁹ (1749), for choir, soloists¹⁰, and orchestra.



A painting from 1720 shows Johann Sebastian Bach.

The Granger Collection, New York

Early Life 早年生活

Bach was born on March 21, 1685, in Eisenach¹¹ (now in central Germany). His eldest brother, who was an organist12, probably gave him his first keyboard lessons. Bach attended school in Lüneburg¹³, where he sang in a boys' choir. By the time he left, he was a skilled organist and composer.

Career 职业生涯

Bach worked as a musician and composer in churches and in the service of German noblemen¹⁴ in various cities. His first major position was as the official organist for a duke15 at Weimar16. Later he also became director of the duke's orchestra. His duties included composing a sacred cantata¹⁷ — a type of music for use during church services — every month.

In 1723 Bach became the director of church music for the city of Leipzig¹⁸. During his early years in this job, he composed many cantatas, sometimes up to one per week. At Leipzig he also directed an orchestra off and on from 1729 into the early 1740s. Bach died in Leipzig on July 28, 1750.

During his lifetime Bach was known mainly for his skill as a musician. After his death his compositions were mostly forgotten until the early 1800s. Then people began to rediscover¹⁹ his works. Today the music of Bach is highly acclaimed²⁰ and is performed frequently.

More to explore

Classical Music • Musical Instruments

Orchestra

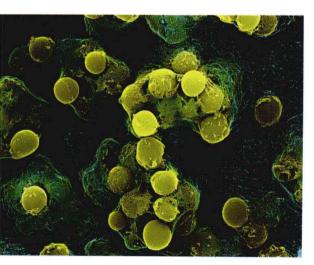
Bacteria 细菌

Bacteria are small organisms¹, or living things, that can be found in all natural environments. They are made of a single cell. Most bacteria can be seen only with a microscope².

Bacteria do not have most of the structures found in the cells of other organisms. They are much simpler and smaller than all other cells of living things.

Bacteria take in food and send out waste through their cell walls. Most bacteria reproduce³ by dividing down the middle to form two separate cells. These each divide again to form a total of four cells. Through this process, billions of bacteria may form from a single bacterium⁴ in only 24 hours.

Bacteria that cause diseases can get into the human body through the nose, the



Most bacteria are so small that they can be seen only by using a microscope. This bacteria sample has been magnified 2,000 times.

© S. Lowry — University of Ulster — Stone/Getty Images

mouth, and cuts in the skin. Once inside, these bacteria quickly reproduce and cause illness, called an infection. The infection may result from the bacteria themselves or from their poisonous waste products, called toxins⁵. Luckily, the immune system⁶ of the human body can fight these threats.

Sometimes the immune system needs help in fighting off bacteria. Doctors may inject dead or weakened bacteria into the human body. This is called a vaccine⁷. A vaccine prepares the body to fight off the same bacteria in the future. Doctors may also use medicines called antibiotics8 to kill bacteria in the body.

▶ More to explore

Antibiotic • Cell • Immune System

Vaccine

Badger

Badgers are mammals9 known for their powerful digging. They are related to weasels¹⁰, skunks¹¹, otters¹², and mink¹³.

Badgers live in many habitats¹⁴, including grasslands and forests. There are eight species¹⁵, or types, of badger. The American badger lives in the western part of North America. The Eurasian¹⁶ badger can be found in Europe and Asia. The other types live in Southeast Asia. They include hog badgers¹⁷, ferret badgers¹⁸, and stink badgers19.

Badgers are heavily built²⁰ animals with short legs. The different species range from 13 to 32 inches (33 to 81 centimeters) long,

Did You Know? Scientists have found remains of bacteria that are more than 360 million years old.

2. 显微镜 4. 细菌 5. 毒素 6. 免疫系统 7. 疫苗 9. 哺乳动物 12. 水獭 13. 水貂 14. 栖息地 16. 欧亚大陆的 18. 鼬獾

19. 臭獾 20. 体态壮实的

- 1. 毛皮
- 2. 地洞
- 3. 松鼠
- 4. 蜥虫
- 6. 底格里斯河
- 7. 阿拉伯穆斯林
- 8. 蒙古人
- 9. 海湾战争

not including the tail. They are about 9 to 12 inches (23 to 30 centimeters) high. The American badger sometimes looks wider than it is high. Most badgers have gray or brown fur. Many types have black-and-white marks on the face and back.

Badgers have strong front feet with heavy claws that are excellent for digging. Badgers dig to make underground homes called burrows². They may also dig to find small animals such as squirrels³, mice, and rabbits to eat. Many kinds eat insects, lizards⁴, birds, and plants, too. Badgers feed mainly at night.



The American badger is usually found in open, dry areas of western North America. Like other badgers it has large front claws that it uses for digging.

Norbert Rosing — National Geographic/Getty Images

Badgers are strong for their size. They can fight fiercely when threatened. All badgers have scent glands⁵ near the tail. Stink badgers shoot a foul-smelling liquid from these glands at their enemies.

► More to explore

Mammal • Mink • Otter • Skunk • Weasel

Baghdad 巴格达

Baghdad is the capital of the Middle Eastern country of Iraq. It is also Iraq's largest city. Baghdad lies on both banks of the Tigris River⁶.

Most of Iraq's industries are located in and around Baghdad. At one time the city produced a wide variety of goods, including cloth, furniture, chemicals, and electrical equipment. The economy of the city was disrupted by wars in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

People have lived on the site of Baghdad for some 4,000 years. In AD 762 an <u>Arab Muslim</u>⁷ ruler moved the capital of his large empire there. Baghdad reached its greatest power in the late 700s and early 800s. It also became a center of learning.

In 1258 the Mongols⁸ captured Baghdad. Later several other foreign powers invaded the city.

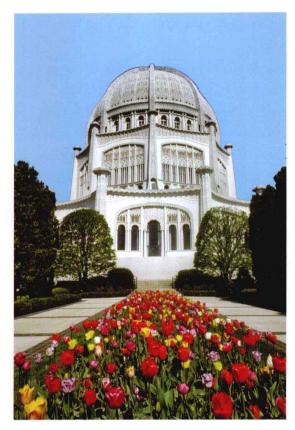
In 1921 Iraq became an independent country with Baghdad as its capital. The city began to grow again in size and importance.

Iraq's long war with Iran in the 1980s hurt Baghdad's development. During the Persian Gulf War⁹ of 1991, the United States and its allies dropped bombs on the city. Baghdad suffered further damage when forces led by the United States invaded the city in 2003.

▶ More to explore

Iraq

Baha'i Faith 哈教



All Baha'i houses of worship have nine sides and a dome. The House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois, is the only one in the United States.

Richard Hamilton Smith/Corbis

In the middle of the 1800s a religion called the Baha'i faith started in what is now Iran. It later spread around the world. Its followers, called Baha'is1, seek to bring together all people in one religion.

Beliefs and Practices 信仰与习俗

Baha'is believe that all religions are one and all people are one. They also believe that

God is beyond understanding. They teach that people should worship² God and try to make the world a better place.

At services, members listen to readings from the scriptures3 of all religions. Baha'is have no priests or special ceremonies. There are rules about prayer⁴ and fasting⁵, however. Also, a person is supposed to marry only once and should not use alcohol or tobacco.

History 历史

A man named Mirza Ali Mohammad⁶ started a group called the Babi⁷ in Persia⁸ (now Iran) in 1844. He believed that a new prophet9, or messenger10 of God, would soon appear. Muslim leaders and the government opposed his ideas. He was arrested, and in 1850 he was killed.

One of the first Babis was Mirza Hoseyn 'Ali Nuri¹¹. After he joined the group, he called himself Baha' Ullah¹². He was arrested in 1852. While in jail, he realized that he was the new prophet. In 1853 he was released and sent to Iraq. He led the Babi community there. The Babis¹³ who believed that he was the new prophet were called the Baha'is.

Baha' Ullah died in 1892. After his death, his oldest son led the group. He helped spread the faith to North America, Europe, and other continents. By the end of the 1900s, it had about 7 million followers around the world.

▶ More to explore

Iran

1. 巴哈派教徒

2. 崇拜

3. 经文

4. 祷告 5. 斋戒

6. 穆罕默德

7. 巴布教派

8. 波斯

9. 先知

10. 使者 11. 阿里努里

12. 巴哈安拉

13. 巴布教派信徒

Did You Know?

The Baha'i calendar has 19 months of 19 days each because the religion started with 19 followers.





- 3. 新普罗维登斯岛
- 4. 热带的
- 5. 飓风
- 6. 松树
- 7. 阔叶树
- 8. 棕榈树
- 9. 蜥蜴
- 10. 海螺
- 11. 淡水螯虾
- 12. 穆拉托人
- 13. 海地人
- 14. 家禽
- 15. 石灰岩
- 16. 朗姆酒
- 17. 阿拉瓦克人
- 18. 哥伦布 19. 殖民者
- 20. 伊柳塞拉岛

Bahamas, The 哈马

Located just southeast of Florida¹, the country of The Bahamas is a chain of islands in the Atlantic Ocean. The capital is Nassau² on New Providence Island³.

The Bahamas includes about 700 islands, but people live on only about 30 of them. The islands are low and flat. There are no rivers. The climate is tropical⁴, with warm weather year-round. From July to November, hurricanes⁵ may occur.

Forests of pine⁶, broadleaf⁷, and palm⁸ trees grow on some islands. Animals of The Bahamas include frogs, lizards9, and snakes. The surrounding waters are filled with fish, conchs¹⁰, crayfish¹¹, and other marine animals.

Most people in The Bahamas trace their roots to slaves from West Africa. Smaller groups include mulattos12 (people with both black and white ancestors), British and U.S. whites, and Haitians¹³.

The economy of The Bahamas depends on tourism. Tourists come to enjoy the beaches and crystal blue waters. Banking is another important industry. Crayfish, poultry14, and fruit are the main agricultural products. Bahamians also mine limestone¹⁵, harvest salt from the sea, and make rum16.

The peaceful Arawak¹⁷ people lived on the islands before Europeans arrived. Christopher Columbus¹⁸ landed in The Bahamas in 1492 and claimed the islands for Spain. Within 30 years the Arawak had completely disappeared from The Bahamas.

British settlers¹⁹ arrived on Eleuthera Island²⁰ in 1648. Except for brief control by both the United States and Spain in the late 1700s, The Bahamas stayed British until 1973. That year the islands gained independence.

▶ More to explore

Arawak • Columbus, Christopher • Nassau

Facts About THE BAHAMAS

Population

(2005 estimate) 323,000

Area

5,382 sq mi (13,939 sq km)

Capital

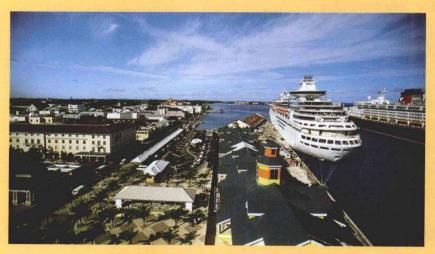
Nassau

Form of government

Constitutional monarchy

Major cities

Nassau, Freeport, West End, Cooper's Town, Marsh Harbour



Many tourists arrive in The Bahamas on cruise ships.

Digital Vision/Getty Images

Bahrain 四株

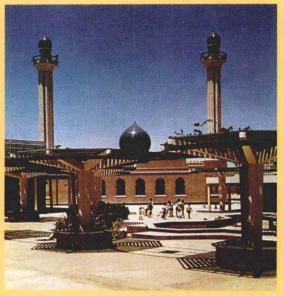
Bahrain is a small country in the Persian Gulf. It is made up of one main island, called Bahrain Island, and about 30 smaller islands off the coast of Saudi Arabia¹. The capital is Manama.

Fruit trees grow on the northwestern coast of Bahrain Island. Desert plants grow in the dry areas. Animals include gazelles², hares³, lizards, jerboas⁴ (desert rats), and mongooses5.

The majority of the country's people are Arabs. There are also groups of South Asians and Persians. Arabic6 is the official language, and Islam⁷ is the official religion. Most of the people live in cities.

Bahrain is a center for more than 60 foreign banks. Its major industries depend on its reserves of petroleum (oil) and natural gas. Bahrain also manufactures aluminum⁸ products and clothing. Tourism is a growing industry. Agricultural goods include dates9, other fruits, vegetables, eggs, and milk.

Bahrain was likely the site of ancient Dilmun¹⁰, a trading center in about 2000 BC. Arab Muslims have lived in Bahrain since the AD 600s. Portugal11 ruled from



The desert sun shines down on a mosque in the city of Madinah 'Isa, Bahrain. FPG

1521 to 1602, followed by the Persians. In 1783 the Khalifah¹² family drove out the Persians. A sheikh¹³, or chief, of that family has ruled Bahrain ever since.

Great Britain took control of Bahrain's foreign affairs in the 1800s. Bahrain declared itself independent in 1971. Disagreements between two Muslim groups soon caused problems. About half of Muslims are Shi⁴; but Sunnites hold most of the political and economic power.

More to explore

Arabs • Islam • Manama



1. 沙特阿拉伯

2. 野羚

4. 跳鼠

6. 阿拉伯语 7. 伊斯兰教

8. 铝

9. 枣子

10. 迪尔蒙

11. 葡萄牙

12. 哈里发

14. 什叶派教徒

15. 逊尼派教徒

Facts About BAHRAIN

Population (2005 estimate) 715,000

Area 277 sq mi (718

sq km) Capital

Manama

monarchy

Form of government Constitutional

Major urban areas

Manama, Al Muharraq, Ar-Rifa^c, Madinat Hamad, Madinat Isa

- 1. 基里巴斯
- 2. 珊瑚岛
- 3. 塔拉瓦环礁
- 5. 阿塞拜疆
- 6. 里海
- 7. 钻探
- 8. 加工

Bairiki 拜里基

Bairiki is the capital of Kiribati¹, an island country in the central Pacific Ocean. Bairiki is a small coral island². It is part of a group of coral islands called Tarawa Atoll³.

Bairiki is a center of government, business, and education for Kiribati. The office of the president and the Parliament building are on Bairiki. The island also has a branch of the University of the South Pacific. Dried coconut⁴ meat and other products are shipped from Bairiki's port.



Tarawa Atoll is a long, narrow chain of tiny islands. Bairiki is at the southern end of the chain.

Richard Vogel/AP

People have lived on Tarawa Atoll for thousands of years. In 1892 the British took over Tarawa and many nearby islands. The Japanese controlled the islands briefly in the 1940s, during World War II. Kiribati became an independent country in 1979. Bairiki became its capital.

More to explore

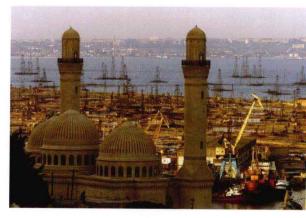
Coral • Kiribati

Baku 巴库

Baku is the capital and largest city of Azerbaijan⁵, a country of Southwestern Asia. The city lies on Baku Bay, which is part of the Caspian Sea⁶. Baku has the best harbor on the Caspian Sea. It is a center of education, culture, and industry.

Petroleum (oil) drilling⁷ in the Caspian Sea is a major industry. Processing⁸ the petroleum is the basis of Baku's economy. In addition, several factories in the city make equipment for the petroleum industry. Others produce electrical equipment, appliances, cloth, and shoes. Shipping at Baku's port also brings money to the city.

People have lived in the Baku area for thousands of years. Oil was first taken from the area in the 900s. Persians ruled the region for many years. Russia captured Baku in 1806. In 1918 Azerbaijan became an independent country with Baku as its capital. The Soviet Union took over



A mosque stands near the Caspian Sea in Baku. In the background is equipment that drills for petroleum in the sea.

© Shamil Zhumatov — Reuters/Corbis

Azerbaijan in 1920. Baku became the national capital again when Azerbaijan became independent in 1991.

More to explore

Azerbaijan • Caspian Sea

Balboa, Vasco Núñez de 巴尔沃亚

The Spanish conquistador¹ (conqueror) Vasco Núñez de Balboa was the first European to see the Pacific Ocean. He also helped to found the first successful European colony on the mainland of the Americas.

Balboa was born in Spain in 1475. He left

Vasco Núñez de Balboa

Ann Ronan Picture Library/Heritage-Images

for America in 1500 and settled on the island of Hispaniola², in the West Indies³. In 1510 he sailed with a group headed for a colony in what is now Colombia⁴. When they arrived they discovered that the colony had been abandoned except for a few people. Balboa persuaded them to go with him to Darién⁵, in what is now Panama⁶. There they established a stable colony.

Indians⁷ told Balboa about a great ocean with gold on its shores. Balboa asked for a large expedition⁸ from Spain to search for this ocean, but before it arrived he set out on his own with a smaller group. In September 1513 he reached the Pacific, which he called the South Sea, and claimed it for Spain.

The expedition from Spain arrived in 1514, with Pedro Arias Dávila9 at its head. Balboa and Dávila competed for power. As governor of Darién, Dávila eventually charged Balboa with various crimes. Balboa was found guilty and beheaded¹⁰ in January 1519.

▶ More to explore

Pacific Ocean

Balkan Peninsula

巴尔干半岛

The Balkan Peninsula is a large piece of land in southeastern Europe. It is divided into many countries, including Slovenia11, Croatia¹², Bosnia and Herzegovina¹³, Serbia¹⁴, Kosovo¹⁵, Montenegro¹⁶, Macedonia¹⁷,

1. 征服者

- 2. 伊斯帕尼奥拉
- 3. 西印度群岛
- 4. 哥伦比亚

- 8. 远征队
- 9. 达维拉 10. 新首
- 11. 斯洛文尼亚
- 12. 克罗地亚
- 13. 波斯尼亚和黑塞哥维那
- 14. 塞尔维亚
- 15. 科索沃
- 16. 黑山
- 17. 马其顿

- 1. 摩尔多瓦
- 2. 罗马尼亚
- 3. 保加利亚
- 4. 阿尔巴尼亚
- 5. 希腊
- 6. 土耳其
- 7. 半岛
- 8. 多瑙河 9. 斯拉夫人
- 10. 匈牙利人
- 11. 吉卜赛人
- 12. 吉卜赛人
- 13. 基督教
- 14. 伊利里亚人
- 15. 色雷斯人
- 16. 达契亚人
- 17. 罗马
- 18. 罗马天主教徒
- 19. 君士坦丁堡
- 20. 伊斯坦布尔
- 21. 东正教的
- 22. 奥斯曼王朝的
- 23. 奥斯曼帝国

Moldova¹, Romania², Bulgaria³, Albania⁴, Greece⁵, and the European part of Turkey⁶. Sometimes the region is called the Balkans. The history of the Balkans includes many invasions and wars.

Geography 地理

Mountains cover most of the peninsula⁷. The name Balkan means "mountain" in the Turkish language. The only large lowland regions are plains in Romania and Bulgaria. The Danube River⁸ is the most important waterway of the Balkans. The northern part of the peninsula has cold, snowy winters and warm summers. The south has mild winters and hot, dry summers.

People 人民

Many different peoples live in the Balkans. Most of the peoples belong to a larger group called Slavs9. The main Slavic peoples include Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, and Macedonians. The other peoples of the Balkans include Romanians, Albanians, Bulgarians, Hungarians¹⁰, Turks, Germans, and Roma¹¹ (Gypsies¹²). Each group has its own language. Christianity13 and Islam are the main religions. Religion has been a source of conflict in the Balkans.

History 历史

Peoples called Illyrians¹⁴, Thracians¹⁵, and Dacians16 lived in the Balkans in ancient times. In 229 BC the Romans invaded the peninsula. They controlled the Balkans for many centuries. Christianity spread through the Roman Empire in the 300s AD. In 395 the empire divided in two. The dividing line ran through the Balkans. The

western part of the empire was ruled from the city of Rome¹⁷. The peoples who lived there became Roman Catholics¹⁸. The east was ruled from the city of Constantinople¹⁹ (now Istanbul²⁰, Turkey). The peoples who lived there became Eastern Orthodox²¹ Christians. At about the same time different peoples began invading the Balkans from the north. The Slavs were among them. By the 500s the Slavs had spread over much of the peninsula.

The Slavs then started to separate into different peoples. Religion was a major force in those separations. The Slavs who lived in the western part of the Balkans mostly became Roman Catholics. Those who lived in the east mostly became Eastern Orthodox Christians.

Some Balkan peoples created their own kingdoms. The Bulgarians and the Serbs built up empires. But in the late 1300s and 1400s the Ottoman²² Turks conquered the Balkans. They made the whole region part of the Ottoman Empire²³. The Turks converted some Slavs and other peoples to Islam.

During the 1800s Balkan peoples formed states that rebelled against the Turks. In 1912 the states of Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro joined together to defeat the Turks in war. Soon, though, the Balkan states began fighting each other. They disagreed over who should control the land that had been won from the Turks. During World War I (1914-18) the Balkan states were split between the two sides.

After World War I a new Balkan country was created. It combined the Slavic lands of Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia. Each became a republic of the new country. In 1929 the country was named Yugoslavia¹.

For many years after World War II most of the Balkan countries were ruled by strict Communist governments. The powerful Soviet Union controlled most of those governments. In 1989 the Communists began to lose power. The Balkan countries then made their governments more democratic. But all the countries had serious economic problems.

In 1991 and 1992 Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina broke away from Yugoslavia to form separate countries. The breakup of Yugoslavia led to fighting that lasted for several years. The two republics that stayed



A church stands on an island in the middle of Lake Bled in Slovenia. Slovenia is a country on the Balkan peninsula.

Ian Shaw — Stone/Getty Images

in Yugoslavia were Serbia and Montenegro. In 2003 they dropped the name Yugoslavia. Then, in 2006, Serbia and Montenegro split into separate countries. In 2008 another split2 occurred. The province of Kosovo³ declared itself independent from Serbia. Serbia refused to recognize kosovo as an independent country, however.

More to explore

Europe • Ottoman Empire • Union of Soviet Socialist Republics • Yugoslavia

Ballet 芭蕾舞

A dance form with a long history, ballet originated in the 1500s. It is a theatrical art, meaning that it is performed to music and with costumes4 and scenery.

Positions and Steps 舞姿与舞步

Ballet is based on a formal system of poses and steps that have been changed only slightly through the years. There are five basic positions of the feet. In all of them the legs are "turned out," or rotated from the hips⁵ so the feet point outward. The foot positions in ballet are balanced by matching positions of the arms. In addition to the position of the feet and arms, there are two major body positions. In an arabesque⁶ one leg supports the body's weight while the other leg extends backward with the knee straight and the foot pointed. In a similar position called an attitude⁷, the knee of the raised leg is bent.

Among the basic steps of ballet are various jumps, turns, and quick gliding or sliding

Did You Know?

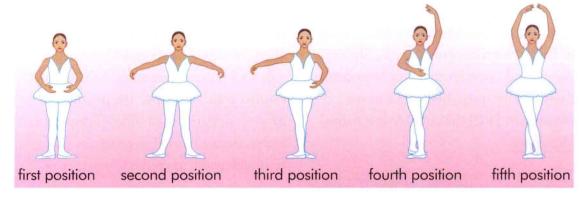
When people say that a region or group is balkanized, they mean that it has been split up into many small units.



- 1. 南斯拉夫
- 2. 分裂
- 3. 科索沃 4. 成套服装

- 6. 阿拉贝斯克舞姿
- 7. 鹤立式

- 1 芭蕾舞女演员
- 2. 路易十四
- 3. 专业舞蹈演员
- 4. 戏剧性的
- 5. 舞蹈编导 6. 彼季帕
- 7. 圣彼得堡
- 8. 紫可夫斯基
- 9. 《天鹅湖》
- 10. 《睡美人》
- 11. 《胡桃夹子》 12. 佳吉列夫
- 13. 俄罗斯芭蕾舞团
- 14. 同事
- 15. 作曲家



Ballet dancers use five basic positions of the feet and arms in all of their dancing. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

steps. Female dancers, called ballerinas¹, dance part of the time on the tips of the toes. This often gives their movements a floating quality.

History 历史

Ballet developed from dances performed in the late 1500s for and by members of the French royal court, including the king. These court ballets used many steps of the social dances of the time. In 1661 the French king Louis XIV² established the Royal Academy of Dance for the study of ballet. Soon only trained professionals³ danced in ballets. The academy's first director created the five basic ballet positions. Over the next several decades, its dancers developed many of ballet's basic steps.

Many early ballets combined dancing with opera or scenes from a play. The dramatic4 ballet, which tells a story through dance, was developed in the 1700s. Choreographers⁵ (who create a dance's steps and movements) and dancers of the time also began to use new, more expressive steps and gestures.

In the mid-1800s French dancer and choreographer Marius Petipa⁶ moved to Russia and established Saint Petersburg⁷ as the major center for ballet. Petipa and composer Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky8 created several famous ballets, including Swan Lake⁹, Sleeping Beauty¹⁰, and The Nutcracker11.

In the early 1900s Sergey Diaghilev¹² founded a company called the Ballets Russes¹³. Among his associates¹⁴ were famous composers¹⁵ and artists and such great choreographers and dancers as



Dancers perform the ballet Swan Lake. Ali Jarekji — Reuters/Corbis