

# Answer Key

What do you think **John Philip Sousa** had in mind when calling his march - **THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER**?

**ANSWER:** The American Flag. Why? Because the most outstanding features of the American Flag are the 50 **stars** and the 13 red and white **stripes**.

The piccolo is a high pitched flute. Listen for the famous piccolo part. Can you spot it?

**ANSWER:** Computer mp3 players often have a time counter. Check for these times for the piccolo part. The piccolo part comes in at 2:10 in the band version. It lasts until 2:42. The piccolo part comes in again at 3:11 and plays until the end of the composition. It's a little more difficult to hear in the second example but if you listen you should be able to hear the high notes of the piccolo over the rest of the band.

Listen again to the piano version -- Can you find the piccolo part played by the piano?

**ANSWER:** The piano plays the piccolo part beginning at 2:28 and lasts until 3:00. It comes in again at the end beginning at 3:31 and lasts until almost the very end of the piece.

Is the piano version of **THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER** compare with the black and white American flag or the red, white and blue American flag? Why?

**ANSWER:** The black and white American Flag. Why? The piano produces only one timbre, or tone color. This compares to the one color (grey) made by a pencil.

Does the band version of **THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER** compare with the black and white American flag or the red, white and blue American flag? Why?

**ANSWER:** The red, white and blue American Flag. Why? The American Flag contains several colors. Each band instrument produces its own distinct timbre, or tone color, and is in a similar way capable of producing many colors. The tone color of a clarinet is different than the tone color of that of a trumpet or a trombone, or of the piccolo.