

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## String Master Yo-Yo Ma

The cello is a member of the violin family, but it is far too big to be held on	19
the shoulder like a violin or a viola. Instead, it rests between the musician's knees.	34
The cello can cover a wider range of notes than any other member of the violin	50
family.	51
Yo-Yo Ma is one of the finest cellists in the world. He is so well-known and	67
admired that he does not have to audition, as most musicians do. Instead, he is	82
invited to play with orchestras all over the world. In addition to performing live,	96
Ma has done many recording projects, and he has even appeared on <i>Sesame Street</i>	110
and <i>Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood</i> .	114
Ma is very interested in linking traditional music with modern music. He	126
also likes to explore new ways to use his instrument and to experiment with	140
technology. Above all, Yo-Yo Ma shares his love of music with people of all ages.	155
Ma was born in Paris in 1955. He began playing the cello when he was four	171
years old and had his first concert when he was five. His family moved to New	187
York when he was seven.	192
As a teenager, he studied music at the Juilliard School. Although he was	205
already a famous musician, Ma decided not to major in music when he was	219
at Harvard University. Instead, he majored in anthropology because he was	230
interested in learning how different cultures have shared ideas throughout history.	241
Yo-Yo Ma thinks the cello is an excellent way to express himself. He says he	256
loves the cello because it has the exact range of the human voice. He calls it a very	274
human instrument.	276
Although the cello is usually viewed as a classical instrument, Ma has not	289
confined his playing to sonatas and symphonies. He has liberated the cello by	302
working on many projects with non-classical musicians. When it comes to making	314
music, Yo-Yo Ma enjoys trying just about anything!	322