

Read the text and choose the right options to complete the sentences.

ANNA NETREBKO.

Anna Netrebko is a Russian operatic soprano. One of the most in demand operatic singers, she has been nicknamed "La Bellissima – The Beauty" by fans. Netrebko was born in Krasnodar. While a student at the Saint Petersburg conservatoire, Netrebko worked as a caretaker washing the floors of Saint Petersburg's Mariinsky Theatre. Later, she took part in the casting performing for the Mariinsky Theatre, where the famous conductor Valery Gergiev recognized her from her prior work in the theatre. He subsequently became her vocal adviser. Under Gergiev's guidance, Netrebko made her operatic stage debut at the Mariinsky at the age of 22, as Susanna in *Figaro's Marriage*. She went on to sing many prominent roles with the Kirov Opera. In 1995, at the age of 24, Netrebko made her American debut as Lyudmila in Glinka's *Ruslan and Ludmila* at the San Francisco Opera. Following this successful performance, she became a frequent guest singer in San Francisco. She is known as an acclaimed interpreter of other Russian operatic roles, such as Natasha in Prokofiev's *War and Peace* and Marfa in *The Tsar's Bride*. In 2002, Netrebko made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera. In the same year, she sang her first Donna Anna at the Salzburg Festival's production of *Don Giovanni*. She also performed at the Russian Children's Welfare Society's major fund raiser, the "Petrushka Ball". She returned to the Ball in 2003 and 2006 and is an honorary director of the charity. She was triumphant wherever she performed.

In 2008 her son Tiago Netrebko was born. In her first performance after her maternity leave, Netrebko sang Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor* when it opened at the Mariinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg on 14 January, 2009. She then sang the same role in January and February, 2009 at the Metropolitan Opera. In February 2014, she performed the Olympic anthem at the opening ceremony for the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi near her native Krasnodar. Due to her full voice and bright timber, she is usually casted as a young, innocent girl, and other such sympathetic characters. She is an excellent actress and displays deep emotion and passion in her singing. Her beautiful and soothing sound tends to fascinate the audiences.

There is a great variety of characters to choose from ranging from leading roles to minor characters for any lyric soprano. It means that a lyric soprano will always have a place in opera. The most sought after lyric soprano at this time is the Russian singer Anna Netrebko, who's again the leading lady in house at the Metropolitan Opera.

1. **Anna Netrebko is from**_____.
 1. Austria
 2. Italy
 3. the USA
 4. the Russian Federation
2. **When Anna Netrebko studied at the conservatoire she worked as** _____.
 1. a teacher
 2. a cleaner
 3. a singer
 4. a conductor
3. **Valery Gergiev was Anna Netrebko's**_____.
 1. partner
 2. director
 3. manager
 4. instructor
4. **Anna Netrebko made her debut in**_____.
 1. Moscow
 2. Italy
 3. Vienna
 4. Saint Petersburg

5. Americans appreciate Anna Netrebko for her role_____.

1. as Susanna in *Figaro's Marriage* .
2. as Donna Anna
3. in Russian operas
4. as Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor*

6. Anna Netrebko takes part in the work of_____.

1. boarding schools
2. charity organizations
3. festivals
4. children's concerts

7. Anna Netrebko_____ at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.

1. was a guest
2. carried the fire
3. was one of the jury
4. sang

8. Anna Netrebko is the leading lady in many theatres because of her_____.

1. beauty
2. temperament
3. talent
4. soprano voice