**Worksheet**

Dear friends,

Are you ready to travel through time?

You are at the memorial museum of Alexander N. Scriabin. Here in the historical

center of Moscow time stands still and you can move 100 years back. Let's find the

things people were interested in and learn about the way they lived at the beginning

of the 20th century. So let’s move to the past!

As you can see this house was not built as a museum but as a residential building and

now you are the guests of the composer and pianist A.N. Scriabin.

Just think of the following: which of these famous museums were once also

residential buildings? (Underline the correct answers).

1. The State Darwin Museum.
2. The Memorial House Museum of Marina Tsvetaeva.
3. The Museum of Cosmonautics.

Over the centuries many professions could be determined by clothing. Look at the

Scriabin's photographs in his study. What kind of education did he receive in his

youth? What was Scriabin's profession?

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As you may know, Scriabin was an outstanding pianist. All musicians wear a special

outfit on stage. Find the suit in which Scriabin gave his last recital in 1915.

Take a photo of it and write its name.

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| Photo | Name |
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Furnishing his apartment, Scriabin preferred the most popular style of his time, Art Nouveau. Have a look at the pictures and try to determine the interior items in Scriabin's study that belong to this style.

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Try to describe this style using the correct words or phrases:

**Religious subjects, ordinary, unusual, greatly influenced by ancient civilizations, floral ornament, straight lines, curved lines, classical, organic forms, in the fields of decorative art and architecture.**

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Pay attention to the chandelier. In Scriabin's lifetime it was electrified. What do you

think the source of light in a chandelier was before electricity? Choose the correct

answer.

– candle;

– lamp oil;

– gas.

In the late XIX – early XX a new popular art movement emerged. It was called

Symbolism. Its main idea was an attempt to conceal the meaning behind the

symbols. The symbolists loved mystery and were fond of mysticism. Scriabin and

many of his friends were symbolists too. The composer was very keen on the

oeuvre ([ɜːv] творчество) of his friend N. Sperling. Several of his paintings are

displayed at the Scriabin's house.

Have a look at the pictures in the study and try to find those of them painted by

Sperling. Take a photo of them.

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| Картинки по запросу картинка фотоаппарат | Картинки по запросу картинка фотоаппарат |

Look at the picture “Oriental Sage”. What did the artist want to convey?   
Describe your impressions.

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The second picture by Sperling portrays a medieval knight. You can see an actual

historic figure who lived in the XV century. His name is Gilles de Rais. He was a

friend of the famous heroine Jeanne d'Arc. Once he began to study alchemy.   
The author of the picture was well acquainted with this fact, but do the descendants still know that? The artist left a clue for those who do not know this – an alchemical

symbol. Try to find it and draw.

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At the end of the XIX – early XX century the culture of the East became very

popular. Scriabin also took a great interest in Orientalism. Find items that are

associated with oriental culture in the small locker with gifts and try to determine

which countries they were brought from.

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In earlier times it was conventional to have a separate room for guests. Try to discern

distinctions between the drawing room and the study at the Scriabin house.

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There is an unusual object at the wall on the right – that is the first sound reproducing

device, a pianola. For reproducing music with the help of this device a musical

medium in the form of perforated paper would be needed. Connect the reproducing

devices of the XX century with the corresponding music media.

Pianola phonograph record

Gramophone tape / disc

Tape recorder roller with perforated paper

What do we use today to listen to music?

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Look at the furniture in the dining room. This is another type of Art Nouveau style. At the beginning of the XX century people strived for comfort and convenience refusing excessive decor (as you saw it in Scriabin's study). Such kind of furniture was available both to the rich and the poor. Give the short description of the room.

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