

Ode „To the Joy“

Friedrich Schiller wrote the ode "To the Joy" in 1785 in Dresden. He revised the ode several times because he was dissatisfied with the song.

The ode consists of nine stanzas of eight verses each. The stanzas are followed by choirs. The ode was probably written specifically for men. Friedrich Schiller describes joy in the Ode as the driving force for the physical and spiritual world and expresses his idealistic thought that all people become brothers.

In 1972, the Council of Europe declared the ode "To the Joy" in the setting of Ludwig van Beethoven to his hymn.

Text according to: <https://www.friedrich-schiller-archiv.de/inhaltsangaben/an-die-freude-schiller-interpretation-inhaltsangabe/>, 18.01.2019

Questions about the text

Read the questions below and check with the text.

1. How many stanzas does the ode have? Check!

☐ 6

☐ 8

☐ 9

2. What does the Ode describe?

3. When did Friedrich Schiller write the ode?

4. What is an ode? You can search on the internet.
