**Modern Ballet – Guided Notes**

**Russian Ballet Beginnings -**

🡪 Marius Petipa -

**Ballet Russe -**

🡪 Sergei Diaghilev -

***The Firebird -***

🡪 Mikail Fokine -

***The Stars and Stripes -***

🡪 George Balanchine -

***The Rite of Spring -***

🡪 Vaslav Nijinsky -

🡪 Igor Stravinsky -

**Viewing Guide: *Rite of Spring***

Watch the soloist dancer on the screen. Why does this ballet resemble Martha Graham’s dances and not a typical ballet?

Why is the Diaghilev’s Ballet Russe the most influential ballet company of the 20th century?

Why was it hard to work for Diaghilev?

Why was it strange that Nijinsky became a choreographer and continued to choreographic ballets?

Why are Nijinsky and Picasso considered similar?

Why did Diaghilev hire Marie Rambert?

Did Nijinsky and Stravinsky work well together? Explain.

How do the dancer’s movements emphasize Stravinsky’s movements instead of fight against it?

Analysis: How is the choreography for *The Rite of Spring* break with the traditions of ballet, show experimental techniques, and show a merging of cultures?

**Viewing Guide: *Stars and Stripes***

When you’re watching this scene, how can you tell that this scene is about America?

Give an example of how Balanchine’s ballet’s is more demanding for the female dancer than the male dancer.

How do you know this is a “modern” ballet and not a “romantic” ballet?

🡪 Mikhail Baryshnikov -

🡪 *White Nights -* Describe two movements that illustrate Baryshnikov’s strength as a dancer: