Asst. 2

Debussy, "... Voiles" (no. 2 from Préludes book I)

What is the main pitch collection (list all pitch classes) for most of the prelude? What kind of scale do they form? (4 pts)

In which measures does Debussy use a different set of pitches? List them, and indicate what scale they form. (4 pts)

What is the effect of the contrasting section (harmonically, formally, dramatically...)? (2 pts)

Which pitches are common to both pitch collections? (4 pts)

In one measure of the first A section (i.e. mm. I-4I) there are notes that do not belong to the prevailing pitch collection of that section. Identify the measure number and name the extraneous pitches. How would you analyze them—in other words, how do they relate to the prevailing sense of mode in that section? (2 pts)

Is the prelude expressive of its title? How so? Look up all words you do not know, including expressive markings. (2 pts)

In the main (outer) sections, do you feel that any particular pitch or chord is "tonic" (more reposeful, a goal rather than a tension)? Or is any pitch or set of pitches any more or less "tonic" than any others? Explain why or how certain pitches acquire whatever greater stability or instability they have for you. Continue on back as needed. (2 pts)