# AmPopMusic Logo for Styles Charts

# AmPopMusic - Question Bank #3.0 – Jazz and Blues

(correct answers in red)

**Basic Concepts of Jazz**

1) An improvised solo in traditional jazz draws the notes from the \_\_\_\_ being played at the time.

1. Tempo b) beat c) chord or harmony d) instrumentation e) key

2) The term “jazz” most likely came from the word “jass” which meant:

1. Slow dance music b) to play high notes c) to spice something up d) out of control e) background music
2. The spontaneous creation of a melody is called:
3. Creating a groove b) comping c) improvisation d) syncopation e) being lost

4) Which statement is ***most true*** about the concept of improvisation? Improvisation is when a player plays:

a) without any other instruments b) any note they want c) exactly what is written for him d) on multiple instruments e) any notes that fit with the harmony played at that moment

**New Orleans & Chicago**

1) Although there is no exact date as to the birth of jazz, according to most accounts the date is

1. 1900 b) 1910 c) 1917 d) 1920 e) 1899

2) The birthplace of jazz is considered to be:

1. a) Chicago b) Harlem c) Kansas City d) Congo Square e) Memphis

3) The key concept of early jazz coming from New Orleans was:

1. Sections of trumpets b) written arrangements c) carefully composed riffs d) collective improvisation

4) Louis Armstrong was the first jazz artist to record an improvised vocal solo with nonsense syllables. It was called:

1. Jittering b) comping c) bedooping d) scatting e) swazzing

5) New Orleans was known as “music for the head, not for the feet.” a) true b) false

1. In 1900, New Orleans brothels where early jazz was heard were limited to an area of town called:
2. Brotheltown b) Storyville c) Congo Square d) Red Light District e) French Quarter.
3. An early New Orleans jazz group might contain a trumpet, piano, drums, banjo and \_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. cello b) steel guitar c) mandolin d) tuba e) guitar
5. While Armstrong dominated the clubs in South Chicago, which white trumpet player was his counterpart in the North Chicago jazz clubs?
6. Buddy Bolden b) Stephen Foster c) Bix Beiderbecke d) Freddie Keppard e) Benny Goodman
7. Two of Louis Armstrong’s nicknames were “Pops” and \_\_\_\_\_\_.
8. “Fatha” b) “Count” c) “Satchmo” d) “Louis the Lips” e) “Swingman”
9. The economic crash of 1929 almost destroyed which industry?
10. Radio b) recording c) television d) music publishing e) MTV

11) The “Father of Modern Jazz” is widely accepted to be –

a) King Oliver b) Louis Armstrong c) Duke Ellington d) Miles Davis e) Charlie Parker

12) The first jazz recording and the closing of Storyville in New Orleans coincide in the same year, which is often considered the birth-year of jazz. It was \_\_\_\_\_:

a) 1915 b) 1916 c) 1917 d) 1920 e) 1925

13) The term “collective improvisation” most accurately fits which style?

a) fusion b) New Orleans c) big band d) delta e) cool

14) When jazz “migrated” from New Orleans, it centered first in which city?

a) Memphis b) Boston c) Detroit d) Chicago e) Cleveland

15) Which term best describes New Orleans jazz?

a) piano comping b) two measure riffs c) stride piano d) music for the head e) collective improvisation

16) Which of the following instruments would NOT be heard in an early New Orleans jazz band?

a) trumpet b) clarinet c) tuba d) saxophone e) piano

**Big Band**

1) Big Band jazz and ???

a) King Oliver b) Count Basie c) Charlie Parker d) B.B.King e) Miles Davis

2) The first significant and prolific composer of jazz was:

1. Miles Davis b) “King” Oliver c) Duke Ellington d) Count Basie e) Buddy Bolden

3) Up-tempo big band music was called “hot” jazz, while slower big band arrangements were called:

a) “scatting” b) “swing” c) “Dixie” d) “riffing” e) “sweet”

4) Which white bandleader helped popularize jazz through his national radio broadcasts?

a) Duke Ellington b) Benny Goodman c) Count Basie d) Bix Beiderbecke e) Earl Hines

1. The jazz composer known for his progressive harmonies and unique tonal colors was:
2. Fats Waller b) Bix Beiderbecke c) Count Basie d) Duke Ellington e) Benny Goodman

6) Who was known as the “King of Swing”?

1. Louis Armstrong b) Duke Ellington c) Benny Goodman d) Count Basie e) Fletcher Henderson

7) Which early jazz instrument disappeared by the big band era?

1. saxophone b) trumpet c) drums d) banjo e) string bass

8) The style of jazz piano popularized by Count Basie, created space between the chords was called:

1. comping b) ragging c) boogie woogie d) stride piano e) winging

1. Who was known as the “Queen of Scat”?
2. Sarah Vaughn b) Ella Fitzgerald c) Bessie Smith d) Billie Holiday e) Ma Rainey

10) The term “collective improvisation” is best associated with big band jazz. a) true b) false

11) Which of the following instruments would NOT be heard in a Big Band ensemble?

a) trumpet b) banjo c) standup bass d) saxophone e) piano

12) Singing an improvised melody with nonsense words and syllables is called:

a) comping b) syncopating c) riffing d) scatting e) yodeling

13) Creating “space” between the chords in the accompaniment by the piano is called:

a) boogie-woogie b) comping c) riffing d) syncopating e) stride

**Bop**

1) Bebop and ???

a) Muddy Waters b) Duke Ellington c) Louis Armstrong d) Dizzy Gillespie e) Elmore James

1. Who was considered the “Father of Bop”?
2. Dizzy Gillespie b) Duke Ellington c) Charlie Parker d) Thelonius Monk e) Louis Armstrong
3. Bebop was known as “music for the head, not for the feet” a) true b) false
4. A radical new style of jazz evolved in the late ‘40s beginning after hours at a club called Minton’s. The radical new style was known as:
5. bebop b) ragtime c) hot jazz d) fusion e) cool jazz

5) Which characteristic does **NOT** describe “bop” jazz:

a) virtuoso pyrotechnic solos b) progressive harmonies c) unpredictable, erratic rhythms d) complex, written arrangements e) small instrumental ensembles

6) The most prolific composer in the bop era was a pianist named:

a) Charlie Parker b) Dizzy Gillespie c) Count Basie d) Thelonius Monk e) Duke Ellington

7) Dizzy Gillespie was one of the best trumpet players in the bop era. a) true b) false

**Cool, Free & Fusion**

1) Free jazz and ???

a) King Oliver b) Count Basie c) Charlie Parker d) B.B.King e) John Coltrane

1. The backlash to the rapid, pyrotechnic displays of bop jazz was the reserved jazz style known as:
2. cool jazz b) fusion jazz c) free jazz d) rebop jazz e) jump blues
3. The ultimate breaking of all harmonic and rhythmic rules in jazz resulted in a style known as:
4. ragtime b) fusion c) free jazz d) cool jazz e) big band

4) The jazz style, which broke all the rules, creating complete autonomy for the instrumentalists was known as funk jazz. a) true b) false

5) Which jazz trumpet player moved from “bop” to “cool” to “fusion”?

a) Ornette Coleman b) Dizzy Gillespie c) Miles Davis d) Charlie Parker e) Louis Armstrong

6) “Emancipation from strict musical rules” was the basic concept behind which style?

a) jump blues b) fusion c) free jazz d) bebop e) New Orleans jazz

7) In the 1960s, a radical new style of jazz combined jazz with rock ‘n’ roll, it was called:

a) free jazz b) fusion c) cool jazz d) hard bop e) jump blues

8) The jazz style, which broke all the rules, creating complete autonomy (independence) for the improvising instrumentalists was known as funk jazz. a) true b) false

9) What style electrified trumpets and added rock ‘n roll bass and drums?  
a) bop jazz b) delta blues c) fusion jazz d) cool jazz e) free jazz

**General Jazz Questions**

1. Which instrument has remained constant through all the jazz eras?
2. Trombone b) trumpet c) banjo d) clarinet e) cello

**Basic Concepts of the Blues**

1) The term “the blues” most likely comes from the concept of:

a) blue birds of unhappiness b) blue skies overhead c) blue suede shoes d) blue jeans in the fields e) blue devils of depression

2) The traditional “12 Bar Blues” was built upon three chords:

1. I, II & III b) I, IV & VI c) I, III & V d) I, IV & V e) II, IV & V

3) A “blues harp” was a common term for a \_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. guitar b) harmonica c) piano d) synthesizer e) fiddle

4) The blues evolved from 19th century \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. field hollars b) marches c) ragtime songs d) parlor songs e) spirituals

5) The lyrics of the traditional 12 bar blues have a \_\_\_\_\_ rhyming pattern.

1. ABC b) AAB c) ABAB d) ABCC e) ABCA

**Delta Blues**

1) Which state was one of the birthplaces of Delta blues?

1. Michigan b) North Dakota c) Illinois d) Colorado e) Mississippi

2) Robert Johnson supposedly “sold his soul” at the crossroads to gain the ability to play jazz guitar.

a) true b) false

3) What early blues artist was known as the “Father of the Delta Blues”?

1. Son House b) Tommy Johnson c) Robert Johnson d) Charley Patton e) Elmore James

4) Early delta blues singers often accompanied themselves on a \_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. violin b) guitar c) mandolin d) banjo e) piano

5) Which state was NOT part of the area which gave birth to the blues?

1. Mississippi b) Tennessee c) Alabama d) Louisiana e) Virginia

6) Delta blues and ???

a) King Oliver b) Robert Johnson c) Muddy Waters d) B.B.King e) Chet Baker

7) What phrase best describes “delta blues”?

a) singer and guitar b) music for the head c) two measure riffs d) power by electrification

8) In which style of music would you be least likely to hear a trumpet?

a) New Orleans jazz b) bebop c) delta blues d) big band e) Memphis blues

**Classic Blues**

1) Who is widely accepted as the “Father of the Blues”?

a) W. C. Handy b) Charley Patton c) Muddy Waters d) Elmore James e) Eric Clapton

2) The “classic” blues by W. C. Handy often included some of the following instruments except:

1. trumpet b) guitar c) clarinet d) piano e) kazoo

3) Who was known as “Empress of the Blues”?

a) Sarah Vaughan b) Ella Fitzgerald c) Billie Holiday d) Bessie Smith e) Mrs. Louis Armstrong

4) The first “composed” blues song was created by W. C. Handy. a) true b) false

5) Which style of blues could be described as “blues in jazz clothing”?

a) classic b) delta c) Memphis d) jump e) east Texas

**Jump Blues**

1) Jump blues was a combination of blues and:

1. fusion b) pop music c) spirituals d) work songs e) swing jazz

2) Who was known as the “Father of Jump Blues”?

a) Benny Goodman b) W. C. Handy c) Louis Jordan d) Louis Armstrong e) Robert Johnson

3) Two musical off-shoots from the Big Band era were the styles of “bop” and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

a) fusion b) delta blues c) free jazz d) jump blues e) New Orleans jazz

4) The instrumentation for jump blues included all these instruments except which one?

1. saxophone b) string bass c) drums d) trumpet e) banjo

5) What jump blues artist was also known as the “Grandfather of Rock ‘n’ Roll”?

a) Muddy Waters b) Louis Jordan c) Howlin’ Wolf d) John Coltrane e) Miles Davis

6) Which style of blues evolved into “Rhythm & Blues” and eventually into “Rock ‘n’ Roll”?

a) delta blues b) jump blues c) urban blues d) classic blues e) rural blues

7) Jump blues and ???

a) Robert Johnson b) Louis Jordan c) Charlie Patton d) B.B.King e) John Coltrane

**Memphis/Chicago Blues**

1) Memphis/Chicago blues and ???

a) Louis Armstrong b) Charlie Parker c) Thelonius Monk d) Muddy Waters e) Robert Johnson

2) Which city was one of the birthplaces of “urban” blues?

1. New Orleans b) Dallas c) Nashville d) New York e) Memphis

3) “Urban blues” took the intimate sound of the delta and clothed it in:

1. big band sounds b) amplified power c) acoustic instruments d) reverberation e) psychedelic colors.

4) The uniqueness of Elmore James’ style of blues was built around a technique called:

1. reverberation b) yodeling c) distortion d) scatting e) slide guitar

5) In which style of blues would you most likely hear an electric guitar?

a) classic b) delta c) Mississippi d) jump e) Memphis

6) A guitar technique used by some blues guitar players is called:

a) distortion b) slide c) reverberation d) comping e) boogie-woogie

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Listening Examples**

**Example A: Big Band – example: Benny Goodman “Sing, Sing, Sing”**

1) In example A, which statement is **NOT** true:

a) sections with 3 or 4 instruments in each b) written arrangements were used by the band c) “music for the head, rather than for the feet” d) popular in early 1940’s e) limited improvisation

2) Example A most closely fits which style of music:

a) swing jazz b) bop jazz c) Dixieland d) delta blues e) Memphis blues

3) In example A, the musician most likely to be heard performing would be:

a) B.B. King b) Benny Goodman c) Scott Joplin d) John Coltrane e) Ornette Coleman

**Example B: Urban/Memphis Blues – example: B. B. King “The Thrill is Gone”**

4) In example B, the guitar/soloist most likely to be heard performing would be:

a) John Coltrane b) W.C. Handy c) Fletcher Henderson d) B. B. King e) Miles Davis

5) Example B most closely fits which style of music:

a) swing jazz b) bop jazz c) cool jazz d) delta blues e) Memphis blues

6) The soloist in example B displays which technique:

a) comping b) swing c) boogie-woogie d) bending the string e) stride

**Example C: Bop – example: Charlie Parker & Dizzy Gillespie “Hot House”**

7) In example C, the soloists might include all ***except*** which of the following:

a) Charley Patton b) Thelonius Monk c) Dizzy Gillespie d) Charlie Parker

8) Example C most closely fits which style of music:

a) New Orleans b) bop c) free jazz d) big band e) cool jazz

**Example D: Delta Blues – example: Robert Johnson “Crossroads Blues or Eric Clapton “Malted Milk Blues”**

9) In example D, the artist is performing in the style of which musician:

a) Louis Armstrong b) Elmore James c) Robert Johnson d) Muddy Waters e) Earl “Fatha” Hines

10) The style most closely fitting the music in Example D could be described as:

a) swing b) free c) fusion d) cool e) delta

**Example E: Cool Jazz – example Miles Davis “Moon Dreams”**

11) The musical style demonstrated in example E was built on complex, sustained chords. It is:

1. fusion b) bop c) cool d) free e) jump

12) The musician who helped pioneer the style heard in example E was:

1. Benny Goodman b) Miles Davis c) John Coltrane d) Dizzy Gillespie e) Bix Biederbecke

**Example F: Jump Blues – example: Louis Jordan “Buzz Me Baby”**

13) The style represented in example F combined the swing of big band with the passion of the delta into a small combo. It was: a) cool b) fusion c) delta d) urban e) jump

14) The most notable artist in the style represented in example F was:

a) Count Basie b) Louis Jordan c) Muddy Waters d) W. C. Handy e) Louis Armstrong