

Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu

Ceòl Nàiseanta 5

Jazz, Blues and Popular Music

Ainm:

Clas:

Tidsear:

Jazz, Blues and Popular Music

Background

From the beginning of the 20th century, music styles have changed and evolved into different genres.

The styles you will learn about are:

Spirituals & Gospel

Blues

Ragtime

Dixieland Jazz

Swing

Jazz

Rock 'n' Roll

Pop

Rock

Reggae

Hip Hop

Spirituals & Gospel

Spirituals are religious songs which were created by African slaves in America during the 17th and 18th centuries. Spiritual songs are usually sung at a **slow tempo**, and have lyrics about freedom from slavery.

Spirituals usually follow a **call and response** pattern. The repetitive response allowed people who could not read to participate in worship, and helped them to learn the bible stories.

Gospel music developed from Spirituals. It is more upbeat, **syncopated** and joyful than Spirituals.

Gospel songs often feature a **solo singer**, who may **improvise** on the tune, and a **choir** who sing in **harmony**. They often follow a **call and response** pattern. There may be hand clapping or foot stamping as accompaniment. Modern Gospel music is often accompanied by a band, usually featuring piano or electric organ, drum kit and bass guitar.

Call

Response

The image displays a musical score for the spiritual song "Swing low, sweet char-i-ot, Com-ing for to car-ry me home, FINE". The score is written in 2/4 time and features a call-and-response structure. The first system shows the "Call" (the first measure) and the "Response" (the second measure), both highlighted with a green box. The second system shows the full song, including the call and response, and ends with "FINE".

Swing low, sweet char-i-ot, Com-ing for to car-ry me home, FINE

Swing low, sweet char-i - ot, Com-ing for to car-ry me home.

Blues

Blues started as Black American folk music, developed from spirituals and work-songs. Though blues songs commonly expressed personal emotions and problems, such as lost love or longing for another place or time, they were also used to express despair at social injustice.

Blues music features **drum kit** and a **walking bass**, and piano or guitar. Often there will be **improvisation** on an instrument between each line of the song. Later Blues music often features improvisation on electric guitar or harmonica.

Blues music is mostly patterned on a 12-bar chord progression:

1	2	3	4
I	I	I	I
5	6	7	8
IV	IV	I	I
9	10	11	12
V	IV	I	I

The lyrics of blues songs have a specific pattern:

A - I hate to see the evening sun go down

A - I hate to see the evening sun go down

B - Cause my baby, he's gone left this town


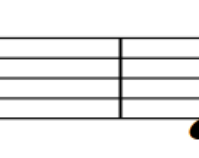







A - Feeling tomorrow like I feel today

A - If I'm feeling tomorrow like I feel today

B - I'll pack my trunk, make my getaway

Blues

When improvising, musicians use the **blues scale**.

Chord of D (I)	Bass notes	Blues scale on D
		
Chord of G (IV)	Bass notes	Blues scale on G
		
Chord of A (V)	Bass notes	Blues scale on A
		

Ragtime

Ragtime is a style of composition which was popular first in America and then in Europe from the 1890s to the 1910s. The name “ragtime” describes the “ragged” feel of the syncopated rhythms.

Most Ragtime pieces were written for piano. Unlike jazz, which was often improvised, Ragtime was written down and often followed a set pattern.

The melodic line is simply syncopated (Right Hand of the piano part) over a steady, 'march-style' bass (Left Hand of the piano part) which incorporates wide leaps.

Ragtime usually has 2 or 4 beats in a bar and is played at a steady tempo.

These syncopated rhythms developed from the traditional African drumming rhythms used by African American slaves. Because of this, syncopation evoked a strong connotation to the "low-class" Negro music found in brothels and saloons. Because of this, Ragtime was seen by some people as a threat to polite society and to young people.

Ragtime

Listen to **The Entertainer** by **Scott Joplin** and follow the music.

Introduction, played in octaves

Musical notation for the introduction of "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin, played in octaves. The piece is in 2/4 time. The notation shows a piano introduction with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The melody is played in octaves, with the right hand playing a syncopated melody and the left hand playing a similar pattern in octaves below. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Syncopated melody

Musical notation for the syncopated melody of "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin. The notation shows a piano introduction with a piano (*p*) dynamic in the right hand and a forte (*f*) dynamic in the left hand. The melody is syncopated, with a strong emphasis on the off-beats. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

"March style" left hand vamp

Musical notation for the "March style" left hand vamp of "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin. The notation shows a piano introduction with a piano (*p*) dynamic in the right hand and a forte (*f*) dynamic in the left hand. The left hand plays a steady, rhythmic vamp pattern, characteristic of a march. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Musical notation for the final section of "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin. The notation shows a piano introduction with a piano (*p*) dynamic in the right hand and a forte (*f*) dynamic in the left hand. The melody is syncopated, with a strong emphasis on the off-beats. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Dixieland Jazz

Dixieland Jazz originated in New Orleans around the early 1900s, becoming popular in the 1920s.

This is an early form of Jazz that was performed by a small group of musicians.

The common instrumental line up was clarinet, trumpet and trombone, with rhythm section sometimes featuring a double bass, tuba, piano or banjo.

It has a polyphonic style of improvisation, where several instruments improvise at once.



Listening Exercise 1

Listen carefully to the following excerpts of music.

For each excerpt of music you should identify the style.

Choose from:

Spiritual / Gospel, Blues, Ragtime, Dixieland Jazz

1. This is an example of _____.
2. This is an example of _____.
3. This is an example of _____.
4. This is an example of _____.
5. This is an example of _____.
6. This is an example of _____.
7. This is an example of _____.
8. This is an example of _____.
9. This is an example of _____.
10. This is an example of _____.

Mark out of 10: _____

Boogie-woogie

Boogie-woogie is a Blues style of piano playing, usually played quite fast and with a steady beat.

An important feature of Boogie-woogie is the left hand playing an ostinato pattern while the right hand improvises freely.



Social Context

Boogie-woogie originated around 1870, and remained popular until the 1940s. It influenced elements of Swing and Blues music.

The name is believed to have derived from African terms, including the West African word “Bogi”, which means "to dance", and the Bantu term “Mbuki Mvuki”.

Musical Features

12 bar blues Improvisation Ostinato Syncopation

Boogie Woogie Stomp by Albert Ammons (Recorded 1947)

Medium Boogie Tempo

The first system of musical notation shows the piano introduction. It consists of two staves, treble and bass clef. The melody in the treble clef features a series of eighth-note chords and triplets. The bass clef provides a steady accompaniment with eighth-note chords and triplets. The tempo is marked as 'Medium Boogie Tempo'.

Fast

Ostinato

Blues Scale

12 Bar Blues:

Chord I

Chord IV

Chord I

Chord I

Chord IV

Chord IV

Chord I

Chord I

Chord V

Chord IV

Chord I

Chord I

Syncopated Chords

The 12-bar blues section is presented in five systems of musical notation. The first system is marked 'Fast' and features a red box around the first measure of the bass clef, labeled 'Ostinato'. The second system is labeled 'Blues Scale' and also has a red box around the first measure of the treble clef. The remaining three systems are divided into four measures each, with chord labels 'Chord I', 'Chord IV', 'Chord V', and 'Chord IV' placed above the treble clef. The fifth system is labeled 'Syncopated Chords' and has a red box around the last two measures of the treble clef. The bass clef accompaniment is consistent throughout, featuring a steady eighth-note pattern.

Swing

Swing is a style of dance music which was popular in the 1930s and 40s.

Swing developed from Blues and Dixieland music in the early 1930s.

Swing would normally be played by big bands, featuring a wider range of instruments including saxophones, trumpets, trombones and clarinets, and a rhythm section of piano, bass and drums.

Swing music has written arrangement of a melody, known as the “head”, which is repeated between improvised solos from different members of the band.

Both black and white musicians were famous Swing band leaders and performers. Benny Goodman hired both black and white musicians to play in his band, preparing the way for the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s. During WWII, many male musicians were conscripted to the Army, allowing female musicians new opportunities to perform.

Jazz

Jazz is an “umbrella term” for all the forms of music we have covered.

It can also refer to various other styles of jazz music from after the 1940s, such as bebop, modal jazz and jazz fusion. It often has a faster tempo than other jazz styles, and features virtuosic improvisation.

Jazz can feature a wide range of instruments, but usually uses a **jazz trio** of piano, double bass and drums, with a solo instrument such as trumpet or saxophone.



Rock 'n' roll

Rock 'n' roll started in the 1950s. It was heavily influenced by Blues music, and what was regarded as “black” music at the time.

A rock 'n' roll band usually included:

- lead vocals,
- guitars (mostly electric),
- double bass
- drums

Eventually other instruments such as saxophones and trumpets joined the line-up.

Listen to an example of a rock 'n' roll song. Write down:

- What the bass is playing?

- What the drums are playing?

- What the guitars are playing?

Rock 'n' roll

Rock 'n' roll influenced lifestyles, fashion, attitudes, and language. It became one of the first “youth sub-cultures” for teenagers, who were previously treated as young adults.

This involved not just music, absorbed via radio, record buying, jukeboxes and TV programs, but it also extended to film, clothes, hair, cars and motorbikes, and distinctive language.

Parents were worried about the “bad influence” of rock 'n' roll culture on their children, including juvenile delinquency and social rebellion.

It contributed to the civil rights movement, because both African-American and white American teens enjoyed the music.

Rock

Rock music developed from rock 'n' roll between 1950 and 1960.

It became popular in the 1960s.

Rock music is generally loud with a heavy driving beat.

A rock band usually includes:

- Vocals
- Electric guitars
- Bass guitar
- Drum kit

Pop

Pop music developed from Rock 'n' Roll between 1950 and 1960. It became popular in the 1960s, and has remained popular as it has developed since then.

Pop music often borrows from other styles of music, such as dance, urban, rock and Latin music.

The term "pop song" was first used in 1926 to mean "a song with popular appeal".

Reggae

Reggae started in Jamaica in the 1960s.

It combines elements of jazz, African and Jamaican music.

A reggae band usually includes:

- Vocals (lead and backing)
- Electric guitars (accent beats 2 and 4)
- Bass guitar (plays a riff)
- Drum kit, bongos and other percussion

It has a distinct rhythm featuring accents on the 2nd and 4th beats.

Rapping

Rapping, rhyming lyrics spoken over a beat, is associated primarily with Hip Hop music.

Hip Hop began in the 1970s, but reached popularity in the 1980s and early 1990s, with acts like Grandmaster Flash, Run DMC and MC Hammer.

In the 1990s and 2000s, elements of Hip Hop began to be used in mainstream pop music, and rap albums began to hit the top of the charts.

The roots of rapping are thought to be in West Africa, where story tellers would deliver a story rhythmically over a drum rhythm.

Song Structure

- Introduction
- Verse
- Chorus
- Bridge
- Middle Eight
- Solo/Instrumental
- Outro
- Riff

Popular music is almost always **strophic**. This means each verse has the same melody.

Around the time of Rock 'n' Roll, songs began to include **choruses**, which has repeated melody and words. This is often the most “catchy” part of a song, and helped songs to become more commercially successful.

Some pop songs use a **bridge** passage to link the verse and chorus. Listen to ‘You’re All I Have’ by Snow Patrol to hear an example of a bridge. Listen to a further example – ‘Teenage Dream’ by Katy Perry.

Some pop songs have a **middle eight** section. This is an 8 bar section, usually after the second chorus. It has a different melody and chords from the previous verses and choruses.

Ragtime

Spirituals are religious songs which were created by African slaves in America during the 17th and 18th centuries. Spiritual songs are usually sung at a **slow tempo**, and have lyrics about freedom from slavery.

Spirituals usually follow a **call and response** pattern. The repetitive response allowed people who could not read to participate in worship, and helped them to learn the bible stories.

Gospel music developed from Spirituals. It is more upbeat, **syncopated** and joyful than Spirituals.

Gospel songs often feature a **solo singer**, who may **improvise** on the tune, and a **choir** who sing in **harmony**. They often follow a **call and response** pattern. There may be hand clapping or foot stamping as accompaniment. Modern Gospel music is often accompanied by a band, usually featuring piano or electric organ, drum kit and bass guitar.

Jazz, Blues and Popular Music

Revision Homework

Question 1

This question is about the instruments you would expect to find in different types of Jazz groups.

Tick three boxes to identify the instruments you would expect to find in a Dixieland Jazz Band.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinet | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric guitar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saxophone | <input type="checkbox"/> Trombone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric piano | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpet |

Tick three boxes to identify the instruments you would expect to find in a Big Band.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saxophones | <input type="checkbox"/> French Horns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flutes | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trombones | <input type="checkbox"/> Strings |

Tick three boxes to identify the instruments you would expect to find in a typical Jazz Trio.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cello | <input type="checkbox"/> Drums |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Double bass | <input type="checkbox"/> Gamelan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cornet | <input type="checkbox"/> Piano |

Tick three boxes to identify the instruments you would expect to find in a typical Rock Group.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric guitar | <input type="checkbox"/> Drums |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latin percussion | <input type="checkbox"/> Saxophone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piano | <input type="checkbox"/> Bass guitar |

Question 2

This question is about popular styles of music that are related to Jazz. Complete the table below by inserting in the correct style alongside the brief description given. Choose from:

Blues

Swing

Ragtime

Boogie-woogie

Description	Style
A strongly syncopated melody played against a steady <i>vamped</i> accompaniment, often played on the Piano. Scott Joplin was an important composer in this style.	
A style of piano playing featuring a steady <i>ostinato</i> pattern played by the left hand while the right hand improvises freely.	
Songs and instrumental pieces influenced by Black American folk music, mostly based on a 12-bar chord structure.	
Jazz influenced dance music, played by <i>Big Bands</i> , popular in the 1930's and 1940's	

Question 3

This question is about musical features commonly found in Jazz, Blues and other popular styles of music. Complete the table below by inserting in the correct feature or concept alongside the brief description given. Choose from:

Syncopation

Walking Bass

Improvisation

Blues scale

Description	Concept
Music created by the performer during performance,	
A series of notes, commonly found in Jazz, featuring the	
A bass line, usually played by the double bass or bass gui-	
A strong accent falling on weaker parts of the bar, some-	

Question 4

This question is about other popular styles of music. Complete the following table by inserting in the correct style or concept alongside the brief description given. Choose from:

Samba
Latin American

Salsa
Soul

Country
Rock

Description	Style
Dance music from South America. Percussion instru-	
Lively syncopated dance with 2 beats in a bar in which a	
A musical style that originated in Cuba, the most im-	
A style of popular music with a heavy driving beat, often	
A style of Afro-American popular music that includes ele-	
An American style of popular music derived from rural folk music, often featuring fiddle, banjo, piano, guitars and drums.	

Question 5

Complete the following 12-bar blues chord progression by inserting in the correct chords in the table below. Some of the chords have already been completed for you. Choose from C, F and G.

1	2	3	4
C			
5	6	7	8
F			
9	10	11	12
		C	

Question 6

This question is about syncopation. Try playing the following excerpts from well-known melodies and decide whether or not syncopation is present. Tick one box each time.

(a) 

Syncopation is present

Syncopation is not present

(b) 

Syncopation is present

Syncopation is not present

(c) 

Syncopation is present

Syncopation is not present

(d) 

Syncopation is present

Syncopation is not present

(e) 

Syncopation is present

Syncopation is not present

Popular Musical Styles Listening Test

Tick one box in column A to describe the style of the music and two boxes from column B to indicate two other features of the music.

Column A

Column B

- 1**
- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jazz | <input type="checkbox"/> Latin percussion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blues | <input type="checkbox"/> Riff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ragtime | <input type="checkbox"/> Saxophone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock | <input type="checkbox"/> Ostinato |
-

- 2**
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jazz | <input type="checkbox"/> Improvisation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blues | <input type="checkbox"/> Distortion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ragtime | <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock | <input type="checkbox"/> Trombone |
-

- 3**
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pop | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric guitar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dixieland | <input type="checkbox"/> Glissando |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latin American | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock | <input type="checkbox"/> Saxophone |
-

- 4**
- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pop | <input type="checkbox"/> Scat singing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dixieland | <input type="checkbox"/> Sitar and tabla |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Country | <input type="checkbox"/> Riff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock | <input type="checkbox"/> Slapping |
-

- 5**
- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pop | <input type="checkbox"/> Saxophone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jazz | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blues | <input type="checkbox"/> Improvisation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock | <input type="checkbox"/> Distortion |

- 6** Jazz Walking bass
 Blues Piano
 Ragtime Improvisation
 Latin American Syncopation
-

- 7** Jazz Reverb
 Rock Scat singing
 Samba Ragtime
 Pop 4 beats in the bar
-

- 8** Swing Distortion
 Rock Claves
 Boogie-woogie Soul
 Blues Electric guitar
-

- 9** Country Drum fill
 Boogie-woogie Piano
 Ragtime Walking bass
 Romantic Ostinato
-

- 10** Country Gamelan ensemble
 Salsa Scat singing
 Blues Latin percussion
 Soul Syncopation

Total out of 30

Popular Music Timeline

Style	1780	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Spiritual	█															
Gospel	█															
Blues		█														
Boogie Woogie		█														
Ragtime				█												
Dixieland					█											
Swing							█									
Jazz								█								
Rock 'n' Roll									█							
Pop											█					
Rock											█					
Reggae												█				
Hip Hop												█				

National 3	✓	National 4	✓	National 5	✓
Jazz		Swing		Walking Bass	
Blues		Ragtime		Modulation	
Rock 'n' Roll		Rapping		Reverb	
Rock		Syncopation		Pitch bend	
Pop		Saxophone		Strophic	
Acoustic Guitar		Change of Key		Middle Eight	
Electric Guitar		Distortion		Chord Progressions (I, IV, V, vi)	
Strumming		Verse and Chorus			
Drum Kit		Muted			
Drum Fill		Bass Guitar			
Repetition		Chord Progressions (I, IV, V)			
Ostinato		Scat Singing			
Riff		Backing vocals			
Chord change					
Improvisation					
Unison					
Harmony					