

Name _____

Class _____

Date _____

MUSIC OF THE USA



THE BLUES



UNIT AIMS

- ***Understand the history of the Blues.***
 - ***Perform a 12 bar blues pattern.***
 - ***Create Blues lyrics.***
- ***Perform a piece of music featuring a riff and improvisation.***

CONTENTS

3	<i>History of the Blues</i>
4	<i>The 12 Bar Blues</i>
5	<i>Blues Lyrics</i>
7	<i>Blues Riffs</i>



MUSIC OF THE USA

THE BLUES



Choose words from the box below to complete the paragraph.

South	American Civil War	Slave Ships	Cotton	Sad
Sugar	Tobacco	Africa	Poverty	Lyrics

Blues music came from the _____ of the USA. The first singers of the Blues were black _____ who worked on plantations. They worked to produce _____, _____ and _____ . Slaves came from _____ and were brought to the USA on _____ in terrible conditions. Slavery was abolished in 1865 after the _____ . Following this, most freed slaves lived in _____ and life was still hard for them. Blues music was about hard times in life, and the _____ reflected what peoples' lives were like. The term "blues" came from the phrase "having the blues", or feeling _____ .

MUSIC OF THE USA

THE BLUES

12 Bar Blues



Basic Pattern

C	C	C	C
F	F	C	C
C	C	G	F

Full Chords

CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG
FAC	FAC	CEG	CEG
CEG	CEG	GBD	FAC

Bass Line

C	E	G	A	B	A	G	E	C	E	G	A	B	A	G	E
F	A	C	D	E	D	C	A	C	E	G	A	B	A	G	E
G	B	D	E	F	A	C	D	C	E	G	A	B	A	G	E

MUSIC OF THE USA

BLUES LYRICS



What is my blues song going to be about?

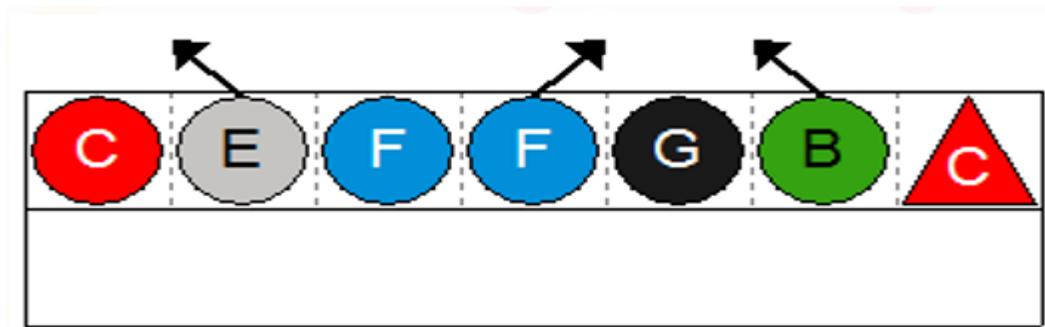
- A big thing in my life (losing a family member, injury etc.)**
- A small thing in my life (dropping my phone etc.)**
- Something that affects people in the world at the moment (war, the environment, brexit etc.)**
- Something that the blues might have been about (racism, poverty etc.)**

Can you give more details:

Creating rhyming words:

Sad	Bad	Low	_____
Blue	You	_____	_____
Mad	_____	_____	_____
Blues	_____	_____	_____

You can create your own blues riff by using notes from the blues scale.



Now, choose notes from the blues scale to use in the following riffs. The rhythm is already given for you.

Make sure you start your riff on  .

