

Jazz Quiz

Tracking the Influence of the Cultures that Founded Jazz

1. A type of 19th Century entertainment begun by Thomas Dartmouth “Daddy” Rice originally where white performers in “black face” entertained in a ritualized mixture of lively music, knockabout comedy, sophisticated elegance, and the reinforcement of ugly stereotypes. _____
2. New Orleans was a great place to live a long and healthy life during the 1800’s.
T or F
3. Huey Ledbetter or “Leadbelly” is the first bluesman to utilize the standard 12 bar format. **T or F**
4. The blues is a mixture of both West-European and West-African musical influences. **T or F**
5. Some of the direct influences found at the inception of the early blues style were the sacred music being performed in African-American churches and worship situations. These include the sermon, the gospel and the _____.
6. Another influence in early blues is the secular tradition of singing associated with African-Americans in the south during the late 1800’s. These include the field holler, the work song and the _____.
7. The instrument that descended from its West-African forbearer the Halam is the _____.
8. The two most important musical contributions of the West-African culture are improvisation and _____.
9. West-African musical instrument categories include: membranaphones, idiophones, chordophones and _____.
10. Although the West-African culture utilized many improvised rhythms the music cannot be categorized as polyrhythmic. **T or F**
11. Characteristically West-African music is replete with syncopation. **T or F**
12. West-European music is known for its improvisational nature. **T or F**
13. Much of the instrumentation that is used in the inception of early jazz comes from the West-European tradition. **T or F**
14. Three types of music that were exceptionally popular during the latter part of the 19th century were the blues, ragtime and _____.
15. The strong conception of musical form and composition comes from what tradition?

16. Scott Joplin (1868-1917) was the most famous composer of this very popular style of music. _____
17. Although Joplin aspired for his music to be heard in concert halls and respected as an equivalent to West-European art music he was disappointed to find his music performed in bordellos, juke joints and taverns. **T or F**
18. Ragtime music was intellectually and aesthetically pleasing but never garnered a large popular following. **T or F**
19. If an early New Orleans Jazz musician was asked by a dancer to “Rag” a tune they would know to add emphasis to beats 2 and 4 as well to _____ the melody.
20. Because modern conveniences such as the TV, the movies, the radio, the computer, the phonograph etc... had not yet been invented living in place like New Orleans was extremely dull for most of its inhabitants. **T or F**