

# Swing Era Quiz

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Read each question carefully, then mark the letter of the best answer on the scantron answer sheet with a number two pencil.

1. In the swing era we see an increase in:
  - a. solo excursions
  - b. clarinet as a primary instrument
  - c. pre-written arrangements
  - d. kooky kids wild about boogie-woogie
2. The swing era is also known as:
  - a. That Crazy Jazz Era
  - b. Dixieland Jazz Era
  - c. The Big Band Era
  - d. The Good Time Oldies Era
3. Common instruments in the big band rhythm section include:
  - a. piano, bass, drums and guitar
  - b. piano, tuba, trombone and bass
  - c. trumpets and trombones
  - d. piano, bass drums and clarinet
  - e. none of the above
4. In the big band era, there is an overall increase in \_\_\_\_\_, due to the size of the group and the many arrangements performed.
  - a. hanky-panky
  - b. solo excursions
  - c. group improvisation
  - d. musical literacy
  - e. none of the above
5. A typical way that a big band would introduce a melody would be to:
  - a. have the rhythm section play it
  - b. have all the horns play it
  - c. have the melody performed in unison by the whole band
  - d. harmonize the melody by the whole band, with the trumpets leading the way
  - e. all of the above
6. During the swing era drumming becomes:
  - a. more elaborate, with frequent solos
  - b. more conservative, focused on making the beat obvious for dancers
  - c. part of the rhythm section
  - d. really good
7. The bass viol (stand-up bass) replaces the tuba in this era, primarily performing time keeping roles. A good swing bassist would be a master of \_\_\_\_\_ style and \_\_\_\_\_ style.
  - a. stride and walking
  - b. comping and walking
  - c. two-beat and walking
  - d. groove and walking
8. Who is revered by most jazz historians as the most creative and prolific *composer* in the history of jazz?:
  - a. Claude Debussy
  - b. Louis Armstrong
  - c. Art Tatum
  - d. Duke Ellington
9. The composer who wrote “Black, Brown and Beige”, an extended concert work chronicling the African-American experience, led a big band that is best defined as:
  - a. a “riff” or ostinato band
  - b. unique, diverse and hard to categorize
  - c. Kansas City Style Jazz
  - d. both a and c
10. An important factor(s) that guided many of the musical elements that formed the swing era’s musical style was:
  - a. dancing
  - b. the depression
  - c. political functions
  - d. popularity
  - e. both a and d

11. Benny Goodman played the \_\_\_\_\_, and during the thirties led the most commercially successful big band. He also garnered a reputation for being \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. trombone, hot tempered
- b. clarinet, a nice guy
- c. trumpet, good to work with
- d. clarinet, a perfectionist

12. Coleman Hawkins played the \_\_\_\_\_ saxophone and is known as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ improviser.

- a. tenor, harmonic
- b. tenor, melodic
- c. tenor, smooth
- d. alto, virtuosic

13. Members of Count Basie's All American *Rhythm* Section included all but:

- a. Joe Jones
- b. Lester Young
- c. Walter Page
- d. Count Basie
- e. none of the above

14. \_\_\_\_\_ is known as the first great jazz rhythm guitarist, who played unamplified throughout his long career.

- a. Freddie Green
- b. Blind Lemon Jefferson
- c. Jimmy Page
- d. Charlie Christian
- e. Django Rheinhardt

15. The "Big One" was the nickname given to \_\_\_\_\_, the great bassist in Count Basie's All American Rhythm Section.

- a. Jimmy Blanton
- b. Jimmy Page
- c. Walter Page
- d. Walter Payton

16. Joe Jones is given credit for changing jazz drumming and bringing it into the modern era. His style is best described as \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. staccato with a steady swing
- b. impressive with brilliant flourishes
- c. legato with a steady bass drum emphasis
- d. legato with little use of the bass drum
- e. none of the above

17. Although Count Basie did not create it, he is so thoroughly associated with \_\_\_\_\_ he might as well have.

- a. riff bands
- b. Kansas City Style Jazz
- c. comping
- d. boogie-woogie
- e. both a and b

18. The tenor saxophonist that the young beboppers (the creators of modern jazz) looked to as a role model was?

- a. Lester Young
- b. Coleman Hawkins
- c. Jimmy Blanton
- d. Johnny Hodges
- e. Wally Beaver

19. Name the gypsy guitarist who is still regarded as the greatest swing player of the era.

- a. Les Paul
- b. Coleman Hawkins
- c. Jimmy Blanton
- d. Django Rhienhardt
- e. Lonnie Johnson

20. She was born Eleanora Fagan but changes her name to \_\_\_\_\_. She turns the routine pop music of the day into timeless classics via her unmistakably unique interpretations throughout her career. Two of her signature pieces are "God Bless the Child" and "Strange Fruit".

- a. Billie Holiday
- b. Ella Fitzgerald
- c. Dinah Washington
- d. Betty Carter