

| Topic: Year 9 Blues & Improvisation Duration 13-14 Weeks | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Key vocabulary: | Core knowledge questions | Powerful knowledge crucial to commit to long term memory | Links to previous and future topics |
| 12-Bar Blues, Blues Chord Sequence, Improvisation Syncopation Blues Scale Riffs Fills Solos Chords I, IV, V, Blues Song Lyrics Blues Songs Structures Spirituals Ragtime Trad Jazz Flattened Notes Call and Response | 45. What are the key features of blues music? 46. What are the main chords used in the 12-bar blues sequence? 47. What other styles of music led to the development of blues music? 48. Can you explain the term improvisation and what does it mean in blues music? 49. Can you identify where the chords change in a 12-bar blues sequence? 50. Can you explain what is meant by 'Singin the Blues'? 51. Why did music play an important part in the lives of the African slaves? 52. What are the key features of Ragtime music? 53. Which notes in the blues scale are flattened? 54. How does the use of instruments change between traditional and modern blues? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the history, origins and development of the Blues and its characteristic 12-bar Blues structure exploring how a walking bass line is developed from a chord progression. Explore the effect of adding a melodic improvisation using the Blues scale and the effect which "swung" rhythms have as used in jazz and blues music. Explore Ragtime Music as a type of jazz style and examining how chords have been used differently in a "vamp" style. Pupils use and identify seventh chords and learn how these are formed and their characteristic sound used in jazz and blues music. | Links to chromatic Notes from year 8. Links to Celtic Music from year 8 due to using improvisation. Links to form & structure from year 9 and Hooks & Riffs in year 9. Make links to music from other cultures and traditions that use riff and ostinato-based structures, such as African spirituals and other styles of Jazz. This introduces learners to key concepts needed for GCSE music such as Popular Music, Vocal Music and Conventions of Pop Music. |

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