

Jazz Styles

Styles and People Timeline

1880s	Blues & Ragtime	Scott Joplin
1920s	Early Jazz	Louis Armstrong Jelly Roll Morton
1930s	Swing	Duke Ellington Colman Hawkins Art Tatum
1940s	Bop	Charlie Parker Dizzy Gillespie Thelonious Monk
1950s	Cool Hard Bop	Miles Davis John Coltrane Sonny Rollins Cannonball Adderley Miles Davis
1960s	Modal Free Jazz	Ornette Coleman Miles Davis Wayne Shorter John Coltrane
1970s	Jazz Rock	Miles Davis Joe Zawinul
1980s	Fusion, Jazz Rock, Modern Jazz	Chick Corea Herbie Hancock Pat Metheny Brecker Brothers

Styles in depth

There is no other genre of music that covers so many differing styles under one term – jazz.

Blues: Originally this was a strophic form song that told of hardship and everyday life. It used notes of the Blues scale and was the basis for the I IV V 12 bar blues progression still used today.

Swing: An era of Jazz that featured Big Bands (rhythm section, trumpets, trombones, and saxes). These bands were popular in dance halls, and especially wartime entertainment. This is also a style of Jazz where quaver beats have a ‘swing feel’, roughly described as the 1st quaver equalling 2/3rds the length of the 2nd quaver. The accent is on the second quaver and creates a ‘doo ba doo ba’ effect. The accent in the bar is firmly on the 2nd and 4th beats. Here is a sample of swing with the syllables underneath showing how the music would sound:



Under this example write the syllables you think would be required to make this ‘swing’. (Warning: you will need to sing this out loud!)



Bop: This style moves away from swing and back to ‘straight eighths’ (normal quavers). The major feature of bop is the fast tempo of the music and rapid speed of the notes. Soloists played a lot of very fast notes and increased the technical and harmonic ability required by performers. Soloists also extended improvised solos for as long as they liked, sometimes up to 20 minutes. This style includes Bebop and later Hard Bop. Groups were smaller and usually only contained only 5-6 players.

Give two reasons why you think Jazz became less popular with the general public during the Bop era.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Cool: This was the counteraction to Bop. The tempos were slowed significantly and avoided the roughness and manic feel of bop. Cool kept the extended solos of Bop to still feature the soloists expertise on their instruments. This created long sometimes mellow, ‘moody’ music that many would call elevator music.

Modal: This is a style that featured the ‘modes’ as a basis for the chords of the ‘chart’ (piece of music) but also for the improvisation of the solos. Most of this music had few chord changes and while seemingly making life easier for the soloist, it actually made it very difficult to keep solos interesting without relying on chord changes. Each mode sets a different ‘flavour’, such as the Arabic nature of the Phrygian mode. (Refer to next page for further explanation)

Free Jazz: This is just as it sounds. Rhythm, chords and scale rules were all removed for a ‘free’ expression from the soloist. This form of jazz usually makes more sense to the performer than the listener but done well can be extremely good. Effectively, it is making music with absolutely no limits; no key, no structure and not boundaries.

Jazz Rock, Fusion and Jazz today.

As happens with many styles of music, eventually they all start borrowing from each other and mixing together. Jazz has been mixed with rock, hip hop, ballad styles, even Opera. Jazz today is the best of all worlds utilizing the techniques required for Bebop with Rock and African rhythms.

Find at least three musicians from the timeline list above and have a listen.
 Fill in the 'first impressions' chart below.
 Make your impressions detailed, with clear explanations of why you felt that way.

Name:	Style:	Instrumentation:	First Impressions:

Jazz Modes: It is easiest to think of modes as scales only using the white notes of the keyboard, starting on a note and not using any black notes. Scales are made up of patterns of Tones and semitones, so to create a new scale, sound or 'flavour' you can mix up the patterns.



Ionian mode: C - C

Sequence - **T, T, S, T, T, T, S**
 (also known as major)

Dorian mode: D - D

Sequence - **T, S, T, T, T, S, T**

Phrygian mode: E - E

Complete the sequence of tones and semitones for this scale:
 (It may help to write out the note names first)

Sequence - _____

Lydian mode: F - F

Sequence - **T, T, T, S, T, T, S**

Mixolydian mode: G - G

Complete the sequence of Tones and semitones for this scale:

Sequence - _____

Aeolian mode: A - A

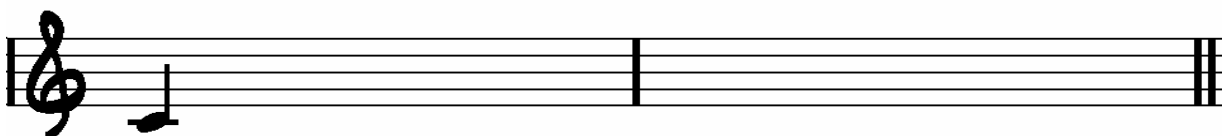
Sequence - **T, S, T, T, S, T, T**
 (Also known as Natural minor)

Locrian mode: B - B

Complete the sequence of Tones and semitones for this scale:

Sequence - _____

Write a Lydian scale starting on a C.



Jazz – The teacher's page

Music to play:

Anything from any of the performers mentioned on page one.

Answers:



Doo ba doo ba da dat doo ba doo ba dooo.

Give two reasons why you think Jazz became less popular with the general public during the bop era.

- 1) Audiences could no longer dance to the faster tempos
- 2) They found the extended improvised solos difficult to understand

Phrygian mode: E – E

Complete the sequence of Tones and semitones for this scale:

Sequence - **S, T, T, T, S, T, T.**

Mixolydian mode: G- G

Complete the sequence of Tones and semitones for this scale:

Sequence - **T, T, S, T, T, S, T**

Locrian mode: B- B

Complete the sequence of Tones and semitones for this scale:

Sequence - **S, T, T, S, T, T, T**

Write a Lydian scale starting on a C.

