

Jazz History for Kids

Jazz History · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which American city is known as the birthplace of jazz?

- A) New Orleans**
- B) New York City
- C) Chicago
- D) Los Angeles

2. What is the name of the famous trumpet player who was nicknamed 'Satchmo'?

- A) Miles Davis
- B) Duke Ellington
- C) Louis Armstrong**
- D) John Coltrane

3. What is a 'scat' solo in jazz music?

- A) Playing drums
- B) Singing nonsense syllables**
- C) Dancing
- D) Tuning a guitar

4. Which jazz instrument uses a slide to change the pitch of the notes?

- A) Trumpet
- B) Saxophone
- C) Clarinet
- D) Trombone**

5. Who was a famous jazz pianist and bandleader who composed 'Take the A Train'?

- A) Duke Ellington**
- B) Thelonious Monk
- C) Count Basie
- D) Dave Brubeck

6. Which woodwind instrument, often made of brass, is a lead instrument in jazz?

- A) Flute
- B) Oboe
- C) Saxophone**
- D) Bassoon

7. What is the term for a jazz song's main melody that is played before the improvisations?

- A) The Verse
- B) The Head**
- C) The Chorus
- D) The Bridge

8. Which jazz singer was known as the 'First Lady of Song'?

- A) Billie Holiday
- B) Sarah Vaughan
- C) Ella Fitzgerald**
- D) Nina Simone

9. In which decade did the big band 'Swing' era become very popular?

- A) 1930s**
- B) 1960s
- C) 1890s
- D) 1990s

10. What do jazz musicians call it when they create new melodies while playing?

- A) Rehearsing
- B) Improvisation**
- C) Conducting
- D) Reading

11. Which heavy string instrument is played by plucking to provide a walking beat in jazz?

- A) Violin
- B) Cello
- C) Double Bass**
- D) Harp

12. What is a 'big band' typically made up of?

- A) Only drums
- B) Just singers
- C) A large group of brass, woodwind, and rhythm instruments**
- D) Two guitars

13. Which jazz legend played the trumpet and helped invent 'Cool Jazz'?

- A) Miles Davis**
- B) Benny Goodman
- C) Charlie Parker
- D) Louis Armstrong

14. What does a jazz drummer use to keep the beat steady on the ride cymbal?

- A) A metronome
- B) A stick or mallet**
- C) A whistle
- D) A keyboard

15. Which instrument did Benny Goodman play, earning him the title 'The King of Swing'?

- A) Trumpet
- B) Clarinet**
- C) Piano
- D) Trombone