

MSC1003 – Quiz #4 Study Guide

Our quiz day is **Wednesday, May 11**.

Generally speaking this is on the roots of African-American music and the history of Jazz, with a little bit about the Modern period in Classical music.

Roots of African-American Music

Know about the characteristics of African music that may have influenced music in the United States (call-and-response structure, rhythmic complexity, blues inflection, etc.) See the [online unit](#) for details.

Know about these African-American traditions from the 1800s – Work Songs, Ring Shout, Spirituals, Ragtime, Blues

Jazz Periods / Movements

Know the basic chronological sequence for all the jazz movements we studied, and think about the musical characteristics for each one. (You don't have to memorize the years, but you should have a vague sense of what follows what.)

Know the important people for each period.



Jazz People

Not *everybody* is on the quiz, but all of our playlist people plus a few more may get questions.

Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, Charles Mingus, Miles Davis, Cecil Taylor.

For each person, know what instrument they played (you may have to google it). Know what period they represent. (Of course Miles Davis was active in three different periods!) Try to get some sense of “what their deal” is – how would you boil down what I say about them to a little blurb on their general significance.

Listening List – Jazz

Learn these tracks, who the bandleader is for each one, and what period they belong to. There will be 2 listening IDs from this list on the quiz.

Louis Armstrong and his Hot Five, “Hotter than That”

Duke Ellington, “Ko-Ko”

Charlie Parker (with Miles Davis), “Ornithology”

Thelonious Monk, “Rhythm-an-ing”

Miles Davis, “All Blues” from *Kind of Blue*

Miles Davis, “Spanish Key” from *Bitches Brew*

Short Essay – Unknown Jazz track

I will play you a jazz track that you probably haven’t heard before and ask you to guess as to what jazz period or movement it is from (e.g. swing, bebop etc.) and explain why you think so. As usual I will give full or nearly full credit for “incorrect” answers that make a good argument.

Like with the first quiz, the answer only needs to be a few sentences long – I am usually looking for three good bits of information, and including a little more than that can help insure that you’ll get points.

Organizing your Jazz info

So far this may seem like a lot of info, but I think if you make an outline that combines together the jazz periods, people and tracks into a unified chronological narrative it will be a good study technique and it will all make sense.

MODERN CLASSICAL MUSIC

We won't have any questions about historical background or big trends in Modern Classical. Instead we'll just do one ID from the Classical playlist. I'll list the pieces and a few factoids that go with them below – on the test I'll just ask the composer + one factoid, no titles.

Debussy, "Voiles" from *Préludes, Book I*

Impressionism

Stravinsky, *Rite of Spring*. (On our playlist I have selected the first eight minutes or so. This is three tracks on Spotify and Apple Music, one continuous video on Youtube. I may play this one from somewhere in the middle.)

Written for the Ballets Russes. About a ritual human sacrifice in ancient, Pagan Russia. Caused a riot at the premiere.

Schoenberg, *Pierrot lunaire* No. 1 "Mondestrunken"

Atonal. Sprechstimme.

Copland, *Appalachian Spring*, Section 7

Theme and Variations on "Simple Gifts," a traditional hymn from the Shakers.

Overall Format

14 multiple choice questions + the short essay. Mostly 5 points each, 8 points for essay.

2 questions on "roots"

5 questions on jazz history

2 jazz listening IDs, 3 questions each (bandleader, title, period)

Short essay

1 modern listening ID, 2 questions (composer, factoid)