



Subject:

Module 7 Walking in Memphis: 100 years of the Blues

Overarching Topic:

<p>Why is this topic being studied at this time?</p> <p>How does it fit into the wider subject curriculum?</p>	<p>This unit will introduce students to the 12-bar Blues, its conventions, origins and history. Students will explore playing the famous 12-chord sequence, Blues scale, walking bass and shuffle rhythm with the aim to bring parts together in an ensemble piece allowing creative freedom through improvisation. They will revisit the origins of the Blues through the Triangular trade (initially introduced in Y7 Topic 3) and listen to formative artists such as W.C. Handy, Robert Johnson, Bessie Smith, Louis Armstrong, Ma Rainey, Duke Ellington, Howlin' Wolf, Miles Davis and Ella Fitzgerald.</p> <p>During this topic students will continue to work with melody, chords and bass. Seventh chords will be introduced to all for the first time, as will Roman numerals to classify chords. The elements will continue to be used to appraise music: pitch, rhythm, tempo, dynamics, texture, timbre, structure and silence. Students will be encouraged to develop their keyboard skills by playing with both hands and develop their timing through playing as a duet or in a group. Students will be encouraged to use Music key words every lesson when discussing their own work and that of others, discussing their progress critically.</p> <p>Music notation will continue to be taught via exercises using the manuscript in student exercise books. Pupils will be encouraged to work practically initially before going beyond the given composition steps as appropriate via personalised differentiated targets including using Garageband, Sibelius, working in a different key, exploring Dorian & Mixolydian modes, the ii-V-I progression or working from the Jazz theory/piano books.</p>
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	Critical	Core	Pinnacle
<p>The Big Questions (What questions will students be able to answer upon mastery of the topic?)</p>	<p>What is the 12-bar Blues (single notes)?</p> <p>What is the Blues scale?</p> <p>What is a riff?</p> <p>How do I play the black notes?</p> <p>How do I use all my fingers on the keyboard?</p> <p>Who is the 'father of the Blues'?</p> <p>When/where do the Blues come from?</p>	<p>What is the 12 bar blues chord sequence?</p> <p>What is the blues scale and blue notes?</p> <p>Which blues scale notes create an effective riff?</p> <p>What is a 7th chord? (V7)</p> <p>What is a walking bassline and stop time?</p> <p>What is a swung/shuffle/syncopated rhythm?</p> <p>How did the triangular trade influence the Blues?</p>	<p>What are the 7th chords for all 12 chords?</p> <p>How do you compose a blues song?</p> <p>Can I improvise an interesting blues melody?</p> <p>Can I fluently read and apply music notation?</p> <p>How do you play multiple parts/in an ensemble?</p> <p>How does the Bridge create contrast?</p> <p>How do the words/stories of the Blues reflect their culture & origins?</p>
<p>The Key Skills/ Techniques</p>	<p>The sophistication and application of skills will become more advanced as students' progress through the critical, core and pinnacle knowledge.</p>		
	<p>Skill/Technique</p>	<p>How will this skill be developed?</p>	
	<p>Playing blues music parts</p>	<p>Weekly independent/group practice</p> <p>Composition as intermediate/advanced skill once performing is mastered</p>	
	<p>Understanding blues music and blues artists</p>	<p>Listening, appraising tasks and notation exercises</p>	