

HS Virtual Jazz
Final Project Test Option
Spring 2012
Mr. Chandler

Select the BEST answer

1. Most consider the most essential ingredient in jazz to be
 - A. time
 - B. jazz "sounds"
 - C. improvisation
 - D. harmony
 - E. chords
2. For a musician to improvise, he/she should
 - A. play a lot of notes
 - B. have a musical vocabulary covering a wide variety of musical styles
 - C. be able to play very high
 - D. be able to sing
 - E. be able to read music
3. Improvisation is
 - A. spontaneous combustion
 - B. spontaneous composition
 - C. playing without rehearsal
 - D. preplanned composition
 - E. dissonant harmonies
4. Rhythm can be defined as
 - A. the speed of the beat
 - B. the element of music dealing with time
 - C. accenting notes that are not naturally accented
 - D. two or more notes played at the same time
 - E. a metronome marking
5. A regular pattern formed by a series of notes of differing duration and stress is
 - A. improvisation
 - B. a chorus
 - C. the head
 - D. rhythm
 - E. conversation
6. Jazz rhythms
 - A. can be simple or complex
 - B. can only be played on drums
 - C. do not determine the feel of a song
 - D. are always constant

- E. are easy to measure
- 7. Tempo defines
 - A. the speed of improvisation
 - B. the amount of players in a band
 - C. the speed of the beat of a tune
 - D. the pattern of the beat
 - E. the groove of a tune
- 8. In jazz, the tempo
 - A. never changes from tune to tune
 - B. is usually quite fast
 - C. is usually quite slow
 - D. may range from very fast to very slow
 - E. there is no tempo in jazz
- 9. A slow jazz tune is called
 - A. burning
 - B. a ballad
 - C. allegro
 - D. a swing tune
 - E. a march
- 10. Circle the phrase or phrases that best describe swing:
 - A. A dizzying pattern of notes and tempos
 - B. A slow, hypnotic rhythm
 - C. A stream of notes in a long-short, long-short pattern
 - D. The liveliness and/or rhythmic lilt of the music
 - E. complex harmonies
- 11. Which of the following contribute to jazz's uniqueness as compared to most popular music?
 - A. It's a very new music
 - B. Its overuse of exotic instruments
 - C. You can tap your foot to it
 - D. The varied use of simple and complex rhythms, interwoven with each other into one cohesive sound
 - E. The use of a recurring chord progression that serves as the structure of the tune
- 12. Which instrument is not usually associated with jazz?
 - A. Flute
 - B. Guitar
 - C. Trumpet
 - D. Saxophone
 - E. Bassoon
- 13. An instrument's sound in the hands of a jazz musician
 - A. can vary greatly
 - B. varies very little as each instrument has its own particular sound regardless whose playing it

- C. always has a crystal clear, "pure" tone
 - D. often emulates the human voice
 - E. A and D
14. In terms of sound, jazz musicians
- A. find one tone, or "color" they like and never change
 - B. alter the sound of their instrument as the mood strikes them
 - C. do not think the actual "sound" of the instrument is that important
 - D. always try to sound like new musicians with completely different tones each time they play
 - E. let the instrument decide
15. What distinguishes jazz musicians apart from other jazz musicians?
- A. the amount of notes they play
 - B. how fast they play
 - C. their distinctive sound
 - D. nothing, they all strive to sound alike
 - E. A, B, and C
16. The definition of comping is
- A. the rhythmically syncopated playing of chords
 - B. giving something away, such as tickets
 - C. comparing musical notes
 - D. taking a solo
 - E. each member of the band plays the same chords
17. Whose role is it to comp the chords?
- A. the drummer
 - B. the saxophone player and/or bassist
 - C. the bassist and guitarist
 - D. the pianist and/or guitarist
 - E. the saxophonist and/or trumpet player
18. How many notes are usually played simultaneously in jazz chords?
- A. two
 - B. four to seven
 - C. three
 - D. nine
 - E. eight to ten
19. Harmony is defined as
- A. two or more notes played one right after the other
 - B. two or more notes played at the same time
 - C. four or more notes played at the same time
 - D. people singing the same notes together
 - E. a synonym for melody

20. In a jazz composition, the main purpose of harmony is to
- A. create a variety of simple and complex rhythms
 - B. provide the rhythm
 - C. accompany the written melodies and performers' improvisations
 - D. give all the musicians in a band the chance to play the head
 - E. bring dissonance to the music
21. Form can be considered
- A. the arrangement of notes on the page
 - B. complicated chord progressions
 - C. a musical blueprint, or basic structure of a song
 - D. the opposite of syncopation
 - E. the notes played by the drummer
22. One time through the chords of a tune is called
- A. a chorus
 - B. harmony
 - C. a melodic progression
 - D. the arrangement
 - E. a vamp
23. The "head" is
- A. the bandleader
 - B. the featured soloist
 - C. the melody
 - D. the chorus
 - E. the metal part on a drum set
24. What is meant by the expression, "Taking the tune out?"
- A. performing the tune before a live audience
 - B. deciding not to play the tune
 - C. playing the tune twice, in different variations
 - D. repeating the chorus for the last time, ending, or completing the tune.
 - E. change the order of the solos
25. The arrangement is
- A. where each band member will stand on the stage
 - B. how the instruments will be held
 - C. the order in which players will take their solos
 - D. the size of the ensemble
 - E. musical instructions that determine which instruments play what when

Fill in the blank with the correct answer

1. Jazz's most essential ingredient is _____.

2. Improvisation is _____.
3. Jazz improvisation is very similar to _____.
4. In order to be able to improvise a musician needs to have the ability to play by _____.
5. A jazz musician needs to have a musical _____ covering a wide variety of styles.
6. Rhythm is the part of the music that makes the listener want to _____.
7. The element of music dealing with _____ is referred to as rhythm.
8. Jazz rhythms can range from simple to _____.
9. The speed of the pulse is referred to as the _____.
10. _____ Extremely fast tunes in jazz are called _____.
11. _____ is the accenting of beats that are not naturally accented.
12. _____ is a difficult to define rhythmic concept.
13. _____ Jazz players strive for a tone that is generally more _____ in nature.
14. _____ The buoyancy, rhythmic lilt, and liveliness of the music is referred to as _____.
15. _____ The most common instrument associated with jazz is the _____.
16. _____ The _____ is the most common brass instrument in a jazz group.
17. _____ The rhythm section is made up of _____, _____, and _____.
18. _____ A jazz musician's particular sound is part of his/her _____.
19. _____ Two or more notes played at the same time constitutes _____.
20. _____ Another name for harmony is a _____ or a _____.
21. _____ Jazz chords usually consist of _____ notes played simultaneously.
22. _____ A series of chords is known as a _____.
23. _____ The term "comping" comes from the words to _____ and to _____.

24. The way in which the sections of chord progressions in a tune are grouped determines the _____ of the tune.
25. Each time through the chords of a tune is called a _____.

Please answer true or false to the following questions.

1. Improvisation is, perhaps, jazz's most essential ingredient. T F
2. Improvisation is written ahead of time. T F
3. Improvisation is not similar to regular conversation. T F
4. In order to improvise well, a musician needs to be technically able to play his/her instrument well. T F
5. It is not important for jazz musicians to use their ears when playing. T F
6. Rhythm is the element of music that deals with time. T F
7. A tune's groove is also called the "feel" of a tune. T F
8. Tempo refers to all chords of a tune. T F
9. Fast tempos in jazz which are called "burning." T F
10. The accenting of beats that are not naturally accented is known as syncopation. T F
11. "Swing" is an easy to define rhythmic concept. T F
12. If a jazz performance is rhythmically cohesive and has a buoyant upbeat feeling, it's known as swinging. T F
13. Jazz players strive for a clear pure tone. T F
14. The most common instrument used in jazz is the flute. T F
15. Every jazz musician has his/her own particular sound which is part of his/her musical signature. T F
16. The rhythm section is comprised of piano, bass, and saxophone. T F
17. The trumpet is the most common brass instrument found in jazz. T F
18. Two or more notes played at the same time constitute harmony. T F

19. Another word for harmony is measure. T F
20. Jazz chords are usually four to seven notes played simultaneously. T F
21. Another name for chord is timing. T F
22. A series of chords is known as a chord progression. T F
23. Pianists and saxophonists comp the chords. T F
24. The way recurring chord progressions of a tune are grouped is called the form of the tune. T F
25. A chorus is never played by a jazz group. T F

Write a one to two page answer on **one of the following Essay questions.**

Essay question #1

What is improvisation? How is improvisation similar to regular conversation? Explain why improvisation is jazz's most essential ingredient.

Essay question #2

Why is rhythm such an integral part of jazz?

Essay question #3

Define the term "swing." What importance does "swing" play in the performance of jazz? Why is this ingredient so essential?

Essay question #4

How does jazz harmony differ from harmony found in other musics? Why is the knowledge of harmony crucial to the improviser?

Essay question #5

What is form? What are some common forms in jazz? What is a chorus? What is an arrangement?
pending

Match the words in the columns correctly.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. chorus | A. a pattern formed by a series of notes of differing duration and stress | 1. _____ |
| 2. spontaneous composition | B. the composed melody of a tune | 2. _____ |
| 3. Swing refers to... | C. the accenting of beats that are not naturally accented | 3. _____ |

4. the speed of the pulse	D. a jazz musician needs to be able to play by ear.	4. _____
5. saxophone	E. that is more "vocal" in nature.	5. _____
6. part of a jazz musician's "signature"	F. the most common jazz brass instrument	6. _____
7. improvisation	G. rhythm	7. _____
8. changes	H. jazz jargon meaning chords	8. _____
9. another term for extremely fast	I. chord	9. _____
10. Jazz chords are usually...	J. common sequence of events for a jazz performance	10. _____
11. rhythm	K. one time through the chords of a tune	11. _____
12. comping	L. common forms	12. _____
13. chord voicing	M. form	13. _____
14. Jazz players strive for a tone...	N. burning	14. _____
15. chord progression	O. a series of chords	15. _____
16. In order to improvise...	P. jazz's most essential ingredient	16. _____
17. trumpet	Q. a jazz musician's particular sound on his/her instrument	17. _____
18. AABA, ABAC, 16-bar tune, 12-bar blues	R. comes from the words "accompany" and "compliment"	18. _____
19. syncopation	S. tempo	19. _____
20. a tune's musical (harmonic) blueprint	T. a music's buoyancy, liveliness, and cohesiveness.	20. _____
21. two or more notes played at the same time	U. improvisation	21. _____
22. the "head"	V. 4-7 notes played simultaneously	22. _____
23. the time element of music	W. the most common jazz instrument	23. _____
24. musical instructions that determine who plays what, and when	X. arrangement	24. _____
25. head-solos-head	Y. the order in which the notes of a chord are arranged	