Sounds of Jazz



Activity One: How does this music make you feel?

Listen to the music and tick the box:

Descriptions	
• *Happy*	
• *Sad*	
• *Nostalgic*	
• *In a good mood*	
• *Like dancing*	
• *Romantic*	
• *Calm*	
• *Emotional*	

Activity Two – Ask and answer with your partner.



1. Do you **like** Jazz music? *(Yes, I do, no I don't)*
2. Do you **listen** to Jazz music?
3. Who are your favourite Jazz artists?
4. What other kinds of music do you like?
5. Do you have a record collection?

Activity Three: *Read the text and answer the questions:*

Jazz is a music that originated at the beginning of the 20th century within the African-American communities of the Southern United States. Its **roots** lie in the African-American adoption of European harmony and form to existing African musical elements. African musical influences are evident in the use of blue notes, improvisation, polyrhythms, syncopation and the swung note. From its **early** development until the present day, jazz has also incorporated elements from American popular music.

There are many variations of Jazz from the Dixieland sound originating from the early 1910's in the Southern States of the US to the big brass ensemble bands that were popular in the States during the 30s and 40s to the more complex harmonies of bebop in the mid 40s to a variety of Latin jazz played by Cuban and Brazilian musicians from the 50s and 60s.

Best known for his trumpet playing, Louis Armstrong was also a talented jazz singer. He had a warm voice and sang with humour and mimics. He is considered to be the father of modern jazz. He was born in 1901 and died in 1971.

Ella Fitzgerald was born in 1917 and died in 1996. She had a unique scat singing style, and was able to imitate many instruments with her voice. She had a wonderful vocal timbre and an amazing technique which is why she was so popular.

Billie Holiday who was born in 1915 and died in 1959 had her own very original vocal style which was intimate and vulnerable she was a big influence on jazz music.

Miles Davis, (May 26, 1926 – September 28, 1991), was an American jazz musician, trumpeter, bandleader, and composer and is considered one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. With his musical groups he developed new styles of jazz music, including bebop.cool jazz, hard bop, modal jazz, and jazz fusion.



1. **Where** did Jazz originate ?
2. **What** it is a mixture of ?
3. **When** did it start ?
4. **Where** did the Dixieland sound originate ?
5. **Who** played Latin Jazz ?
6. **Who** is considered to be the father of modern Jazz ?
7. **How** old was Louis Armstrong when he died ?
8. **Who** lived longer Ella Fitzgerald or Billie Holiday ?
9. **What** did Miles Davis help to develop ?
10. **When** was Miles Davis born ?

Activity Four: Listen to the jazz songs and say which one you prefer. Vote for your favourite track.

Preferences

- ***I like*** *the first song the best.*
- ***I prefer*** *the last song.*
- ***I like*** *the second one.*
- ***I really like*** *the third song.*
- ***I love*** *the fourth one.*

Activity Five – Now listen again and use these words to describe the different tracks :

Descriptions

- ***Slow***
- ***Fast***
- ***Loud***
- ***Quiet***
- ***Dance music***
- ***Romantic music***



Examples:

The first track was very slow, it makes me feel nostalgic.
The last track was fast and made me feel like dancing.

Activity Six – With your partner write some **questions** about Jazz music and ask them to other people in the class. (Questions about what they like, or about the history of jazz or the music we listened to in today's lesson). Use the question words from activity Three (You can also use the word **'which'** – 'which song did you like the best?' for example, and the words for expressing preferences and the description words.)