

Jazz

At first this was music created by black Americans in the early 20th century. Features of the music may include syncopation and improvisation.

Key features of Jazz:

- Improvisation
- solo piano, drumkit and bass
- Use of saxophone
- Syncopation
- vamp style accomp
- Use of trumpet/ trombone
- Scat singing

Improvisation

The performer makes up music during the actual performance. They don't have the melody written down to help, although there may be suggested chords as a guide. Improvisation is an important feature of jazz and popular music

Vamp

A rhythmic accompaniment with a bass note played on the beat and a chord off the beat. Usually played on piano or guitar.

- Louis Armstrong – *Hello Dolly*
- Miles Davies – *Blue Green*
- Dizzy Gillespie – *Quintet*
- Count Basie – *Jazz Casual*

Scat singing

Nonsense words, syllables and sounds are improvised (made up) by the singer. Sometimes the singer is imitating the sounds of instruments. Used mainly in jazz singing.

- Ella Fitzgerald – *One note samba*
- Ella Fitzgerald

Rock

A style of popular music with a **heavy, driving beat**. It usually features **electric guitar, bass guitar and drum kit**.

Key features

- Thick and heavy drums and bass
 - Strong beat
 - 4/4 time
- Electric instruments – guitars and synthesisers/ electric piano
 - Use of **distortion** and **reverb** effects
 - Guitar riffs

Progressive Rock

- ▶ Pink Floyd– *Dark side of the moon* (1973)
- ▶ Genesis– *Trespass*(1970)

Glam Rock

- ▶ David Bowie– *Life on Mars* (1973)
- ▶ Bryan Ferry – *Virginia Plain* (1972)

Psychedelic Rock

- Rolling Stones – *Paint it black* (1966)
- The Who – *I can see for miles* (1967)

Rock guitar –effects

• Reverb

An electronic effect which can give the impression of different hall acoustics. For example, reverb can make a piece of music sound as if the performance is taking place in a cathedral.

• Distortion

An electronic effect used in rock music to colour the sound of an electric guitar – it gives it a 'grungy', 'dirty' sound

• Pitch bend

- *Changing the pitch of a note, for example, by pushing a guitar string upwards*

Reggae

Reggae started in Jamaica and developed in the late 1960s as a mix of Calypso, Jazz and Rhythm and Blues. Songs are usually about the Rastafari religion, love or political issues such as equal rights.

Key features

- The music has a laid-back feel/ relaxed groove.
- Features off beat rhythms, staccato chords played by guitar/piano on the off beat
- Bass and drums create the rhythm, with strong accents on the 2nd and 4th beats of a bar. Bass guitar often plays a dominant role.
- It is common for reggae to be sung in Jamaican English
 - Vocalists are usually male

- Bob Marley and the Wailers– *Get up, stand up*
- Bob Marley and the Wailers – *One love*
- Bob Marley – *No woman, no cry*
- Dennis Brown– *Money in my pocket*



Rap

Rhyming lyrics that are spoken and performed to a beat. It is popular in hip-hop music.

- Eminem - Without Me
- Eminem - Lose Yourself

Gospel

Songs written with religious lyrics in a popular style. It is often in praise or thanksgiving to God. Gospel has its origins in Afro-American culture

Gospel music is characterised by hymn-like melodies, strong harmonies, and simple, repetitive lyrics. It also often features call and response, strong percussion, and a cappella vocals

- Oh happy day
- Joyful Joyful

Key features

- Religious lyrics
- Call and response singing
- Upbeat tempo
- Repetitive lyrics

Celtic Rock

A style of music that mixes Celtic folk music and rock together.



Key features

- Scottish traditional instruments ((e.g. clarsach, tin whistle, bagpipes, fiddle)
 - Rock instruments (electric guitars/ drum kit)
 - Rock beat
 - Scottish dance styles – e.g. jigs, reels
 - Celtic lyrics

- Highlander Celtic Rock Band - *Bung Knee Jigs*
- Red Hot Chilli Pipers - *We Will Rock You & Eye of the Tiger*

World Music

- Latin American music

Dance music from South America. Percussion instruments provide lively off-beat dance rhythms.



Key features

- Latin percussion – *e.g. congas, castanets, maracas*
 - Panpipes
 - Steel band
- Spanish vocals
- Syncopation
- Cross rhythms
- Lively tempo



- Example 1
- Example 2

Steel Band

A Latin American band whose instruments are made out of oil drums called pans. The top of each drum is hammered into panels to make different pitches.

- Example 1
- Example 2



- African Music

Much African music features voices and/or African drums.



Key features

- Bongo drums
- Call and response singing
- Polyrythms



- Indian Music

Music from India which uses instruments such as the sitar and tabla

- Example 1
- Example 2

Key features

- Sitar
- Tabla
- Pitch bend
- Improvisation



Quiz 1

Quiz 2