

Chapter 12: The Blues Scale



Composition: My Blues Melody

Theory Focus: The Blues Scale, Blues Tonality

Composition Focus: 12 Bar Blues, Creating A Lead Sheet

Composition

1. Write a statement that has two phrases like this:

Sample (use your own words)

My dog ate my shoes, and my math assignment too.

2. Repeat it.

My dog ate my shoes, and my math assignment too.

My dog ate my shoes, and my math assignment too.

3. Write a response to the statement. If you wish, you can refer to having the blues anywhere in your text.

My dog ate my shoes, and my math assignment too.

My dog ate my shoes, and my math assignment too.

Now I've got the big bad blues, 'cause my math assignment's due.

4. Give your blues melody a title.

Homework Blues

My dog ate my shoes, and my math assignment too

My dog ate my shoes, and my math assignment too

Now I've got the big bad blues, 'cause my math assignment's is due.

5. Work out the melody by singing your words in a blues style using the notes of the blues scale and in particular the blue notes (-7 and -3) .(To help, sing other blues melodies to help you get in the frame of mind.)

Composition: My Blues Melody

6. Create a 'lead' sheet in notation software by adding your melody inserting the words as lyrics.
 - a. Work out the rhythm: determine if your music has a pick up measure.
 - b. Set up your score in 4/4 time and F major.
 - c. Play your music back frequently ensure that you are notating what you want.
 - d. Used accidentals to indicate the -3 or -7 scale degrees in this key.

HOMWORK BLUES

My DOG ATE MY SHOES _____ AND MY MATH ASS - IGN - MENT TOO _____

5 DOG ATE MY SHOES _____ AND MY MATH ASS - IGN - MENT TOO _____
Melodic Shift

9 NOW I'VE GOT THE BIG BAD _____ BLUES CAUSE MY MATH ASS - IGN - MENTS DUE _____

7. Choose a tempo and style to perform your blues. (Jazz, Rock, Blues, Country etc.)