

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Blues music _____.
 - Ⓐ is played by only a few people
 - Ⓑ expresses feelings of sadness
 - Ⓒ first began in England
 - Ⓓ is happy and joyful
2. Which of the following was a cause for the blues moving north in the United States?
 - Ⓐ Jobs paid more in the northern states.
 - Ⓑ African Americans moved to northern cities.
 - Ⓒ Schools were better for African Americans in the North.
 - Ⓓ All of the above
3. How was country or primitive blues music different from the original, or classic, blues?
 - Ⓐ It was sung by men instead of women.
 - Ⓑ It came out of the South instead of the North.
 - Ⓒ It was recorded music rather than music played live.
 - Ⓓ All of the above
4. What makes a song a call-and-response song?
 - Ⓐ It is sung by slaves.
 - Ⓑ It repeats lines or has an echo.
 - Ⓒ It expresses a lot of sad emotion.
 - Ⓓ It can be changed easily by individual musicians.
5. Before slaves arrived in America, they _____.
 - Ⓐ celebrated happy events with songs
 - Ⓑ developed farm-work related songs
 - Ⓒ sang songs that included details of their lives
 - Ⓓ all of the above

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6. How did the technology to record music help Mamie Smith become so popular?
 - Ⓐ There was very little advertising that went into selling her records.
 - Ⓑ W.C. Handy wrote down the words to blues music, and that made her popular.
 - Ⓒ Perry Bradford found Okeh studio, which became the first to record her songs.
 - Ⓓ People could buy her recordings and play them for others who would then buy them too.
7. Why would slaves have sung the blues?
 - Ⓐ to pass the time while they worked
 - Ⓑ because they lived in very poor conditions
 - Ⓒ to express their longing for their homeland
 - Ⓓ all of the above
8. What is a **phonograph**?
 - Ⓐ a machine that plays records
 - Ⓑ a type of music played by Southern people
 - Ⓒ a type of communication used by musicians
 - Ⓓ a new instrument used to play blues
9. Which of the following musicians was a Delta Blues singer who influenced many later rock 'n' roll bands?
 - Ⓐ Mick Jagger
 - Ⓑ Elvis Presley
 - Ⓒ Eric Clapton
 - Ⓓ Muddy Waters
10. What is a **composer**?
 - Ⓐ someone who decides what music should be recorded
 - Ⓑ a person who records others playing music
 - Ⓒ someone who finds new musicians
 - Ⓓ a person who writes music

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11. Extended Response: Why did growing cotton help to start blues music?

12. Extended Response: What effects did the Great Depression have on the blues music industry in the 1900s?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Blues: More Than a Feeling

Main Comprehension Skill: Make Inferences

1. Ⓑ Main Idea and Detail
2. Ⓓ Cause and Effect
3. Ⓐ Compare and Contrast
4. Ⓑ Vocabulary
5. Ⓓ Sequence Events
6. Ⓓ Make Inferences
7. Ⓓ Cause and Effect
8. Ⓑ Vocabulary
9. Ⓓ Main Idea and Details
10. Ⓓ Vocabulary
11. Answers should include the following: *Growing cotton was hard work for which slaves got no pay. Slaves started singing sad, or blues, songs to help them pass the time they spent in the cotton fields.*
12. Answers should include the following: *in the Great Depression, most people did not have enough money, and jobs were scarce; people did not have extra money for things like records; even though music was sung to ease pain, record sales fell.*