

Yr 4 African American Music

Quick summary



African-American music is an umbrella term covering a diverse range of music and musical genres largely developed by African Americans. Their origins are in musical forms that arose out of the **historical condition of slavery** that characterized the lives of African Americans prior to the American Civil War. White enslavers sought to completely subjugate their slaves physically, mentally, and spiritually through brutality and demeaning acts. African-Americans used music to counter this dehumanisation

Famous musicians Lead Belly, Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, Charlie Parker, Little Richard, Jimi Hendrix, Bob Marley, Kanye West, Beyoncé Knowles	Genre Blues, Jazz, Rock 'n' Roll, reggae, hip hop and R&B	History In the 17 th and 18 th centuries people were kidnapped from Africa and forced into slavery. They worked on plantations for free labour and had no rights. The blues originated from these deep feelings of despair. Slavery was abolished in 1833 and the people were given their freedom. However, huge gaps of inequality have existed until the present day. African American music has been extremely influential on western culture and some people argue that there would not be the music we know today without it.	Main events timeline • 1920-1930's Blues • 1930's - 1950's Jazz • 1950's - 1960's Rock n roll • 1970's - 1980's Reggae • 1980's - soul, disco • 1990's - present hip hop and R&B
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Vocabulary used for composing, describing and evaluating:

pitch, timbre, pulse, rhythm, duration, tempo, pace, melody, pitch, texture, layers, pianissimo, forte, crescendo, beat, feelings.

Aspirations and career links to music: music teacher, music therapist, television production assistant, programme researcher, arts and music administrator, music editorial assistant, music marketing assistant, sound technician, musician

Famous musicians



Describing



Composing



Evaluating



Main events timeline



Genre



Society



Beliefs



History



