

History of Jazz

ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATIONS

1. B The correct choice, B, is suggested by the first paragraph, which cites several different theories about the origin of jazz. A is just one of the theories given in the first paragraph. C is not mentioned as an origin of jazz. D is not discussed in the passage.
2. F This correct answer is supported by line 5, which shows the link between early jazz and funeral parades in New Orleans. G suggests the music of Scott Joplin, but, in the early days of jazz, Joplin's music was performed only on the piano. H contrasts with the spontaneity associated with early jazz. J is not discussed in the passage.
3. C This answer is correct, because it affirms the statement in lines 31-33 about swing's loss of strength and vitality. A is true, but, according to the passage, swing was already in decline when bop became popular. B contradicts information given in line 27 about swing music. D is not discussed in the passage.
4. J Rhythm gives swing its appeal, particularly to dancers. The passage states that swing "could be danced to with zest" (line 28). F is not a quality of swing music. G is a part of swing music's appeal, but not its most appealing quality. H is not a characteristic of swing music.
5. C This answer reveals the primary concern of most of the passage. A is discussed in lines 49-57, but it is too limited to be the passage's main purpose. B is discussed early in the passage, but is also too limited to be the main purpose of the passage. D is mentioned throughout the passage; but does not receive the emphasis it needs to be the main purpose.
6. J This correct choice is supported by the statement in lines 13-15 that New Orleans had a need for jazz, "the talent to produce it, and a favorable audience to receive it. F exemplified the lifestyle of New Orleans, but did not cause jazz to develop. G is not mentioned in the passage. H is an example of one musician, but it took more than one person to provide jazz with a home.
7. D This answer is suggested by the contents of the final paragraph. A contains a criticism of foreign musicians that the passage does not imply. B is not implied by the passage. C may be a valid observation, but it is not implied in the passage.
8. H The correct choice, H, applies only to bop. F is common to both jazz and bop, according to lines 13 and 37. G is common to both jazz and bop, although jazz is probably freer than bop. J applies to jazz as well as to bop.
9. B This is a reference to the unusual excitement that these three unlikely heroes evoked among young fans in the late 30's and the 40's. A is not implied by the phrase or by the passage itself. C is not implied by the passage. D is true, but in the context of the passage the enigma refers more specifically to popularity among young people.
10. G Choice G is supported by the passage: Many bop composers were educated and could not resist "riding out ... on a twelve-tone row." F implies that bop musicians wanted to make jazz better, but jazz did not need help, only "fresh expression." H may have been what some bop musicians had in mind, but the idea is not stated or implied in the passage. J is only half right. Bop musicians sought new forms, but they were not dissatisfied with the music of their day.