

Blues Composition

Name: _____

Write a standard 12-bar blues for solo instrument and rhythm section.

Submit two separate pages: a lead sheet and a voicing example.

On your lead sheet

Write the melody on a single, unaccompanied staff, and write lead sheet symbols above it.

- **Motive and rhythm**

- Your melody should be in aab format. You may vary the repetition of the a phrase.
- You should leave gaps in your melody in which another instrument could “respond” to your “call” (call-and-response style is typical in the blues).
- You should stick to the blues scale and/or outline the chords in your melody.

- **Lead sheet symbols:** Write in lead sheet symbols to indicate the harmonies of the 12 bar blues. If you choose to make alterations (you do not have to!), make a note explaining the logic behind your alteration.

On your voicing example

- **Voicing example:** To demonstrate fluency in lead sheet symbols and voicings, provide a basic realization of your lead sheet symbols for piano, written in whole notes, with one note in the left hand and three notes in the right hand. Your voicing should connect 3rds and 7ths.