

## High School Jazz Student Lessons - Lesson 1

### 1 – Warm-ups: 5 minutes

- Mouthpiece, lip slurs/long tones

### 2 - Technique: 10-15 minutes

- **F Major, Bb Major, Eb Major, Ab Major in swing 8<sup>th</sup> notes to the 9<sup>th</sup> scale degree**
- Think about tonguing the upbeats and slurring into the downbeat
- Do Dah oo Dah oo Dah oo, etc.

#### **Bb Major example**

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
- C instruments - Bb C D Eb F G A B C
- Bb instruments - C D E F G A B C D
- Eb instruments - G A B C D E F# G A
- Repeat for other scales
- Improvise/explore using the F/Bb/Eb/Ab Major scales over
- F Major - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6z9qwdK4XM4>
- Bb Major - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UH7p1Pwj6zo>
- Eb Major - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6Ck1kaETI&list=RDj6Ck1kaETI&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6Ck1kaETI&list=RDj6Ck1kaETI&start_radio=1)
- Ab major - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5oFh8TPdEtI>
- **Bb Major Blues in swing 8<sup>th</sup> notes**
- 1 2 b3 3 5 6 8 9 b3
- C instruments – Bb C Db D F G Bb C Db
- Bb instruments – C D Eb E G A C D Eb
- Eb instruments – G A Bb B D E G A Bb
- Improvise/explore using the Bb Major Blues scale over –
- The top five notes 5 6 1 9 b3 are what I call a Magic Formula. You can't go wrong. If things sound funky (in a bad way), try starting and stopping ideas on the root or 1
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B7m4FhYKJjs>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7oKOrCHSQE>

### 3 – Rep: 10 – 30 minutes

- o Listen to the piece you're working on. Most band pieces are available to listen to on [jwpepper.com](http://jwpepper.com) or [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/).
- o Listen to the piece a few times
- o Listen and finger along
- o Listen and play along – don't worry about mistakes
- o Isolate the more difficult passages and work on these in small "chunks"
  - o Without playing, figure out the **rhythms** first. Write in the counting if you need to and if need be, S L O W it way down. Accuracy is more important than speed.
  - o Look at the notes and add the fingerings to the rhythms you've just learned.

- Take note of the key signature and any accidentals; play these small “chunks” sections on your instrument. Accuracy is more important than speed.
- Put the “chunks” together gradually increasing tempo if necessary. Accuracy is more important than speed.
- **Practice with a metronome is always encouraged.**

#### **4 – Soloing: 10 – 30 minutes**

- Using your Bb Major Blues scale construct a 12-measure solo
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5s\\_TP\\_bD-kU&list=RD5s\\_TP\\_bD-kU&index=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5s_TP_bD-kU&list=RD5s_TP_bD-kU&index=1)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHVxf2M20gQ>

#### **5 – Listening/History 10: 30 minutes**

- Jazz is an aural tradition, which means we need to learn jazz through listening and mimicking. Therefore, we must listen and emulate the true jazz greats.
- **Required listening**  
 April in Paris – Count Basie  
 Live at Swing City – Swingin’ with the Duke – Lincoln Centre Jazz Orchestra  
 Now’s the Time – Charlie Parker  
 Kind of Blue – Miles Davis  
 Blue Train – John Coltrane