



Viva Exam – Yr 8 Music

Blues Music History

Your **Viva exam** supports you in developing your confidence, self-expression and curricular understanding.

It does so by improving your **oracy**.

When a University student writes a thesis (their final paper or exam), they have to defend what they have written whilst their Professors ask questions. This is often referred to as a **Viva exam**.

Viva is short for **Viva Voce**, this is the Latin for ‘**with living voice**’, or in other words **spoken** not written.

Across this Half Term you will prepare for a **Viva exam** on the curricular area we are studying, this will be **instead** of your End of Term exam.

Your teacher will support you in **preparing** by **suggesting** what you may speak about, **providing** materials to support you, **checking** in on your planning and progress and giving you **feedback** after you have spoken so that you know what you have done well and what you will need to improve, next time.

This pack contains the basic materials and guidance you will need, to prepare for your **Viva exam**.

‘Viva’ Exam – Blues Music History– Year 8

Student Name:

Expectations:

- 1) To speak unaided and without interruption for four to five minutes describing the history of blues music and its key features.
- 2) Give 5 key points about a famous blues composer or singer

Resources Permitted:

You can have up no more than five bullet point sentences to prompt you.

Marking and Grading:

As with your End of Term, your Viva will be given a 0-9 grade, students should always aim to meet or exceed their target grade. However, there is no need to feel bad if you don't, all this means is that you are learning and making progress!

Your total marks will be multiplied by five to produce a percentage, just like you get in your other End of Term exams, the teacher will then convert this percentage so that your termly report can show a grade in this area.

Viva exams are marked in four categories, please see the mark scheme below:

Preparation Mark:	Level 3 – Award 4-5 Marks Complete and exemplary evidence of written preparation.
	Level 2 – Award 2-4 Marks Purposeful but incomplete evidence of written preparation.
	Level 1 – Award 0-2 Marks Limited or no written evidence of preparation.
Timing and Content Mark:	Level 3 – Award 4-5 Marks Speaks for the full allocated time, without pause or interruption. Speaks exclusively on the subject selected, is precise, concise and purposeful. Speaks without the use of any written or visual aids.
	Level 2 – Award 2-4 Marks Speaks for more than half of the allocated time, with limited pause or interruption. Speaks exclusively on the subject selected, but lacks precision and focus at times.
	Level 1 – Award 0-2 Marks Speaks for less than half of the allocated time and or fails to focus on the subject and lacks purpose.
Manner and Presentation Mark:	Level 3 – Award 4-5 Marks Projects and modulates consistently, uses rhetorical skill, body language and positioning throughout and with exemplary effect.
	Level 2 – Award 2-4 Marks Projects well but modulates and uses body language inconsistently, increasing evidence of rhetorical skill.
	Level 1 – Award 0-2 Marks Fails to project or modulate voice, use of body language is limited, rhetorical skill is largely unevidenced.
Response to questioning Mark:	Level 3 – Award 4-5 Marks Responds convincingly and thoughtfully to both questions, in line with the Level 3 criteria for Timing and Content and Manner and Presentation.
	Level 2 – Award 2-4 Marks Responds convincingly to elements of both questions or to just one question but not the other.
	Level 1 – Award 0-2 Marks Is unable to respond at all or convincingly enough, to either question.

Overview:

For this exam you will need to prepare how you are going to describe the history of the blues. You will need to state where and when the blues originated and describe its key features. Your vocabulary should include harmony, bassline and walking bass. Explain how the blues developed and changed over time. Name other styles of music that influenced the blues. Describe the structure of blues songs and how the 12-bar blues is formed. Name a famous blues composer or singer and give five key points about them.

Stage 1 – Name the key features of the blues and describe its history.

Stage 2 – Name a famous blues composer or singer and write 5 key features about them

Stage 3 – Check your work to make sure you have all the necessary requirements

Stage 4 – Condense all your work into 5 bullet point sentences.

Stage 5 – Practice reading aloud your presentation

Stage 1

Name the key features of the blues and describe its history:

- List the different features of blues music
- Describe its history and how it has developed.
- Check with a partner that you have written your information correctly.

Stage 2

Name a famous blues composer or singer and write 5 key features about them:

- Describe your composer or singer giving valid information such as:-
Name/ DOB/ Place of Birth/Well known songs they have written/Who influenced them/What instruments they play if they are a musician or what register of voice they sing/Why are they famous?/Key things that has happened in their life

Stage 3

Check your work to make sure you have all the necessary requirements

- Make sure that you have not missed anything out.
- Refine improve your work by using the internet to add any extra information or to help you with any information that you may not understand. Check through your work to make sure that you have as much information as possible for your presentation.

Stage 4

Condense all your work into 5 bullet point sentences.

- Write out the key words that would prompt you to read the extra information that you have written

Stage 5

Practice reading aloud your presentation:

- Practice your presentation in front of friends, family and in front of the mirror. Try not to stumble with your words and speak as fluent as possible when describing the history of the blues and five points about a famous composer/singer
- Practise your presentation again but this time with just the five bullet pointed sentences

STAGE 1A: LIST THE KEY FEATURES OF THE BLUES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

STAGE 1B: DESCRIBE HOW THESE HAVE DEVELOPED THROUGH TIME

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

STAGE 2: NAME A FAMOUS BLUES COMPOSER OR SINGER AND WRITE 5 KEY FEATURES ABOUT THEM:

NAME:

FIVE KEY FEATURES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Check List:

- 1. Have you listed the key features of the blues?**
- 2. Have you named a famous composer or singer giving five key features about them?**
- 3. Have you checked through your work with the use of your booklet and online resources to help you?**
- 4. Have you read your presentation in front of people and the mirror using the full explanation?**
- 5. Have you read your presentation in front of people and the mirror without the full explanation in front of you but only five sentences with bullet points?**