

JAZZ LISTENING WORKSHEET

Tune / Album / Year: _____

What key is the tune in (including Major or minor)? _____

What instruments do you hear? _____

Who are the musicians and who's playing which instrument?

WHO	INSTRUMENT

What is the time signature? _____

What is the feel (Swing, Blues, Latin/Bossa, Jazz Waltz, etc.)? _____

Is it fast, slow or a moderate tempo? _____

Is there an intro? _____

If so, is it a turnaround? a vamp? _____

How many measures is it? _____

Is it loud (*f*), soft (*p*) or in the middle (*mf*)? _____

Is it higher sounding, lowering sounding or in the 'middle'? _____

What is the form (AABA, 12-bar Blues, etc.)? _____

How many measures is the whole basic form? _____

What instrument is playing the head? _____ Is it harmonized? _____

Which instruments take a solo? _____

How many choruses are each solo?

Solo 1 _____ Solo 2 _____ Solo 3 _____ Solo 4 _____ Solo 5 _____

Is there a tag at the end? a vamp? _____

Is there a short ending or a long (held) ending? _____

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CHOOSING ONE PLAYER TO SINGLE OUT AND LISTEN TO

For the entire tune, focus on one player and one player only. Imagine you are the player going through the motions of making the music. Perhaps first choose an instrument other than your own. If you are a piano player, then first choose listening to only the drummer. If you are a horn player, then first choose listening to only the bass player.

Here are some questions for you to consider as you listen:

1. Is the player communicating well with the other player(s), i.e., feeding off of either harmonic ideas or rhythmic ideas? If so, where?
2. Is the player “playing it safe” or taking some risks (e.g., harmonically or rhythmically)?
3. What types of jazz expressions does the player make use of (e.g., a good sense of space, harmonic complexities, overall shape of solo, etc.)?
4. Is anything done to signify the beginning of a chorus? Are there many times when the structure of the form becomes “purposefully blurred?”

Below, describe at least 3 points that you can recognize by how the player is playing.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____
