

## Jazz Legends Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Jazz Legends trivia celebrates the musicians who defined and reinvented a genre rooted in improvisation, swing, and cultural exchange across more than a century. From Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington to Miles Davis and Ella Fitzgerald, it offers a concise, family-friendly challenge that mixes widely known milestones with deeper cuts for dedicated fans.

### HARD JAZZ LEGENDS TRIVIA

1. Released in 1959 on Columbia Records, which album fits that exact description?

Answer: Mingus Ah Um

2. Name all three bandmates in John Coltrane's quartet on "A Love Supreme."?

Answer: McCoy Tyner, Jimmy Garrison, and Elvin Jones

3. Miles Davis's "Bitches Brew" arrived in 1970 in what format?

Answer: Double album

4. What year did the Dave Brubeck Quartet release "Time Out"?

Answer: 1959

5. In what year was Sonny Rollins's "Saxophone Colossus" released?

Answer: 1956

6. Art Blakey co-founded the Jazz Messengers with which pianist?

Answer: Horace Silver

7. Which 1959 Columbia release belongs to Charles Mingus?

Answer: Mingus Ah Um

8. Besides Coltrane himself, who made up the quartet on "A Love Supreme"?

Answer: McCoy Tyner, Jimmy Garrison, and Elvin Jones

9. True or false: "Bitches Brew" was issued as a double album.?

Answer: True

10. Set the date precisely: "Time Out" hit shelves in which year?

Answer: 1959

11. Before "A Love Supreme," Rollins had this classic in 1956—name it.?

Answer: Saxophone Colossus

12. What kind of album package was "Bitches Brew" when released in 1970?

Answer: Double album

13. Which album from the Brubeck camp specifically dates to 1959?

Answer: Time Out

14. Give the release year for "Saxophone Colossus."?

Answer: 1956

#### FUNNY JAZZ LEGENDS TRIVIA

1. Who ran the orchestra at Harlem's Cotton Club in the 1930s?

Answer: Cab Calloway

2. Which stride pianist was famous for comic stage charm as well as keyboard skill?

Answer: Fats Waller

3. Who was known for tossing playful nonsense syllables into performances?

Answer: Slim Gaillard

4. Which trumpeter popularized the comic catchphrase "Mumbles"?

Answer: Clark Terry

5. Which performer mixed jazz, comedy, and showmanship in Las Vegas?

Answer: Louis Prima

6. Which artist had a stage name that literally included the word "Fats"?

Answer: Fats Domino

7. Billie Holiday gave Lester Young what nickname?

Answer: Prez

8. Count Basie's actual first name was what?

Answer: William

9. Which pianist had a color right in his stage name?

Answer: Red Garland

10. Which trumpeter's stage name came with the color blue built in?

Answer: Blue Mitchell

11. Cannonball Adderley's real first name was which one?

Answer: Julian

12. Bud Powell was actually given what first name at birth?

Answer: Earl

13. Before he was Sun Ra, what name was on the birth record?

Answer: Herman Blount

#### FUN JAZZ LEGENDS TRIVIA

1. Which album title is most associated with John Coltrane's 1960 release?

Answer: Giant Steps

2. Which group counted Jaco Pastorius in its 1970s lineup?

Answer: Weather Report

3. What track appears on the album "Head Hunters"?

Answer: Chameleon

4. Which city is widely known as the birthplace of jazz?

Answer: New Orleans

5. Which song is strongly tied to the New Orleans jazz tradition?

Answer: Saints Go Marching In

6. Fill in the famous jazz album title: "\_\_\_ Steps."?

Answer: Giant

7. Jaco Pastorius played in which fusion powerhouse of the 1970s?

Answer: Weather Report

8. On "Head Hunters," what reptile-sounding hit track do you get?

Answer: Chameleon

9. Jazz history postcards often point to which city as the music's birthplace?

Answer: New Orleans

10. Which traditional tune practically strolls arm in arm with New Orleans jazz?

Answer: Saints Go Marching In

11. True or false: "Giant Steps" is tied to a 1960 John Coltrane album.?

Answer: True

12. What Coltrane album title sounds like a big leap and dates to 1960?

Answer: Giant Steps

#### JAZZ LEGENDS FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which musician was known for playing both soprano saxophone and clarinet?

Answer: Sidney Bechet

2. Who was a pianist, arranger, and composer all in one?

Answer: Mary Lou Williams

3. Dinah Washington was a major vocalist in which two styles?

Answer: Jazz and blues

4. Which keyboard instrument is Jimmy Smith strongly linked with in jazz?

Answer: Hammond organ

5. What unusual technique helped make Wes Montgomery famous on guitar?

Answer: Playing with his thumb

6. Which pianist is linked to hard bop?

Answer: Horace Silver

7. Lee Morgan played what brass instrument?

Answer: Trumpet

8. Who released the album "Mingus Ah Um" in 1959?

Answer: Charles Mingus

9. Which saxophonist is described as a pioneering free jazz artist?

Answer: Ornette Coleman

10. Who co-founded the fusion group Weather Report?

Answer: Joe Zawinul

11. Max Roach was best known on which instrument?

Answer: Drums

12. What tune became a signature piece for John Coltrane?

Answer: My Favorite Things

#### EASY JAZZ LEGENDS TRIVIA

1. Which jazz icon was born in New Orleans in 1901?

Answer: Louis Armstrong

2. Who was best known as both a bandleader and a pianist?

Answer: Duke Ellington

3. Which singer carried the nickname "First Lady of Song"?

Answer: Ella Fitzgerald

4. Charlie Parker is most associated with which saxophone type?

Answer: Alto saxophone

5. What instrument did Dizzy Gillespie play?

Answer: Trumpet

6. Who recorded the song "Lady Sings the Blues"?

Answer: Billie Holiday

7. Whose 1970 release was the album "Bitches Brew"?

Answer: Miles Davis

8. Which saxophone giant released "A Love Supreme" in 1965?

Answer: John Coltrane

9. Name the group that recorded the album "Time Out."?

Answer: The Dave Brubeck Quartet

10. Who put out "Head Hunters" in 1973?

Answer: Herbie Hancock

11. Which artist fits the description jazz pianist and composer?

Answer: Thelonious Monk

12. Which cool-jazz figure was known as both a trumpeter and a vocalist?

Answer: Chet Baker

13. Benny Goodman played which instrument?

Answer: Clarinet

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/jazz-legends>