

**Unit 2 Hope of Peace**  
**Enhancement Worksheet**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasure of Music**

(Enhancement Point 1)

**Blues**

Blues is a genre of folk music of the American Negro which possesses similar musical elements to jazz music. The sad and blue mood is always included in the blues.

The structure of blues is based on a major scale omitting the 3<sup>rd</sup> note and 7<sup>th</sup> note. Later the blues performers flatten 3<sup>rd</sup> note and 7<sup>th</sup> note of the major scale making the scale resembling that of the western music.

The harmony of blues mainly consists of tonic chord ( chord I ) and other blue chords.

**Blues 12-bar progression**

The “Blues 12-bar progression” is simple in 12 bars, which is divided by 3 groups. Each group consists of 4 bars. The most commonly used chords in the blues progression is : chord I, IV and V.

Read the following example of chord progression of blues in C major.

I: C → I: C → I: C → I: C →  
 IV: F → IV: F → I: C → I: C →  
 V: G → V: G OR IV: F → I: C → I: C →



1. Listen to Smith : Empty Bed Blues and refer to the following table showing the blue progression. Then answer the questions.

<b>Bar:</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Chord:</b>	I (tonic)	I	I	I
<b>Lyric</b>	I woke up this morn-ing	With an aw-ful ach-ing	Head,-----	



<b>Bar:</b>	5	6	7	8
<b>Chord:</b>	IV	IV	I	I
<b>Lyrics</b>	I woke up this morn-ing	With an aw-ful ach-ing	Head,----- -	

<b>Bar:</b>	9	10	11	12
<b>Chord:</b>	V	V	I	I
<b>Lyrics:</b>	My new man had left me just a	Room and an emp-ty	Bed.----- ---	

- a) The music is in ( duple / triple / **quadruple** ) time ?
- b) The characteristic of rhythm of blues is the use of  syncopations
- c) What is / are the technique in performing blues ?  
 Improvise melodies by using blue notes and swing rhythm.
- d) Search and listen to various blues and write down the most commonly used instruments.  Piano and Trombone.

## 2. Music composition

Group in 3 or 4, compose a blues melody by using the 12-bar progression. Perform by singing the melody.

Range:  Middle C to High E  Time Signature: <b>4</b> Key : C major	Hints : 1. Refer to and make use of the chord notes of the 12-bar progression in writing the key notes of the melody. 2. Flatten the 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> note.
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