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

**Afro-Cuban Music Worksheet**

1. Afro-Cuban Music
2. Cha-cha-chá
3. Clave
4. Danzon
5. Mambo
6. Rumba
7. Salsa
8. Santeria
9. Son Cubano
10. Yoruba

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. A style of popular dance music of the peasant or working  
 class, combining several Spanish and African elements.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. The official music genre and dance of Cuba.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. A ballroom dance with small steps and swaying movements  
 performed to a Latin rhythm. It is also a musical genre.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. The people and language from Nigeria, and one of the most  
 influential African cultures throughout the Caribbean.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. A Cuban non-religious form of music that contains both   
 African and Spanish roots and folklore.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. The section of an arrangement that features new material.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. A pantheistic Afro-Cuban religious cult developed from the  
 beliefs and customs of the Yoruba people that also  
 incorporates some elements of the Catholic religion.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. A five note, two measure pattern that is the foundation for  
 all the rhythmic styles in Afro-Cuban music.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. The music of Cuba, which is heavily influenced by the  
 mixture of Cuban tradition and indigenous Yoruban culture.

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. A term used in marketing during the 1960’s that refers to   
 the musical traditions of Cuba.

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

**Afro-Cuban Music Worksheet**

*ANSWER KEY & EXPLANATIONS*

1. I; Son Cubano first appeared in Havana, Cuba around the early 1920’s but didn’t become popular until later. The son began to take shape in the latter half of the 19th century in Cuba’s Oriente province, located in the Eastern region of Cuba, among the country folk. It gave birth to several hybrids including the afro-son, guarjira-son, son-pregón, and son-montuno. The son is the most important form at the root of today’s popular salsa music. The son had the same elements as the Danzon but was different in its form. The son is made up of the repetition of a chorus of four bars and a chorus sung in response to a soloist. It is often accompanied by Tres, Guitar, and Maracas. Later, more instruments were added – bass, marimbula, bongo, clave, trumpets, piano, conga drum, tumbadora, etc.
2. D; Danzon was the most popular national dance in Cuba around 1917. It had been the national dance of Cuba since 1879 and could be found everywhere from the popular dance halls to upper class social clubs. Danzon evolved from the Contradanza, a European-based popular dance music that Haitians and French colonists brought to Cuba. Danzon begins with a four-bar introduction and a four-bar paseo which are repeated and followed by a sixteen-bar melody. Dancing does not begin until the last beat of the last bar of the paseo. When the introduction is repeated, dancers are social with their friends until the paseo finishes and they dance again.
3. B; The cha-cha-chá was popularized in the 1940’s by Cuban charanga bands, which consisted of piano, bass, violins, flute, and percussion (including the timbales). This style made charangas popular to a broader audience and was picked up by Latin big bands and other ensembles. The cha-cha-chá was hugely popular in the United States in the 1950’s. The rhythm was later incorporated into many R&B and rock and roll hits.
4. J; The Yoruba people make up one of the three largest ethnic groups of Nigeria and are concentrated in the southwestern part of the country. At the start of the 21st century, there were more than 20 million Yoruba people. Most Yoruba men are farmers as cocoa is a major cash crop. Others are traders or craftsmen. Women control much of the complex market system. The Yoruba people found themselves in Latin America due to the slave trade.
5. F; Rumba is a Cuban non-religious form, consisting of drumming, dancing, and call-and-response singing which contains both African and Spanish roots, There are three styles of rumba: the yambu, guaguanco, and Columbia. It became internationally popular in the early 20th century. The rumba is danced with a basic pattern of two quick side steps and a slow forward step. The music is in 4/4 time and has an insistent syncopation. The ballroom version is based on the Cuban son, itself a less vigorous form of the uninhibited Cuban rumba danced in taverns and similar places. Rumba has roots in Afro-Cuban religion, but its modern repertoire is secular.
6. E; Mambo was the section added to the danzon form in the 1940’s which featured an open vamp and instrumental improvisation. It is also an up-tempo dance style that developed through the 1940’s and 1950’s, which blended several elements of North American instrumentation and harmony with the elements of the Cuban son. It is characterized by big band arrangements where multiple saxophones play repeated syncopated phrases, blaring trumpets punctuate the beat, all over a full rhythm and percussion section. In Cuba, the mambo emerged rom much smaller bands that fused elements of Son into the Danzon. The Mambo’s popularity mainly stemmed from New York City and Mexico City.
7. H; Santeria (Way of the Saints) is an Afro-Caribbean religion based on Yoruba beliefs and traditions, with some Roman Catholic elements added. It is a syncretic religion that grew out of the slave trade in Cuba. The religion focuses on building relationships between human beings and powerful, but moral, spirits, called Orishas. An Orisha is a manifestation of Olodumare (God). Followers believe that these spirits will give them help in life, if they carry out the appropriate rituals, and enable them to achieve the destiny that God planned for them before they were born. Santeria incorporates elements of several faiths and this is why it is called a “syncretic” religion. It has grown beyond its Yoruba and Catholic origins to become a religion in its own right, and a powerful symbol of the religious creativity of Afro-Cuban culture.
8. C; Clave is the rhythmic heart of Cuban music. It can be played 2-3 or 3-2. The clave consists of a “strong” measure containing 3 notes, and a “weak” measure containing two notes, resulting in patterns beginning with either measure, referred to as “3-2” or “2-3.” There are two types of clave patterns associated with popular (secular) music: son clave and rumba clave. Another type of clave – 6/8 clave – originated in several styles of West African sacred music. Clave is usually played with a pair of cylindrical wooden sticks that produce a metallic sound when struck, that rises above all other instruments. They are also called claves and keep the rhythm.
9. A; Cuban music has deep origins in African culture. The Spanish imported African slaves to Cuba until the 1880’s. There are almost no influences from the pre-Hispanic tribes that previously lived in the area before colonization. By the 1840’s, slaves made up half of Cuban’s population. They asserted their cultural identities through cult religions. The complex rhythms from these cults are prominent in Cuban popular music. The physical and emotional intensity of Cuban music comes from African ritual cults. Some types of music that make up the Afro-Cuban music tradition are Rumba, Danzon, Charanga, Chachacha, and son.
10. G; Salsa is sauce. Salsa originated in New York City in the 1960’s and 1970’s. It is a hybrid of traditional rhythms from Cuba (Son) and Puerto Rico (Bomba y Plena), with influences from Jazz and R&B. It is primarily a dance genre and is characterized by syncopated arrangements in clave rhythm, Spanish lyrics, and a strong rhythmic pulse punctuated by the trumpet or trombone. “Salsa” is an umbrella term for a variety of different existing rhythms and song styles to help market the genre as a uniquely Latino music.

Works Cited

KG Article

<http://www.justsalsa.com/salsa/music/son/>

<http://www.danzon.com/eng/history/cuban-music.htm>

<http://americansabor.org/musicians/styles/cha-cha-cha>

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Yoruba>

<https://www.britannica.com/art/rumba-dance>

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/latinmusicusa/music/mambo/>

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/latinmusicusa/music/salsa/>