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Musical Styles Through The 20th Century

Jazz

- Jazz was born in the African American communities in America during the late 1800s and early 1900s.
- Improvisation is a very important part of jazz (playing what you feel in that moment).
- There are many different jazz styles including ragtime, swing, cool jazz and be-bop.
- Instruments used in jazz could include trumpets, piano, trombones and the four types of saxophone – soprano, alto, tenor and baritone. Louis Armstrong was a famous jazz musician who had a growly voice and could play the trumpet.
- Miles Davis was an American composer, jazz trumpet player and band leader who played a major part in introducing new styles of jazz. He introduced the electric piano and electric bass into his band, playing in a brand new style which mixed jazz with rock.
- In the 1970s, jazz was influenced by Latin jazz, mixing rhythms from Latin and African countries. Instruments such as the güiro and claves were introduced.
- Jazz became less popular in the 1980s, however there are many jazz musicians still around today, including Jamie Cullum.

