Write a standard 12-bar blues.

Blues Composition

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

# On your lead sheet

Write the melody on a single, unaccompanied treble staff, and write chord symbols above it.

### Key

We will read these in class. **For simplicity’s sake, please write in the key of (concert) B♭ major.**

### Motive and rhythm

* Your melody should be in aab format. You may vary the repetition of the a phrase (aa′b).
* You should leave gaps in your melody in which another instrument could “respond” to your “call.” (Note that you do not actually write out the responses.)

### Harmony

* Use a standard 12-bar blues progression or a standard variation of it.
  + Show these harmonies by writing appropriate chord symbols above the staff, as on a typical lead sheet.
  + If you make unusual changes to the 12-bar blues, please acknowledge and explain them in your submission; otherwise, these changes may be interpreted as mistakes.

# On your voicing example

To demonstrate fluency in chord symbols and basic jazz voice leading, provide a basic realization of your chord symbols for piano, as follows:

* Use simple whole notes (or similar rhythmic values)—rhythm is not being assessed here.
* The left hand (bass staff) should only have one note at a time—the chord root.
* The right hand (treble staff) should only have two notes at a time—the chord third and seventh.
* In the right hand, maintain entirely stepwise voice leading between adjacent chords.

# Submission

Your complete submission will include two files:

* a .pdf lead sheet
* a .pdf voicing example

# Grading

You will be evaluated on:

* use of an aab phrase structure with call-and-response gaps
* effective melodic pitch content
* use of standard harmony
* interpretation of chord symbols
* idiomatic voice leading