

JSU Band History Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. Who served as the assistant band director from 1993 to 2004?**
 - A. Dr. Crystal Swepson Britton**
 - B. Dr. Michael Magruder**
 - C. Mr. Joe Ringold**
 - D. Dr. Renardo Murray**
- 2. Dr. Paxton Girtmon held the role of assistant band director from which years?**
 - A. 2004-2007**
 - B. 2006-2011**
 - C. 1993-1996**
 - D. 2000-2005**
- 3. What type of attire does the JSU band typically wear during performances?**
 - A. Casual clothing**
 - B. Formal suits**
 - C. Uniforms**
 - D. Traditional costumes**
- 4. As of 2024, who is the assistant band director?**
 - A. Mr. Kevin Johnson**
 - B. Dr. Justin Sherrod**
 - C. Mr. Chan Leggette**
 - D. Mrs. Sarah Oatis**
- 5. Who served as assistant band director from 2004-2009 and then became interim director of bands in 2009-2010?**
 - A. Dr. Roderick Little**
 - B. Dr. Renardo Murray**
 - C. O'Neill Sanford**
 - D. William W. Davis**

- 6. When was the "Tiger run on" created?**
- A. 1975**
 - B. 1976**
 - C. 1977**
 - D. 1978**
- 7. What is the primary purpose of the JSU band during athletic events?**
- A. Provide entertainment**
 - B. Lead the team to victory**
 - C. Support the cheerleaders**
 - D. Conduct the pre-game show**
- 8. Who served as the Jsette coordinator between 1997 and 2012?**
- A. Mrs. Kathy Worthy**
 - B. Mrs. Shirley Middleton Blakely**
 - C. Mrs. Sarah Oatis**
 - D. Mrs. Chloe Crowley**
- 9. What year was the marching band officially renamed to the "SBOTS"?**
- A. 1940**
 - B. 1971**
 - C. 1974**
 - D. 1980**
- 10. What was the original name of the Jackson State University marching band?**
- A. JSU Sound Machine**
 - B. Jackson State Band**
 - C. Jackson State College Band**
 - D. Jackson State Choir**

Answers

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- 1. B**
- 2. A**
- 3. C**
- 4. B**
- 5. B**
- 6. C**
- 7. A**
- 8. A**
- 9. B**
- 10. C**

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Explanations

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1. Who served as the assistant band director from 1993 to 2004?

A. Dr. Crystal Swepson Britton

B. Dr. Michael Magruder

C. Mr. Joe Ringold

D. Dr. Renardo Murray

The individual who served as the assistant band director from 1993 to 2004 is Dr. Michael Magruder. His tenure in this position allowed him to contribute to the growth and development of the band program during that time. His expertise and leadership were essential in shaping the musical direction and standards upheld by the band, reflecting a commitment to excellence in performance and education. Understanding the history and contributions of figures like Dr. Magruder is crucial for appreciating the legacy and evolution of the band program at JSU. This helps students connect with the storied past and recognize the importance of such roles in fostering musical talent within the institution.

2. Dr. Paxton Girtmon held the role of assistant band director from which years?

A. 2004-2007

B. 2006-2011

C. 1993-1996

D. 2000-2005

Dr. Paxton Girtmon served as the assistant band director from 2004 to 2007, which highlights his contributions during that specific time frame to the JSU Band. This period is significant because it came at a time when the band was possibly expanding its repertoire and performance opportunities, providing Dr. Girtmon with a chance to influence students and the program's direction. His tenure is marked by a focus on both instrumental performance and educational advancement for the band members, which aligns with the typical responsibilities of an assistant band director. The other options refer to different time periods that do not match Dr. Girtmon's actual tenure in that role. Each of these periods may correspond to other individuals in the band's history or different roles he may have held at other times, but they do not accurately reflect Dr. Girtmon's specific timeline as assistant band director. Thus, the right choice emphasizes the importance of that era in the context of the band's development and Dr. Girtmon's impact on it.

3. What type of attire does the JSU band typically wear during performances?

- A. Casual clothing**
- B. Formal suits**
- C. Uniforms**
- D. Traditional costumes**

The JSU band is known for wearing uniforms during performances, which are specifically designed to create a cohesive and professional appearance. Uniforms serve several purposes: they instill a sense of unity among band members, present a polished look to the audience, and uphold the traditions of the marching band. The use of uniforms highlights the band's identity and contributes to the overall experience of the performance, as they symbolize discipline and teamwork essential in a marching band setting. While casual clothing, formal suits, or traditional costumes might be suitable for different types of events or ensembles, they do not reflect the standard practices of the JSU band during performances. Uniforms are integral to the band's aesthetic and functional presence on the field or stage, making them the most appropriate and correct choice for what the JSU band typically wears.

4. As of 2024, who is the assistant band director?

- A. Mr. Kevin Johnson**
- B. Dr. Justin Sherrod**
- C. Mr. Chan Leggette**
- D. Mrs. Sarah Oatis**

The assistant band director as of 2024 is Dr. Justin Sherrod. He holds this position and plays a significant role in supporting the band director in various aspects of the band program, such as rehearsals, performances, and administrative responsibilities. Dr. Sherrod's background and expertise contribute to the success of the band, and he is known for his dedication to fostering a positive learning environment for the students. His involvement in the band program enhances the overall experience for the musicians and helps to maintain a high standard of musical excellence.

5. Who served as assistant band director from 2004-2009 and then became interim director of bands in 2009-2010?

- A. Dr. Roderick Little**
- B. Dr. Renardo Murray**
- C. O'Neill Sanford**
- D. William W. Davis**

The role of assistant band director from 2004 to 2009, followed by the position of interim director of bands from 2009 to 2010, was filled by Dr. Renardo Murray. His leadership during this transitional period was significant in maintaining the continuity and excellence of the band program. Dr. Murray's experience and familiarity with the band made him a suitable choice for the interim position, allowing him to guide the ensemble effectively during a critical time. Dr. Roderick Little, O'Neill Sanford, and William W. Davis have contributed to the band's history but did not occupy these specific roles during the indicated years. Understanding the timeline of leadership within the JSU Band adds depth to the history of the program and highlights how different directors have contributed to its evolution.

6. When was the "Tiger run on" created?

- A. 1975**
- B. 1976**
- C. 1977**
- D. 1978**

The "Tiger run on," a vital tradition associated with JSU Band and its performances, was established in 1977. This event is marked by the spirited entrance of the band during games, which has become a memorable part of the game's atmosphere and a meaningful ritual for both performers and fans. The establishment of the "Tiger run on" in that specific year contributed to shaping the band's identity and enhancing school spirit during athletic events. In this context, the other years listed do not coincide with the creation of this tradition, marking them as incorrect options. Understanding the significance of the year 1977 helps to appreciate how the "Tiger run on" has evolved and contributed to the legacy of JSU Band traditions.

7. What is the primary purpose of the JSU band during athletic events?

- A. Provide entertainment**
- B. Lead the team to victory**
- C. Support the cheerleaders**
- D. Conduct the pre-game show**

The primary purpose of the JSU band during athletic events is to provide entertainment. This role enhances the overall atmosphere of the event, creating an energetic environment for both the spectators and the athletes. The band performs various musical selections, often including fight songs and popular tunes, that engage the crowd and encourage school spirit. While support for the team, cheerleaders, and participation in pre-game shows are important functions of the band, their fundamental role during games is rooted in entertainment. This entertainment aspect is crucial, as it helps to uplift the audience's spirits, keep the energy high, and maintain engagement throughout the event. The band's performances are designed not just to accompany the program but to elevate the entire experience, making entertainment the core reason for their presence at athletic contests.

8. Who served as the Jsette coordinator between 1997 and 2012?

- A. Mrs. Kathy Worthy**
- B. Mrs. Shirley Middleton Blakely**
- C. Mrs. Sarah Oatis**
- D. Mrs. Chloe Crowley**

The role of the Jsette coordinator from 1997 to 2012 was held by Mrs. Kathy Worthy. She played a significant part in shaping the Jsettes, contributing to their development and the overall success of the performance group during her tenure. Under her guidance, the Jsettes not only enhanced their skills in dance and performance but also gained recognition for their contributions to the JSU Band and the broader university community. This period was marked by various achievements and growth for the Jsettes, reflecting Mrs. Worthy's leadership and dedicated approach to the program. Her influence during these years left a lasting impact on both the dancers and the band's legacy.

9. What year was the marching band officially renamed to the "SBOTS"?

- A. 1940**
- B. 1971**
- C. 1974**
- D. 1980**

The marching band was officially renamed to the "SBOTS" in 1971. This rebranding reflects the evolution of the band as it sought to establish a unique identity that resonated with the school's spirit and traditions. The name change marked a significant milestone in the history of the band, emphasizing its role not just as a musical ensemble but also as a key part of the university's culture and community outreach. The choice made in 1971 is particularly notable as it corresponds with broader trends in the 1970s where many collegiate bands were rebranding to create a more distinctive and modern image. It highlighted an era of change and adaptation for many college bands, allowing them to better connect with the student body and enhance their presence at athletic events and other university functions.

10. What was the original name of the Jackson State University marching band?

- A. JSU Sound Machine**
- B. Jackson State Band**
- C. Jackson State College Band**
- D. Jackson State Choir**

The original name of the Jackson State University marching band was the Jackson State College Band. This name reflects the institution's designation during the time the band was formed, as Jackson State was known as Jackson State College before it achieved university status. The name captures not only the identity of the band but also historically situates it within the academic context of the college experience at that time, emphasizing its roots and purpose as a college ensemble. Other options, while related to the band and its evolution, either represent later iterations or affiliations that came after the establishment of the original band. For example, the JSU Sound Machine is a name that emerged in the later years, reflecting a more modern branding of the band, while Jackson State Choir pertains to a completely different performing group at the university. Thus, 'Jackson State College Band' is the name that accurately captures the band's historical beginnings.