60 Second Blues

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Over the course of each cycle, for each five- or ten-second duration of time listed below, only play notes from the selection shown.

		notes to play		
seconds per section	start – end	1 st verse: just these	2 nd verse & ff: also these	last verse: also these
5	:00 - :04	E G	D Bb	С
5	:05 - :09	G A	C Eb	F
10	:10 - :19	E G	D Bb	С
10	:20 - :29	G A	C Eb	F
10	:30 - :39	E G	D Bb	С
10	:40 - :49	F B	A D	G
10	:50 - :59	E G	D Bb	С

Notes from each four-note set can be short or long and combined into patterns. Combining them into intervals and chords is fine.

Decide in advance how many one-minute cycles the ensemble will play. For the ending, play a note from the first group right after the :59 mark of the last minute and hold that as a fermata.

Note that each row follows only one of three patterns.

Zoom Edition

Goal: work around Zoom's "feature" of only picking up the audio from one or two participants making sound at once.

First minute: only play one note in each five-second period, leaving space for others to draw Zoom's attention with their notes. Remember to make some notes shorter than others--not necessarily staccato, but try to balance half and whole notes with quarter notes.

Second minute: play two notes per five-second period, which would mean two two-note phrases in a ten-second period..

Third and later minutes: play three or four note phrases per five-second period.

The one exception to this waiting to give other players a chance is that everyone should play a note from the first row at time x:00—that is, at the beginning of each new minute. (This is optional at the very start of the piece if turning on a stopwatch makes it more difficult to play the note.)