

## Create Your Own Blues Guidelines

1. Choose a topic that reflects the mood of the blues.
2. Follow the formula below for the four lines of each verse of a blues song:

1<sup>st</sup> Line: State the problem.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Line: Repeat 1<sup>st</sup> line.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Line: State half of the solution (or consequence).  
4<sup>th</sup> Line: State the second half of the solution (or consequence).

### Example:

I've got the homework blues 'cause my teacher always gives us a ton.  
I've got the homework blues 'cause my teacher always gives us a ton.  
And if I don't do my homework,  
My parents won't let me have fun.

For your group projects, complete a creation that has blues influence and follows the basic structure of a blues song. You could...

- Curate a mini art gallery with pieces drawn by members of your group.
- Come up with a skit with characters and a plot.
- Go the traditional route and write your own blues song.

**The main focus of the story must involve railroads\railroad travels.**

Attached to this sheet is the rubric that will be used to grade your final revision of your project. Total Possible Points: \_\_\_\_\_

EXTRA CREDIT: If your group would like to present or perform your blues work, you have a chance to earn up to 5 extra credit points.



Nicknamed The Empress of the Blues, Bessie Smith was the most popular female blues singer of the 1920s and 1930s. She is often regarded as one of the greatest singers of her era.