

ONE NOTE SAMBA

“*One Note Samba*” is one of the most famous Bossa Nova songs and is a big favorite among jazz vocalists. Antonio Carlos Jobim wrote the song in 1960, and the “one note” of the title comes from the extensive use of a repeated note at the beginning of the melody.

Let's take a closer look at the instruments used in this song and try to describe their timbre. (Note there can be more than one correct answer.)

- Which instrument can you hear in the first four measures? *drums*
- After the first four measure a voice enters. Is it a male or female voice?

male female
- How can we describe the timbre of this voice?

warm clear nasal scratchy harsh shriek sweet
- Which instrument can we hear next?

saxophone piano harp guitar double bass flute trumpet
- Which instrument plays the first solo? *piano*
- Which instrument plays the second solo? *flute*
- Describe the timbre of the flute.

warm pure nasal scratchy breathy shriek pleasant
- Describe the timbre of the piano.

mystical piercing heavy muddy breathy shriek pleasant
- Which role does the guitar play in this song?

Solo instrument accompaniment
- How would you describe the overall timbre of this song?

lush rich spare muddy dirty shriek pleasant
- You have now heard the entire song. Now name all the instruments that you can hear. Note that the voice is an instrument as well.

V *oice* _____ D *rums* _____ B *ass (double bass)* _____

P *iano* _____ F *lute* _____ G *uitar* _____