

Name _____

Salsa Dance: Rhythmic Origins and Energetic Characteristics

Short Answer Key

1. Salsa dance originated in the cultural melting pot of New York City, with influences from various Latin American and Caribbean dance styles. It developed in the mid-20th century, thanks to the fusion of Cuban Son, Puerto Rican Bomba, and Plena, Dominican Merengue, Colombian Cumbia, and other Latin styles.
2. Improvisation in Salsa dance allows dancers to add their unique style and creativity to the dance. For example, they can incorporate spins, dips, and stylish hand movements, making each performance distinctive.
3. The connection between partners in Salsa dancing is crucial for smooth and coordinated movements. Partners communicate through cues and signals, allowing them to synchronize their steps, spins, and other dance elements.
4. Hip and body movements in Salsa dance add sensuality and flair. For instance, dancers use hip movements to create circular or figure-eight motions, contributing to the passionate and playful nature of the dance.
5. Two Latin American dance styles that influenced the development of Salsa dance in New York City are Cuban Son and Puerto Rican Bomba and Plena.

