

**CONCERT BAND**

**Grade 1**

# **BLACKOUT**

Jay Coles

## **INSTRUMENTATION**

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Full Score

Flute

Oboe (Opt. Flute 2)

Bb Clarinet

Bb Bass Clarinet

Eb Alto Saxophone

Bb Tenor Saxophone

Eb Baritone Saxophone

Bb Trumpet

F Horn

Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon

Baritone T.C.

Tuba

Timpani

Mallet Percussion

Percussion 1 (Snare and Bass  
Drum)

Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal,  
Brake Drum, & Tambourine)

Percussion 3 (Rainstick, Taiko  
Drum, & Triangle)

## The Composer



**Jay Coles** (b. 1995) is a composer, author, conductor, clinician, and public speaker who brings fun, unique, and highly educational music to the stage. His music has been performed all over the world, including the Midwest Clinic. His music appears on various concert and festival lists as well as earned J.W. Pepper's Editor's choice selections. Mr. Coles holds degrees from Vincennes

University and Ball State University. Jay's books are published by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers and Scholastic. His books have appeared in the New York Times, Teen Vogue, BuzzFeed, Bustle, and Entertainment Weekly, among other media outlets. His writing has won numerous award nominations and honors. Jay currently resides in Muncie, Indiana with his wife and daughter, and when he's not composing music or writing books or cleaning up messes from his cat, he's playing drums for a band and playing video games, two of his favorite things to do. Jay is a member of ASCAP.

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## The Music

**Blackout** is an electrifying Grade 1-1.5 band work inspired by the sudden intensity and uncertainty of a real-life power outage. From the opening measures, the music surges with energy, capturing the jolt of darkness and the buzz of confusion that follows when everything abruptly shuts down. Bold rhythms and driving motives give young musicians the opportunity to sound powerful, confident, and far more mature than the technical demands might suggest. A contrasting middle section offers a striking change in mood, allowing students to explore a more lyrical and controlled style of playing. This section is ideal for teaching contrast, musical expression, and listening across the ensemble. As the energy returns, **Blackout** emphasizes dynamic control, ensemble precision, and the importance of closely watching the conductor. Loud, exciting, and full of might, this piece challenges students musically while remaining highly accessible, making it both a thrilling performance piece and a valuable teaching tool for developing bands. I hope your ensemble enjoys this piece and has as much fun as I had writing it!

- Jay Coles

# Blackout

## Full Score

JAY COLES  
(ASCAP)  
rit. . . . .

**Aggressively!** ♩ = 144 5 **4** **f** rit. . . . .

Flute

Oboe (Opt. Flute 2)

B♭ Clarinet

Bass Clarinet

Alto Saxophone

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

**Aggressively!** ♩ = 144 5 **4** **f** rit. . . . .

B♭ Trumpet

Horn in F

Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon

Tuba

**Timpani**  
(C, C♭)

**Mallets**  
(Xylophone OR Marimba)

**Percussion 1**  
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

**Percussion 2**  
(Suspended Cymbal, Brake Drum, Tambourine)

**Percussion 3**  
(Taiko Drum, Rainstick, Taiko Drum, Triangle)

**4** **f** rit. . . . .

**4** **f** **Taiko Drum**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

A Tempo!

11 ♩ = 144

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

A Tempo!

11 ♩ = 144

B♭ Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Euph./Bsn.

Tba.

Timp.

Mal.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3



29

Fl. *p* *f*

Ob. *p* *f*

B♭ Cl. *p* *f*

B. Cl. *p* *f*

A. Sax. *p* *f*

T. Sax. *p* *f*

B. Sax. *p* *f*

29

B♭ Tpt. *p* *f*

Hn. *p* *f*

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *p* *f*

Tba. *p* *f*

Timp. *f*

Mal. *p* *f*

Perc. 1 *p* *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

Perc. 3

33

Fl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Ob.

Bb Cl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

A. Sax. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

T. Sax. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

B. Sax. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

33

Bb Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Tba. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Timp. thunder-like *p* thunder-like *p*

Mal. *p* *mf* *p*

Perc. 1 *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Perc. 2 Tambourine *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Perc. 3 Rainstick *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

46

Fl. *f* *mp* *f*

Ob. *p* *f* *mp* *f*

B♭ Cl. *f* *mp* *f*

B. Cl. *p* *f* *mp* *f*

A. Sax. *f* *mp* *f*

T. Sax. *f* *mp* *f*

B. Sax. *p* *f* *mp* *f*

46

B♭ Tpt. *f* *mp* *f*

Hn. *p* *f* *mp* *f*

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *f* *mp* *f*

Tba. *f* *mp* *f*

Timp. *f* *mp* *mf*

Mal. *f* *mp* *f*

Perc. 1 *p* *f* *mp* *f* *Back to snare*

Perc. 2 *p* *f* *mp* *Triangle*

Perc. 3 *p* *mf*

Musical score for 'Blackout - Full Score', page 9. The score is arranged in a system of staves. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl. (Flute), Ob. (Oboe), Bb Cl. (B-flat Clarinet), B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet), A. Sax. (Alto Saxophone), T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone), B. Sax. (Bass Saxophone), Bb Tpt. (B-flat Trumpet), Hn. (Horn), Tbn./Euph./Bsn. (Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon), Tba. (Tuba), Timp. (Timpani), Mal. (Mallets), Perc. 1 (Percussion 1), Perc. 2 (Percussion 2), and Perc. 3 (Percussion 3). The score is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The music is divided into measures 51 through 58. A box containing the number '57' is placed above the Flute and Oboe staves at the beginning of measure 57. The Flute and Oboe parts feature melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Clarinet and Saxophone parts provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns. The Percussion parts include complex rhythmic patterns, including snare drum, tom-toms, and mallets. The score concludes with a final measure in measure 58.

59

Fl.  
Ob.  
B♭ Cl.  
B. Cl.  
A. Sax.  
T. Sax.  
B. Sax.

Detailed description: This block contains the first seven staves of the musical score. Each staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) at measure 59. The Flute, Oboe, and Bass Saxophone parts feature a crescendo from *f* to *p* (piano) at measure 64, followed by a sharp increase to *f* at measure 65, and a final decrease to *p* at measure 66. The Bass Clarinet and Tenor Saxophone parts also show a similar dynamic contour. The Alto Saxophone part has a more gradual dynamic change. The B♭ Clarinet part remains relatively steady in dynamics.

59

B♭ Tpt.  
Hn.  
Tbn./Euph./Bsn.  
Tba.  
Timp.  
Mal.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Perc. 3

Detailed description: This block contains the remaining nine staves of the musical score. The B♭ Trumpet, Horn, and Tuba parts start with *f* and follow the same dynamic contour as the woodwinds. The Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon part starts with *f* and has a dynamic contour similar to the woodwinds. The Timpani part starts with *mf* (mezzo-forte) and has a dynamic contour similar to the woodwinds. The Mallets part starts with *f* and has a dynamic contour similar to the woodwinds. The Percussion 1 part starts with *f* and has a dynamic contour similar to the woodwinds. The Percussion 2 and Percussion 3 parts start with *f* and have a dynamic contour similar to the woodwinds.