

Changüí Bongo Vocabulary

"Fiesta en Cecilia"






Transcribed by Carles Pereira

Below are some one and two measure phrases of bongo vocabulary transcribed from a performance of El Grupo Changüí de Guantánamo playing a song called "Fiesta en Cecilia" from the documentary "Cinco Changuiseros" (URL link below).

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pk8giffbMqk&t=332s>

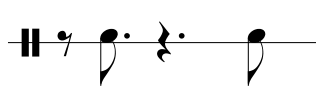
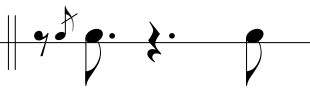
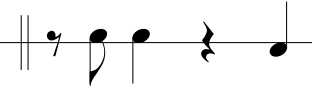
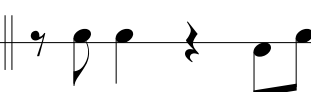
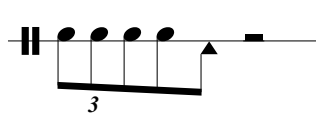
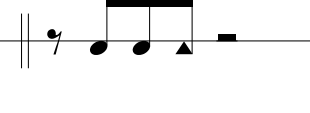
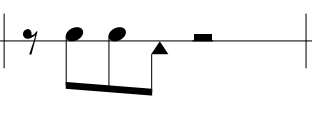
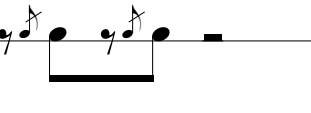
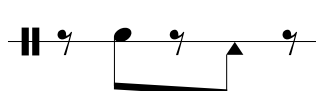
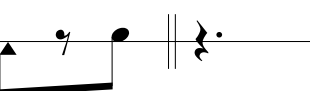
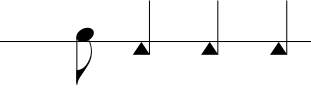
The song starts at the 4:13 mark. Note how Taberas, the bongo player, tells a story with his ideas, how most of his "story-telling" occurs in the spaces of the melody, and how he leaves a lot of space when playing 1-measure phrases. The goal here is to use these phrases as letters, and mix them up to create words, sentences, and stories.

Each new phrase below is assigned a new number. A letter next to the number signifies a variation of that phrase (A being variation 1, B being variation 2, etc.) These rhythms can also be applied to the drum set, using the toms and snare for high and low pitches, dead strokes for mute tones, and rim clicks for slap tones. These phrases are written in cut-time. Please refer to the legend below:

HB	LB	HBM	LBM	HBS	
					

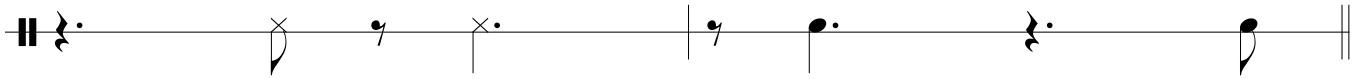
HB: High bongo
LB: Low bongo
HBM: High bongo mute
LBM: Low bongo mute
HBS: High bongo slap

1-measure phrases:

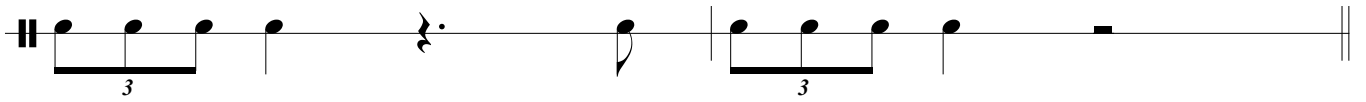
1.	1A.	2.	2A.
			
3.	4.	4A.	5.
			
6.	7.	8.	
			

2-measure phrases:

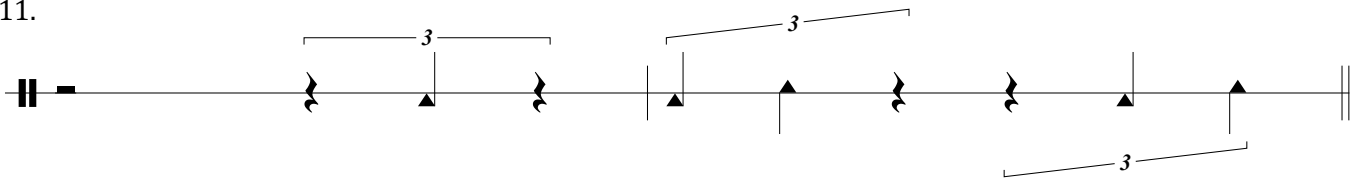
9.



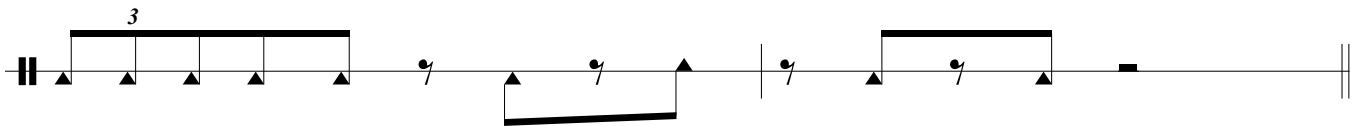
10.



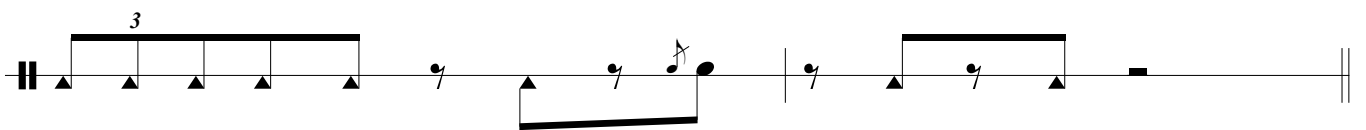
11.



12.



12A.



13.

