



Sample Pearson Set Assignment Brief

Single Part Assessment

Module B: Music Production Skills Development (B4, B5, B6)

For use with:

Pearson International BTEC Level 3 Qualifications in Music (Production)

Subsidiary Diploma / Foundation Diploma / Diploma /
Extended Diploma

Advised supervised hours	25 hours
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For completion by the centre

Qualification (select as appropriate)	Subsidiary Diploma/Foundation Diploma/Diploma/ Extended Diploma
Assessment date	



Instructions to teachers/tutors and/or invigilators

The Pearson Set Assignment should be undertaken in conditions that assure the authenticity of outcome. This may require supervision.

We advise that the Pearson Set Assignment be completed in sessions that come to a total of 25 hours. The Pearson Set Assignment should not be shared with learners prior to the start of the assessment period. Teachers/tutors are responsible for security of the Pearson Set Assignment and materials.

Conditions of assessment

We advise that the Set Assignment be taken in more than one supervised session.

The Set Assignment must not be shared with learners before the session arranged by the centre. Teachers/tutors and invigilators should note that they are responsible for maintaining security and for reporting issues to Pearson.

Outcomes for Submission

Learners must complete this set assignment on a computer using an optional range of digital ways to showcase their roles as suggested in each activity. The digital showcase should include clear images of the appropriate production arts documentation for each role undertaken. Learners must save their work regularly and ensure that all materials can be identified as their work.

Learners must submit their own, independent work as detailed in the set assignment. Each learner must complete an authentication sheet.



Instructions to learners

You will be asked to carry out specific activities using the information provided. You will be given a specific time period to complete the assignment.

Read the Set Assignment Information carefully, then complete the activities in the Set Assignment.

You must complete an authentication sheet and submit this along with your work.

Set Assignment information

Talent for the Globe is a newly launched talent agency who are looking to recruit up-and-coming music producers, creators, engineers and DJs for them to represent. The agency has forged and developed substantial international networks and has a high-profile and prestigious client list.

The agency is looking to recruit in the following areas:

- studio production and engineering
- composition and music creation
- live sound engineering
- DJ performance

The first step to being signed by the agency is for you to prepare audition and application material for one of the industry areas above. The theme for the audition process is 'Old Meets New' and details of the requirements are specified below.

You should choose **one** of the following set assignments.



Set Assignment 1 Assessment Unit B4 – Studio Recording

You must complete ALL activities.

ACTIVITY 1 – Plan (suggested time 6 hours)

You must plan, record and mix a piece of music in response to the brief 'Old Meets New'. You should explore this brief imaginatively and consider how this phrase could be applied to song selection and/or recording techniques. You should liaise with a band or artist and agree on a piece of music that you will record and mix for them. The final recording should have at least six separate tracks and last 3-6 minutes. Once you have decided on the piece of music and the individual tracks you will record, you should plan and safely set up the recording session(s) by selecting the most appropriate equipment.

For the agency to gauge your competency in this area, they require you to send them your recording session plans, equipment lists with justifications and video footage with commentary and/or annotated photographs of key aspects of the set-up that account for your decision-making process and safe working practice.

This activity covers the following criteria – B4.P1, B4.M1, B4.D1

ACTIVITY 2 – Record (suggested time 13 hours)

You should now record the track as planned demonstrating creative application of multi-track recording techniques and communicating clearly with others. You should ensure that your approach is appropriate for the type of audio being recorded to ensure that the audio capture is of consistent quality.

The agency would like you to send them video footage with commentary of key aspects of the recording session(s), your project folder with all appropriate audio files and the final unmixed multi-track recording.

This activity covers the following criteria – B4.P2, B4.M2, B4.D2

ACTIVITY 3 – Mix (suggested time 6 hours)

You should create the final mix of the recorded piece of music applying appropriate mixing techniques in order to present a polished and accomplished product. You should consider volume and dynamics, effects, EQ and panning as appropriate to the piece of music and the demands of the given brief.

In addition to a high-quality audio recording of the final mix in an appropriate format, the agency also requires you to send them a written or filmed commentary of your mixing process.



This activity covers the following criteria – B4.P3, B4.M3, B4.D3

Set Assignment 2 Assessment Unit B5 – Creating Musical Material Through Production

You must complete ALL activities.

ACTIVITY 1 – Create (suggested time 20 hours)

Using a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW), you must create a piece of music lasting 3-5minutes and send this to the agency in an appropriate audio format. The track you create could be an original piece, a remix or an arrangement of an existing piece. The piece you create must be in response to the brief 'Old Meets New' and you should aim to be as imaginative as possible in your response to this phrase. It is vital that you apply sequencing skills and use musical elements creatively in order to produce work that fits this given brief.

This activity covers the following criteria –B5.P2, B5.M2, B5.D2, B5.P3, B5.M3, B5.D3

ACTIVITY 2 – Reflect (suggested time 5 hours)

For the agency to gain insight into your creative process, you must also send them a project log which discusses your application of creative processes and techniques and shows how you developed your final piece of music from initial ideas to final outcome. You should discuss the musical and technical DAW techniques you have used that display creativity and musicality, giving a rationale for why you used them and linking your ideas into the given brief.

This log can be submitted as a written commentary, screen recording with audio commentary, video presentation, annotated screenshots or a combination of these.

This activity covers the following criteria – B5.P1, B5.M1, B5.D1



Set Assignment 3 Assessment Unit B6 – Music Technology and Live Events

You must complete ALL activities.

ACTIVITY 1 – Plan and Set Up (suggested time 20 hours)

Talent for the Globe has a client who is organising a festival called 'Old Meets New' and they require live sound engineers and DJs to work at the festival. To be considered for one of these roles, you must demonstrate your ability to plan, set up and operate equipment in a live event as either DJ or sound engineer, which could include roles such as monitor engineer, guitar or drum technician etc.

The agency requires you to send them evidence of you planning and setting up equipment safely in a defined role for an actual live event taking place at your centre or within the local area. You should include technical specifications rationalising the required equipment and resources; planning documentation e.g. stage plans; timeline and contingency plans; risk assessment; and a blog, video diary or written commentary accounting for your contribution to the planning process. You must also supply video footage and/or annotated photographs of you setting up and testing equipment safely.

This activity covers the following criteria –B6.P1, B6.M1, B6.D1, B6.P2, B6.M2, B6.D2

ACTIVITY 2 – Operate (suggested time 5 hours)

You should now carry out your specific role at the event ensuring that you operate the relevant equipment safely and with control to ensure high quality outcomes for the performers (if appropriate) and the audience.

The agency requires you to send them video footage to demonstrate your input e.g. footage of a band performance would provide evidence for the quality of live sound operation skills, or footage of you performing as a DJ would demonstrate your control over the technical parameters of the equipment used.

This activity covers the following criteria – B6.P3, B6.M3, B6.D3