

A Level Music (2016)

Component 3: Appraising

First assessment 2018

40% of the qualification

2 hour examination

Externally assessed out of 100 marks

- An audio CD containing extracts of the music for each question will be provided to each student
- Student in control of listening to the extracts for the exam
- 2 sections – A (50 marks) and B (50 marks)
- Develop listening and appraising skills
- Six areas of study with 3 set works in each
- Application of knowledge to unfamiliar works

Sections

- Section A contains 3 questions related to the set works and 1 melody/rhythm completion exercise
- Skeleton score and audio provided
- Section B contains 2 essay questions
- One is worth 20 marks, the other 30 marks
- One links study of set works to hearing an unfamiliar extract
- The second question in section B gives a choice of 3 questions evaluating the musical elements, context and language of one set work
- Each option will be from a different area of study

Areas of Study

- Vocal Music
- Instrumental Music
- Music for Film
- Popular Music and Jazz
- Fusions
- New Directions
- Set works will stay the same for the lifetime of the specification

Musical Elements

- Melody and harmony
- Tonality
- Structure
- Sonority – combinations of timbres and instrumental techniques
- Texture
- Tempo, rhythm and metre
- Dynamics

Musical Context

- Effect of purpose and intention on how music is created, developed and performed
- Different social, historical and cultural contexts
- Effect of audience, time and place
- How music from different historical, social and cultural contexts has changed

Musical Language

- Reading and writing staff notation
- Compound and irregular time
- All key signatures
- Chords and associated chord symbols
- Chord inversions, dominant 7th chords and extended chords
- Musical vocabulary associated with Areas of Study