

# Dire Straits, Smoove & Dvořák

## Entry 1

Artist/Band	Dire Straits	
Discuss their body of musical works, analysing their music repertoire and trends (50-100 words)		
Dire Straits have always had the super clean guitar sound, enhanced by heavy reverb.		
Discuss the development of their musical genre, Identifying their artistic and commercial qualities (50-100 words)		
Their predominant music genre was progressive rock, which is characterised by the lengthy solos, instrumentation more closely associated with jazz, along with keyboards and electronic technology harnessed for new sounds. Dire Straits compositions and clean guitar solos were definitely made to be listened too, not danced too.		
As their career progressed, Dire Straits became more refined and more defined in their music. Their music overtime less resembled the standard sounds of a rock band and became more atmospheric with the help of new synthesizer sounds. Rather, the music concentrating on the overall listening experience. This happen to coincide with the rise of MTV and the compact disc. The biggest selling album for Dire Straits was 1985’s Brothers in Arms, selling over 60 million copies. At the time, it was the first album to sell a million copies on the then new compact disc. Private investigations. The Brothers in Arms album (not including private investigations) went more mainstream, with clear structure and instruments that conformed to this structure. ‘money for nothing’ is an example of a song like this.		
Date	Song	Genre
28/8/17	Private Investigations	Progressive Rock
Instruments / voices used	Xylophone, Drums, Sythesiser, Guitars (with fx , Piano, Bass, Voice, Sound Effects (eg cat noise) & egg shaker.	
Structure / form of the music	Introduction, Verse 1, Instrumental Verse, Instrumental Chorus	
Rhythmic devices	4/4 time signature, 85 bpm.	
Chord patterns and keys	Key of E minor.	
Scales, melody and themes	Dark themes, cold, night, scared.	
Instrumental / vocal style of playing	Clean guitar. Very minimal drums. The drums are used to convey the passing of time, similar to a second hand. Song is played with a lot of suspense.	
Instrumental / vocal style of playing	Guitar is played lyrically, then during the chorus it bursts in, simulating a gunshot. Xylophone answer and replies to the guitar.	
Dynamics / volume	The use of dynamics is incredible. Sound effect gun shots are introduced in the dead quiet of the song.	

Texture and tone colour	<b>Dark, Scary, Midnight.</b>
Technical & sound production processes	<p><b>Balance</b></p> <p>The song uses panorama, particular with the guitar. An example is the phrasing of each guitar changing and alternating from left to right at the start. This is used over the course of the song with the, Xylophone placed towards the left, answering to the guitar at the centre. The egg shaker then follows on the far right. The drums seem to be constant, placed in the middle of the stage. The piece builds up with the addition of instruments on both sides of the panorama.</p> <p><b>Effects</b></p> <p>Soft fade in introduction. Reverb on guitar. Echo and sound effects such as gun shots, cat noises, footsteps gives impression of real world.</p>
Commercial qualities and features	<b>The lyrics were more poetic and a story rather than made to be sung, again focus more on instruments. The focus of this song was for listening, not dancing.</b>

## Entry 2

Artist/Band	Smoove	
Discuss their body of musical works, analysing their music repertoire and trends (50-100 words)		
They have made a cover version of the song “The Revolution will not be televised” by Gill Scott-Heron.		
Discuss the development of their musical genre, Identifying their artistic and commercial qualities (50-100 words)		
The have added to the growing collection of acid jazz and electro-swing songs being created today. The sound creates an interesting listening experience, with a sort of halfway for fans of jazz, and a halfway for fans of electronic.		
Date	Song	Genre
28/8/17	The revolution will be televised	Acid Jazz
Instruments / voices used	Voice, Flute, Drums, Bass, guitar, bongos.	
Structure / form of the music	Verse, Chorus, Verse, Instrumental solo for flute and guitar, Verse, Chorus.	
Rhythmic devices	181 bpm, 4/4 time signature.	
Chord patterns and keys	It is in B minor, the song is predominantly rhythmic, with no chords.	
Scales, melody and themes	There is no real melody, the song is more rhythmic.	
Instrumental / vocal style of playing	The lyrics have been taken and slightly adapted from the Gill Scott-Heron song, “The revolution will not be televised”. Gill Scott-Heron is attributed as one of the first rappers. In this song there is a talking story constant throughout. Voice is in a talking nature. This gives an informal relaxed feel.	
Dynamics / volume	The dynamics pick up around two bars before chorus. They return to a relaxed calm volume as soon as the verse came back in.	
Texture and tone colour	Bright.	
Technical & sound production processes	<p>The Balance. The drums are centre and driving the whole piece. The drums are equal in dynamics with the vocals. The bass is very clear, with an acoustic sound, slightly behind the vocals. For a moment in the verse the bass starts to walk, playing every quaver, going up and down a scale. The guitar is also used in line with the bass.</p> <p>The majority of this song is comprised up of the drums, bass and guitar and vocals. The flute, bongos and other effects are only used for the chorus and instrumental sections.</p>	

	<b>Effects. They used sampling of vocals to add to the overall cool vibe. They use effects, such as looping, delay and audio that is played in reverse that was from a previous part of the song.</b>
Commercial qualities and features	<b>The song makes reference to current pop references. The lyrics are clever, interesting, and funny. Further, all people who knew the original song may be interested to hear this variation.</b>

### Entry 3

Artist/Band	Antonín Dvořák	
Discuss their body of musical works, analysing their music repertoire and trends (50-100 words)		
Classical Composer was born on the 8 <sup>th</sup> of September 1841 – 1 May 1904 The ninth symphony was composed in 1893.		
Discuss the development of their musical genre, Identifying their artistic and commercial qualities (50-100 words)		
Dvořák wrote his Symphony No. 7 and conducted the premiere of the symphony at St. James's Hall on 22 April 1885. On a visit later in 1885, Dvořák presented his cantata, “The Spectre's Bride”, in a concert 27 August. He had arrived a week early to conduct rehearsals of the chorus of 500 voices and orchestra of 150. The performance was "a greater triumph than any" according to some.		
Neil Armstrong took a recording of the New World Symphony to the Moon during the Apollo 11 mission, the first Moon landing, in 1969.		
Date	Song	Genre
28/8/17	Symphony No.9 (New World Symphony) in E minor / Adagio Section	Romantic Classical
Instruments / voices used	This symphony is scored for the following orchestra:  2 flutes (one doubling piccolo) 2 oboes (one doubling English horn) 2 clarinets in A 2 bassoons 4 horns in E, C and F 2 trumpets in E, C and Eb 2 tenor trombones Bass trombone Tuba (second movement only)	

	<b>Timpani</b> <b>Triangle (third movement only)</b> <b>Cymbals (fourth movement only)</b> <b>Strings</b>
Structure / form of the music	
Rhythmic devices	<b>It is all flowing. It has dotted rhythm. Tempo 126 bpm, 4/4 time signature.</b>
Chord patterns and keys	<b>Key of E minor.</b>
Scales, melody and themes	<b>It is all about new world discovery. There are happy sections, scary and tense section.</b>
Instrumental / vocal style of playing	<b>It is all flowing. The brass, along with the percussion section are used to evoke fear and scare in the listener. While the violins and woodwinds are used to ease, calm and are gentle to the listener. The oboe is particular used in this piece, where the clear sounds prevails.</b>
Dynamics / volume	<b>During the start woodwinds play quiet melody. This gives way for the strings to intensify the piece with crescendo, that ultimately climaxes with the brass section and timpani.</b>
Texture and tone colour	<b>At the start, Dvorak uses the dark, deep, low and sometimes loud sounds of cellos, and timpani's to match the equally high, delicate, sometimes soft sounds of the woodwind section and strings section. This give a perception that a strong and dangerous force is lurking around a fragile timid being.</b>
Technical & sound production processes	<b>The version I am listening to, which is from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, is conducted by José Serebrier. For this recording, multiple microphones, most likely on every individual, would have been in use.</b> <b>The balance of instruments is fairly even.</b>
Commercial qualities and features	<b>There were many commercial qualities to this song. The symphony was that significant, Neil Armstrong placed a record on the moon on the first visit. It was an immensely successful and well recognised piece that has and will stand the test of time. It is truly a classic.</b>