

Grade 1: Billie Jean

HOW THE SONGS ARE MARKED

Each song is awarded three separate marks corresponding to three specific musical components, allowing candidates to receive precise feedback about specific aspects of their performance. These marks combine to give an overall mark for the song.

The three components are:

Fluency & security

Fluency, synchronisation with the backing track, security in notes and rhythm.

Technical control

Ability to control the instrument effectively, achieving the various technical demands of the song; sound quality.

Communication & style

Stylistic understanding (eg mood and character), musical detail (eg dynamics and articulation), audience engagement.

In the Trinity Exam the breakdown of the marking is as follows:

Fluency & Security: 8

Technical Control: 12

Communication and Style : 9

1. Name of Student Track

Trinity classifies according to the following scale for Fluency, Synchronisation & Security

Excellent sense of fluency and synchronisation (100%)

Very good of fluency, synchronisation with only momentary lapses. (88%)

Fluency and Security

Good sense of fluency and synchronisation though with occasional lapses. (80%)
 Generally reliable level of fluency and synchronisation though with some lapses.(63%)
 Unreliable fluency, synchronisation (37%)

We want to focus on two aspects of fluency and that is on the 2 key timing aspects:

- (i) Note Onset (hitting at the right time)
- (ii) Note Duration (holding it for correct length)

Please Note, the Song is organised as follows.

Part 1: Intro and Verse. Bars 1-10

Part 2: Pre-Chorus. Bars 11-18

Part 3: Chorus. Bars 19-26

Part 4: Outro. Bars 27-34

Please refer to particular sections or bars of the song when making comments.

2. Q1. Note Onset Security. Did the student hit the note at exactly the right time, not too early, too late? (consider syncopation and stylistic elements)

Marqueu només un oval per fila.

	Exact	Very accurate, tiny deviations	Mostly accurate	Some noticeable deviations	A few deviations.	No alignment with score
Onset	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. Please add comments regarding overall exactness of the musician to hit the note at the appropriate time from listening to the piece, justifying your grade and mentioning particular bars of interest.

4. Q2. Duration. Holding note for the required length (crotchets and quavers etc are given their correct duration). Consider also that Staccato will mean slightly shorter duration (and the opposite feel for legato). Consider the nuances of tied notes and the role syncopation has for the particular piece.

Marqueu només un oval per fila.

	Excellent fidelity to defined note duration	very good fidelity	good	fair	poor
Duration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Please add comments regarding overall aspect of duration/ note length you have from listening to the piece justifying your grade and mentioning particular bars of interest.

Technical focus

Two technical focus elements are featured in this song:

- Articulation
- Coordination

Articulation is important in this song. You'll need to make a clear contrast between the separate, almost jerky quavers at the start and the smooth, melodic material at the pre-chorus.

Coordination is a challenge at the opening and whenever the opening material comes back, so aim for neat fingerwork to help the hands align.

Technical Control: Classify each aspect between 5 and 1 as follows:

Technical demands fulfilled to a very high degree.

Excellent sound quality. Technical demands fulfilled with only momentary insecurities.

Very good sound quality with minimal blemishes.

Technical demands largely fulfilled though with occasional insecurities.

Good sound quality despite occasional lapses.

6. Q1. Articulation & Coordination

Marqueu només un oval per fila.

	Fulfilled to a very high degree	Fullfilled	Largely fulfilled (ocassion lapse)	Generally fulfilled	Often not fullfiulled
Articulation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. Q2. Sound Quality

Marqueu només un oval per fila.

	Excellent	Very Good	Largely good (ocassion lapse)	A few blemishes	Often not fullfiulled
Sound Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. Q3. Dynamics (volume control)

Marqueu només un oval per fila.

	Excellent	Very Good control	Some dynamics noted	Dull	Absent
Dynamics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. Please add additional comments on the above Technical Control aspects of the song, to justify your choice.

10. Please add additional comments on stylistic understanding (eg mood and character), listener engagement.

Finally write a number between 5 (highly convincing) and 1 (unreliable) classify the overall impact of the song.

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