



National
Qualifications
2024

2024 Music Technology

Higher

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

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General marking principles for Higher Music Technology

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- (a) Marking should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.
- (b) Do not accept any answer that is not in the marking instructions. Use professional judgement when candidates' responses do not exactly match marking instructions but carry the same meaning.
- (c) Accept inaccurate spelling of English or Italian terms, as long as the meaning is clear.
- (d) Where a question asks for a description, explanation or justification, do not award marks for simple one or two word answers.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
1.	(a)		Jazz funk Wah-wah	2	1 mark for each. Do not accept other answers here.
	(b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • jazz instrumentation • melodic and/or complex bass lines • ostinato and/or riff • prominent bass line • syncopation • the excerpt has a (jazz) head • use of (Hammond) organ • use of electric guitar • use of electric piano • use of synthesizer. 	2	1 mark for each. Also accept any answer that infers jazz instrumentation. Also accept (funk) head. Also accept Rhodes piano.
2.	(a)		<p>R'n'B</p> <p>Music features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brass or horn section • use of electric guitar* • use of electric piano* • ostinato or riff • soulful vocals • syncopation • use of synthesisers* • vocal harmonies <p>Technological features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bass prominent in mix • loops • programmed drum beats • samples • wah wah 	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p>	<p>1 mark for correct genre.</p> <p>1 mark for a reason related to a musical feature.</p> <p>Also accept any instrument typically found within brass or horn section.</p> <p>*Also accept as technological features but only credit once.</p> <p>Also accept melismatic vocals.</p> <p>Also accept backing vocals.</p> <p>1 mark for a reason related to a technological feature.</p> <p>Also accept drum machine.</p>
	(b)		Tremolo	1	Except no other answer.

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
3.	(a)	(i)	The gain on the overhead right channel is set too high.	1	1 mark for a description of the fault. Also accept there is audible distortion, clipping or peaking in the overhead right channel.
		(ii)	Adjust or lower the gain or trim.	1	1 mark for a detailed description of a matching correction. Do not accept turn the overhead right channel's volume or level down.
3.	(b)	(i)	The threshold of a noise gate is set too high.	1	1 mark for a description of the fault. Also accept a noise gate is set incorrectly.
		(ii)	Adjust or lower the threshold.	1	1 mark for a detailed description of a matching correction. Do not accept increase in threshold. Also accept any answer that infers a reduction in noise gate settings
4.	(a)		Option 3 is the correct answer. The rate is set to slow and the mix is set to max.	1	The mark should only be awarded if answer one has been identified and a valid justification has been given. Also accept rate is set to min and the mix is set to max.
	(b)		Depth Rate Shape	2	Also accept intensity. Also accept speed. Also accept, wave, form or waveform. Do not accept wet, dry or mix.
5.	(a)		Sampler	1	Do not accept other answers here.
	(b)		Drum sequencer and reverb	1	Do not accept other answers here.
	(c)		Sabrina Setlur could have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> significantly changed the audio obtained permission to the audio given a writing credit to Kraftwerk 	1	Accept any one answer. Do not accept other answers here.

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
6.	(a)		Ostinato Soul	2	1 mark for each. Do not accept other answers here.
	(b)		A matched or stereo pair of cardioid condensers in XY or ORTF or NOS. OR Stereo pair of omni-directional condensers in AB or spaced pair.	1	1 mark for array. Also accept spaced pair of figure of 8 microphones. Also accept Faulkner array, Decca Tree and Blumlein (coincident pair).
			Microphones should be placed at a metre or more in front of or above the string quartet.	1	1 mark for placement. Also accept a metre from the string quartet.
			To achieve a good balance of direct sound and room ambience. OR To ensure good stereo image.	1	1 mark for justification. Also accept anything that infers good stereo balance.
	(c)		Whole tone scale	1	Do not accept other answers here.

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance												
7.	(a)	<p>Candidates are asked to select a genre from the list provided. No marks are awarded for this.</p> <p>For the genre selected marks are awarded for identifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a key attribute(s) (1 mark)• a key technology. (1 mark) <p>Examples of key innovators, attributes and technologies could include:</p> <p>Genre: Indie</p> <table><tr><td>Key attribute</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken chords• Electric guitar*• Live sounding recording• Lo-fi recordings• Melancholic, raw, rough or unpolished vocal style• Ostinato• Picked guitar style• Riff.</td></tr><tr><td>Key technology</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chorus• Delay• Distortion• Overdrive.</td></tr></table> <p>Genre: Electroacoustic</p> <table><tr><td>Key attribute</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Atonal• Heavily processed acoustic sounds• Irregular time signatures• Sounds created or processed by electronic means.</td></tr><tr><td>Key technology</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delay• Loops• Reverb• Samplers• Sequencers• Synthesiser• Tape manipulation• Time domain effects.</td></tr></table> <p>Genre: Punk</p> <table><tr><td>Key attribute</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggressive, raw, rough or unpolished vocal style• Electric guitar*• Little post production• Political lyrics• Simple chord structure.</td></tr><tr><td>Key technology</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distortion• Overdrive.</td></tr></table>	Key attribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken chords• Electric guitar*• Live sounding recording• Lo-fi recordings• Melancholic, raw, rough or unpolished vocal style• Ostinato• Picked guitar style• Riff.	Key technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chorus• Delay• Distortion• Overdrive.	Key attribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Atonal• Heavily processed acoustic sounds• Irregular time signatures• Sounds created or processed by electronic means.	Key technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delay• Loops• Reverb• Samplers• Sequencers• Synthesiser• Tape manipulation• Time domain effects.	Key attribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggressive, raw, rough or unpolished vocal style• Electric guitar*• Little post production• Political lyrics• Simple chord structure.	Key technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distortion• Overdrive.	2	<p>Candidates are asked to select a genre from the list provided. No marks are awarded for this.</p> <p>For the genre selected marks are awarded for identifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a key attribute (1 mark)• a key technology. (1 mark) <p>*Also accept as a key feature but only credit once.</p>
Key attribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken chords• Electric guitar*• Live sounding recording• Lo-fi recordings• Melancholic, raw, rough or unpolished vocal style• Ostinato• Picked guitar style• Riff.															
Key technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chorus• Delay• Distortion• Overdrive.															
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Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
	(b)		<p>Gramophone</p> <p>Example of key innovator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emile Berliner <p>Example of their influence on the development of this technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berliner developed a turntable that could play hard, shellac records. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shellac records were easier to duplicate than wax cylinders. <p>Radio</p> <p>Example of key innovator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guglielmo Marconi <p>Example of their influence on the development of this technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marconi invented a transmitter and receiver which used radio waves to carry a signal. <p>Bass Guitar</p> <p>Example of key innovator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leo Fender <p>Example of their influence on the development of this technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fender released the Precision bass guitar. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fender created one of the first commercially successful bass guitars. 	2	<p>Candidates are asked to select a technology from the list provided. No marks are awarded for this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Example of a key innovator. (1 mark) Example of the key innovator's development on the selected technology. (1 mark)
8.					1 mark for each correct answer.
		1	Delay Panning	1 1	Also accept echo. Also accept autopan.
		2	Cymbal	1	Also accept crash (cymbal).
		3	Minor	1	Do not accept other answers here.
		4	Major	1	Do not accept other answers here.
		5	Pitch shift	1	Also accept harmoniser.
		6	Release	1	Do not accept other answers here.
9.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocals sung through a vocoder Piano plays arpeggios Glockenspiel panned right Inverted pedal on string synth Synth with portamento. 	5	<p>1 mark for each correct feature.</p> <p>Features can be listed in any order.</p> <p>Do not accept other answers here.</p>

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]