

A Level Music

Summer Independent Learning - Year 11-12

PART 1 Compulsory Content (tested in September)

Task 1

Prepare a performance piece, in any style, on your instrument or voice. It must be of grade 5 standard or more. The important thing to remember is that it is better to play an easier piece well, than a more difficult piece poorly. Make sure you perform it musically, paying attention to dynamics, tempo markings and phrasing.

You will perform this piece in front of your teacher during the first two weeks of college as your audition piece. You can use a backing track if you wish.

Task 2.

Area of study C for the Eduqas A level is “Musical Theatre”

Create an information booklet that maps out the development of the musical. It should include detailed descriptions and explanations, pictures, and examples of musicals and songs that are particularly important. Everything **MUST** be in your own words. You must include works/examples by:

Richard Rodgers

Leonard Bernstein

Stephen Sondheim

Andrew Lloyd-Webber

Claude-Michel Schoenberg

Stephen Schwartz

Make sure you are analysing at least **ONE** song from **ONE** musical for each composer. You should write about the structure, tonality, time signature, texture, instrumentation, rhythms, melody, and any other features of the songs. In addition, include a **BRIEF** summary of each of the above composers.

There are many resources on youtube and the internet. Here are a couple to get you started:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z27fyrd/revision/1>

<https://www.misswardmusic.com/musical-theatre.html>

<https://slideplayer.com/slide/13436778/>

Task 3

When we start the A level course we begin reviewing basic theory through some simple composition tasks. We will go over keys, triads, dissonance etc. but we do presume some basic knowledge. Use <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons> to revise basic concepts listed below:

- The Basics – all sections
- Rhythm and Metre – all sections
- Scales and Key Signatures – all sections
- Intervals – all sections
- Chords - all lessons
- Diatonic Chords - Diatonic Triads and Roman Numeral Analysis
- Chord Progressions - Non harmonic Tones

Make comprehensive notes about all of these areas, illustrating the points above on manuscript paper

There are tests to help you grasp key signatures, scales etc here:

<https://www.musictheory.net/exercises>

You will be tested on these areas of music theory when you come to college, so it is VITAL that you fully understand and learn this material.

PART 2 - Strongly Recommended Content

Task 4

Western Classical Tradition. AOS A

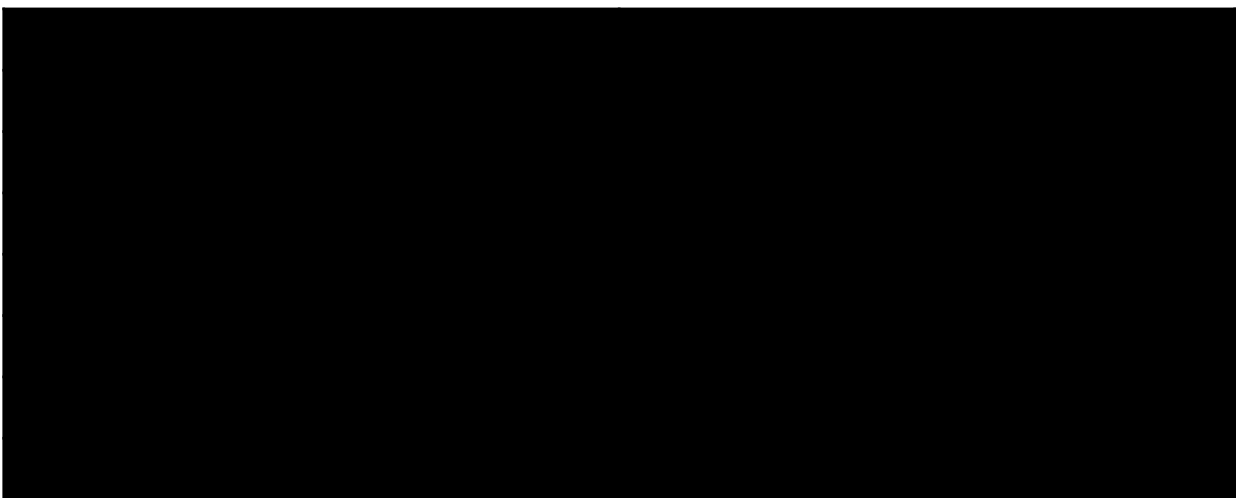
Answer the following in detail.

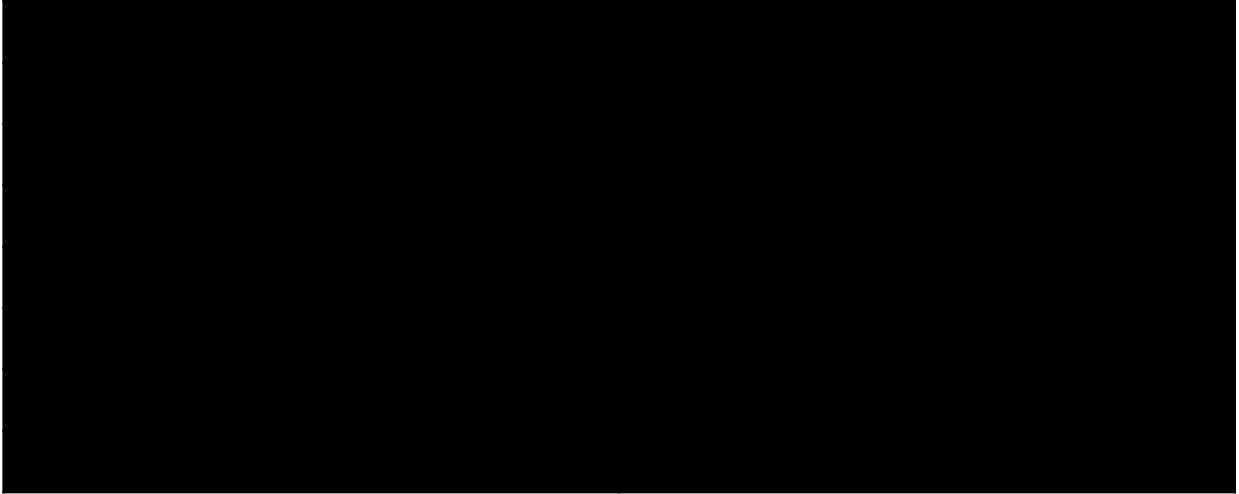
1. What is a symphony?
2. How many movements does it generally have?
3. Describe the typical features of each movement and explain the typical structures they use. Diagrams may help.
4. Write a detailed paragraph on and listen to the following symphonies:
 - Stamitz: Symphony in D major Opus 3 No.2
 - Haydn: Symphony no 26 “Lamentatione”
 - Haydn: Symphony 104 “London Symphony”
 - Mozart: Symphony no 25
 - Mozart Symphony no 40

This website is useful : <https://alevelmusic.com/>

Task 5. Component 2. Composing

The following terms are associated with form and structure in music, but what do they mean? Create a glossary that gives a definition of the term and an example to illustrate it.





Task 6

Download the free version of Sibelius(this is preferred) or Muscore and compose a piece of music using one of the above structures. Write for two or more instruments/ voices. This should be submitted in September.