



GCSE MUSIC

Outline of the course

Listening paper
Section A – listening
to unknown pieces
of music

Listening paper
Section B- set works
of Haydn & The
Beatles

Composition
One
composition

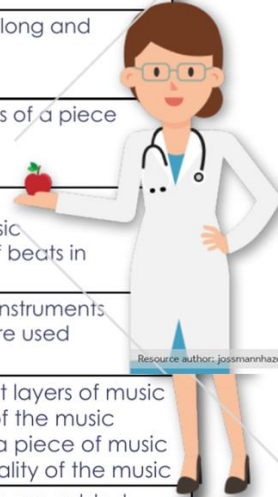
Performance
One
performance

Listening paper

Section A & B



D	Dynamics – How loud or quiet a piece of music is
R	Rhythm – A pattern of long and short notes or rests
S	Structure – The sections of a piece of music (e.g. ABA)
M	Melody – The main tune of a piece of music Metre – The number of beats in a bar
I	Instrumentation – The instruments used, and how they are used
T	Texture – The different layers of music Tempo – The speed of the music Tonality – The key of a piece of music Timbre – The tone quality of the music
H	Harmony – How notes are added together to make chords



Component 1: Understanding music

What's assessed

- Listening
- Contextual understanding

How it's assessed

Exam paper with listening exercises and written questions using excerpts of music.

Questions

- Section A: Listening – unfamiliar music (68 marks)
- Section B: Study pieces (28 marks)

The exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes. This component is worth 40% of GCSE marks (96 marks).

- **Section A:** This section of the exam is where you listen to pieces of music.
- You will be asked questions about what you have heard e.g what instrument is playing the melody?
- We have practiced these many times and have used the technique analysis of DR G SMITH
- This part of the exam lasts 1hr

- **Section B:** this section of the exam paper is where you are asked questions about the set works we have studied.
- Haydn's 'The Clock'
- The Beatles 'With a little help'
 'Lucy in the sky'
 'Within you, without you'
- This part of the exam lasts 30mins

Useful links for past paper questions for Section A

GCSE Music Revision Video
Practice Listening Questions
Part 1

Listening questions designed to test your ability to appraise unfamiliar music

GCSE Music Revision

Practice Listening Questions
Part 2

[4 MORE PRACTICE LISTENING QUESTIONS](#)



1 You will hear two excerpts.

Excerpt A

This excerpt will be played three times.

You may find it helpful to tick (✓) a box each time you hear the excerpt.

1 (a) Which **four** of the following can be heard in this excerpt?
Circle your answers.

[4 marks]

compound time	congas	guiro
hemiola rhythm	minor tonality	
off-beat chords	riff	xylophone

The video links attached are of past paper question, with the audio and someone guiding you through how to answer the questions to Section A.

Remember on the kdrive are past paper questions for you to access too alongside the mark scheme.

Useful links for past paper questions for Section B

- [Haydn 'The Clock'](#)
- [The Beatles - 'With a little help from my friends'](#)
- [The Beatles- 'Within you Without you](#)
- [The Beatles- 'Lucy in the sky with diamonds'](#)

Explain why this symphony is known as the 'Clock' symphony. (2 marks)

- _____

- _____



Identify **two** instruments used in *Within You, Without You* which are associated with Indian music. (2 marks)

- _____

- _____

A screenshot of the BBC Bitesize website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the BBC logo, a 'Sign in' button, and a notification bell. Below this is a large purple header with the word 'Bitesize' in white. Underneath the header is a secondary navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'Learn', 'Support', and 'Careers'. Below that is a dark purple bar with a small white square. The main content area features the text 'GCSE AQA' underlined, followed by the word 'Music' in a large, bold font, and 'Part of Music' in a smaller font below it.

Composition

One composition
lasting for 2 minutes



Component 3: Composing music

What's assessed

Composition

How it's assessed

• One Composition : Composition to a brief or free

Students will need to compose one piece of music with a duration of at least two minutes

This component is 30% of GCSE marks (72 marks).

Non-exam assessment (NEA) will be internally marked by teachers and externally moderated by AQA.

- This is the focus for our lessons at the moment alongside PPE work.
- Use the AQA student friendly mark scheme that I have designed.
- The composition needs to be 2 mins long or longer
- You have to send a recording of Sibelius playing your composition or of yourself, print a score of your piece and a written introduction to how you have composed the work.
- Deadline for this is March 2021

PERFORMANCE

One performance
of a piece of
music



Component 2: Performing music

What's assessed

Music performance

How it's assessed

As an instrumentalist and/or vocalist and/or via technology:

- Performance: Solo or Ensemble performance (36 marks)
- Duration a minute and a half

This component is 30% of GCSE marks (72 marks).

Non-exam assessment (NEA) will be internally marked by teachers and externally moderated by AQA.

- You only need to perform and record a track of music lasting a minute and a half.
- Remember you must practice your instrument weekly.
- When recording, you can do this as many times as you want until you record the best take that you can achieve.
- I have set a target within your school report to those of you who I feel could achieve this recording before Christmas- the rest of the class will record after Christmas.
- The examiner will be listening for correct notes, rhythms, dynamics, tempo, articulation, sense of a performance.
- Remember we have to send the original score of music or YouTube clip of the performer- they will mark you against this.