



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2019

BTEC Level 3 National in Music Tech Unit 6: DAW Production (31810H)



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# Unit 6: DAW Production - Sample marking grid

## **General Marking Guidance**

- All learners must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first learner in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Marking grids should be applied positively. Learners must be rewarded for what they
  have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the marking grid not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- All marks on the marking grid should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the marking grid are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the learner's response is not rewardable according to the marking grid.
- Where judgment is required, a marking grid will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the marking grid to a learner's response, a senior examiner should be consulted.

## **Specific Marking guidance**

The marking grids have been designed to assess learner work holistically.

Rows within the grids identify the assessment focus/outcome being targeted. When using a marking grid, the 'best fit' approach should be used.

- Examiners should first make a holistic judgement on which band most closely matches the learner response and place it within that band. Learners will be placed in the band that best describes their answer.
- The mark awarded within the band will be decided based on the quality of the answer in response to the assessment focus/outcome and will be modified according to how securely all bullet points are displayed at that band.
- Marks will be awarded towards the top or bottom of that band depending on how they have evidenced each of the descriptor bullet points

| Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of MIDI skills and techniques. 15 marks (Stereo files) |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| 0  | 1-5   | 6-9  | 10-12  | 13-15  |
| material   | basic MIDI     programming     skills, repetition of     events, parts and     objects with pitch     and timing errors | accurate MIDI programming skills, repetition of events, parts and objects                              | accurate MIDI programming skills, repetition of events, parts and objects, including instances of transposition  | <ul> <li>accurate advanced MIDI<br/>programming skills involving<br/>the use of multiple parts per<br/>track, and objects of<br/>different durations</li> </ul>          |
|  | isolated evidence<br>of MIDI<br>programming to a<br>fixed tempo grid<br>with default<br>settings                        | evidence of all MIDI programming to a fixed tempo grid with use of quantization in default settings    | <ul> <li>evidence of MIDI<br/>programming to a<br/>tempo grid showing<br/>use of other settings<br/>for quantization<br/>showing musical<br/>selectivity.</li> </ul> | evidence of MIDI     programming to a tempo     grid showing use of varied     quantization settings as a     writing tool that enhances     the musicality of the piece |
|  | inconsistent use of<br>velocity and<br>expression   | consistent use of<br>velocity and<br>expression  | consistent and<br>appropriate use of<br>velocity, expression<br>and controllers  | <ul> <li>evidence of consistent and<br/>appropriate use of velocity,<br/>expression and controllers<br/>that contributes to the<br/>musical feel</li> </ul>              |
| No rewardable material   | use of pre-set<br>library sounds  | <ul> <li>selection of<br/>appropriate and<br/>complementary<br/>sounds from the<br/>library</li> </ul> | evidence of the selection and combination of appropriate complementary sounds  | evidence of the selection and combination of a varied palette of sounds including edited software instruments  |

| 0 | 1-5   | 6-9   | 10-12   | 13-15   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | basic Audio editing<br>to define overall<br>start and end<br>points | accurate Audio     editing to define     start and end     points including     selected regions of     audio | accurate Audio editing to<br>define start and end<br>points, including regions<br>of audio and removal of<br>unwanted noise or<br>errors. | accurate Audio editing to<br>define start and end points<br>including regions of audio a<br>removal of unwanted noise<br>errors including the<br>appropriate use of audio<br>functions to improve clarity |
|   | isolated instances<br>of audio editing to<br>a fixed tempo grid     | audio slices are<br>fitted to the tempo<br>of the piece   | multiple instances of<br>accurate time<br>manipulation of audio<br>slices to fit the tempo<br>and develop the<br>musicality of the piece  | accurate time and pitch<br>manipulation of multiple<br>instances of audio slices ar<br>in comping of audio parts<br>appropriate to and enhance<br>the musicality of the piece                             |
|   |   |   |   |   |

| Application of digital mixing and plug ins 15 Marks (Stereo files) |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| 0  | 1-5  | 6-9  | • 10-12  | • 13-15  |
|  | basic use of<br>equalisation and<br>dynamics<br>processors plugins                 | use of equalisation<br>to provide tonal<br>separation, without<br>control of level<br>through effective<br>use of dynamics<br>processors | use of equalisation and<br>dynamics processors to<br>provide tonal separation<br>and control of level<br>appropriate to the sounds | selective application of<br>equalisation and dynamics<br>processors to provide<br>control, balance and tonal<br>separation to all sounds in a<br>musical mix |
|  | basic use of FX plugins  | selection of specific<br>FX for the different<br>sounds in the piece   | selection and editing of<br>separate and appropriate<br>auxiliary and inserted<br>instances of the use of FX                       | selective and creative use of<br>separate edited FX both as<br>inserts and auxiliaries, that<br>provides depth and space to<br>the musicality of the piece   |
| No rewardable content  | evidence of the basic use of automation in changing the overall level of the piece | evidence of the use of automation of volume of individual sounds in the piece  | evidence of the use of<br>automation of pan or FX<br>for individual sounds in<br>the piece   | evidence of the creative use<br>of automation in changing<br>levels, pan and FX in a<br>musical mix  |

| Analysis of the completed creative process used to respond to the brief 15 Marks (Production notes) |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| 0   | 1-5   | 6-9   | 10-12  | 13-15  |
| No rewardable content   | straightforward<br>comment on the<br>brief  | description of all<br>factors to be<br>derived from the<br>brief and original<br>source material  | explanation of all<br>factors in the brief<br>including the use of<br>source material  | valid analysis of all factors in the<br>brief including an appreciation of<br>the varied use of source material  |
|   | superficial     awareness of     intentions for the     piece/simple     comment about     their intentions | stated intentions<br>for the piece that<br>will be relevant to<br>the realization of<br>the brief | stated intentions with clearly identifiable and explained outcomes for the piece that will be relevant to the realization of the brief | stated intentions and identifiable outcomes exemplifying a creative and musical response to the brief representing a valid evaluation of the requirements of the brief |
|   | limited<br>understanding of<br>techniques to be<br>used   | selection of<br>techniques<br>including<br>description of their<br>use relevant to the<br>brief   | <ul> <li>selection of<br/>techniques with a<br/>rationale for the<br/>choices made in<br/>responding to the<br/>brief</li> </ul>       | effective and creative response<br>to the brief involving varied and<br>appropriate techniques<br>corresponding to a clear rationale<br>for the project                |



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