

Pearson BTEC Level 2 Technical Diploma

June 2019

Supervised hours: 20 hours

Paper Reference **21314L**

Music Production

Unit 14: Music Project

You do not need any other materials.

Instructions

- This booklet contains materials for the completion of the set task under supervised conditions.
- This booklet is specific to each series and this material must only be issued to learners who have been entered to undertake the task in the relevant series.
- This booklet may be given to learners as soon as it is received so that learners can start the research period in advance of the final supervised assessment period.
- The supervised assessment period should be taken at any time within a period specified by Pearson.

Information

- The total mark for this task is 60.

Turn over ►

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Instructions to Teachers/Tutors

Centres should refer to the BTEC Nationals *Instructions for Conducting External Assessment (ICEA)* document for full information on the conduct of informal and formal supervised assessments. See the Pearson website for details.

The set task will be released in January with the supervised assessment undertaken before the submission date specified by Pearson.

The set task must be completed within 12 weeks of its release.

Work must be completed on a computer.

All learner work must be completed independently and authenticated by the teacher/tutor before being submitted to Pearson.

It is recommended that learners spend approximately 16 hours preparing for the set task before undertaking the supervised assessment activities. This preparation should include:

- eight hours on investigation
- eight hours on experimentation.

For the set task, learners carry out two activities over 20 hours of supervised assessment. Activity 1 should be carried out during 16 hours of informal supervision, followed by four hours for Activity 2 under formal supervision.

Centres are free to arrange the 16 hours of informal supervision as they wish, provided this is within the period specified by Pearson. However, the four hours of formal supervision should be taken over a one-week period and must be taken in two, two-hour sessions.

Activity 1: Creating a final music product

During the 16 hours of informal supervision for shaping/refining the final music product, the following must be observed.

- Learners should complete the activity under supervision and work must be kept securely during any breaks taken.
- Learners should not be given any direct guidance or prepared materials.
- Work and resources can be brought in and out of the supervised environment but these must be monitored so the learners' final outcomes can be authenticated.
- Learner work must be stored on a secure drive between sessions. At the end of the 16 hours for Activity 1, the teacher/tutor must make a copy of the final music product.

Activity 2: Commentary: Creative Focus

During the four hours of formal supervision for producing the commentary, teachers/tutors should note that:

- learners should not be given any direct guidance or prepared materials
- learners should not be given any support in writing or editing notes
- all work must be completed independently by the learner
- learners are not permitted to have access to the internet during the supervised assessment period
- learners should complete the activity under supervision and work must be kept securely during any breaks taken
- learners must not bring anything into the supervised environment or take anything out without teacher/tutor approval.

Centres are responsible for putting in place appropriate checks to ensure that only permitted material is introduced into the supervised environment.

Maintaining security

- During supervised assessment sessions, the assessment areas must only be accessible to the individual learners and to named members of staff.
- Teachers/tutors must ensure that learners have access to a non-editable copy of their final music product and evidence of the creative process to complete Activity 2.
- Learners can only access their work under supervision.
- Any work learners produce under supervision must be kept securely.
- During any permitted break and at the end of the session materials must be kept securely and no items removed from the supervised environment.

Centres are free to arrange the supervised period how they wish, provided it is within the timetabled period specified by Pearson, and the four hours for producing the commentary are under the level of control specified, and in accordance with the conduct procedures.

Outcomes for submission

Each learner will need to submit a CD-ROM/USB storage device, labelled with the learner's name, registration number and centre number. This must contain:

- for Activity 1: an audio recording of the final music product to CD standard quality (44.1 kHz/16-bit)
- for Activity 2: a commentary discussing the creative process.
The commentary can include up to a maximum of 10 pages of written and visual content saved as a PDF. This can include annotated screenshots, images, sketches and anything else that was used when developing the final music product. The submission may also include up to five minutes of audio commentary and/or up to five minutes of video commentary. Written content must be in font size point 12.

A fully completed authentication sheet must be completed by each learner and signed by the teacher/tutor and/or invigilator; any preparatory notes do not need to be submitted with the final outcomes to Pearson. Learner notes should be retained by the centre after the completion of assessment and may be requested by Pearson.

Instructions for Learners

Read the set task information carefully. You will be asked to carry out two activities using the information in this booklet.

Plan your time carefully to allow for the preparation and completion of all the activities.

You will complete the activities within the set task under supervision and your work will be kept securely during any breaks taken.

You must work independently throughout the supervised assessment period and must not share your work with other learners.

Your teacher/tutor may clarify the wording that appears in this task but cannot provide any guidance on completion of the task.

You should spend approximately 16 hours preparing for the set task before undertaking the assessment activities. This preparation should include eight hours of investigation and eight hours of experimentation.

Investigation: Investigate and generate ideas in response to the brief.

You should:

- research the target market
- consider the suitability of potential material
- consider the various musical styles and techniques available to you.

It is recommended you spend approximately eight hours on your investigation.

Experimentation: Experiment with a range of musical ideas and starting points that could be used for your final submission.

For composers, this might involve experimenting with chords, techniques and melodies. If you are choosing music production or recording then you might want to experiment with samples, sound palettes, recording equipment, microphone placement and potential sound sources.

It is recommended you spend approximately eight hours on the experimentation stage.

For the set task, you must carry out two activities over 20 hours of supervised assessment. Activity 1 should be carried out during 16 hours of informal supervision, followed by four hours for Activity 2 under formal supervision.

Outcomes for submission

You will need to submit a CD-ROM/USB storage device, labelled with your name, registration number and centre number. This must contain:

- for Activity 1: an audio recording of your final music product to CD standard quality (44.1 kHz/16-bit)
- for Activity 2: a commentary discussing your creative process.
Your commentary can include up to a maximum of 10 pages of written and visual content saved as a PDF. This can include annotated screenshots, images, sketches and anything else you used when developing your final music product. Your submission may also include up to five minutes of audio commentary and/or up to five minutes of video commentary. Written content must be in font size point 12.

You must complete a declaration that the work you submit is your own.

Set Task Brief

The gaming company *Vintage Games* is planning to release a series of products to celebrate *The Golden Age of Video Games*, which occurred between 1975 and 1985 when many classic games were released.

The company is seeking musical material to be included in its series of retro game releases and would like you to submit potential material for inclusion. The music should be typical of the time period (1975–1985) and the company is open to a wide range of stylistic influences within that time period. *Vintage Games'* target audience is people aged 35–45 who may have played these games when they were younger.

You should submit **one** of the following:

Option 1: Create an original individual composition lasting 2-4 minutes suitable for the opening credits of a game called *Double Agent* about spies, espionage and secret agents. Your composition should take inspiration from an artist, a piece of music or musical style(s) from 1975–1985.

Option 2: Create a DAW project lasting 1 minute 30 seconds to 2 minutes suitable as background music to a car chase sequence in a game called *USA Highway*. The music should reflect the excitement of the car chase and take inspiration from musical styles, artists or pieces of music from 1975–1985.

Option 3: Produce a multi-track recording lasting 2–4 minutes of a piece of music suitable as a backing track for a karaoke game called *Sing the Hits*. Your recording should have at least four individually-captured audio tracks and should also include the lead vocal line for reference. You can choose any song that was released between 1975 and 1985.

For all options you must also submit a commentary discussing your creative process.

You are recommended to submit material suitable for your chosen pathway. If you are on a:

- music creation pathway choose Option 1 or Option 2
- music production pathway choose Option 2 or Option 3.

Preparation activities

Investigation: Investigate and generate ideas in response to the brief.

You should:

- research the target market
- consider the suitability of potential material
- consider the various musical styles and techniques available to you.

It is recommended you spend approximately eight hours on your investigation.

Experimentation: Experiment with a range of musical ideas and starting points that could be used for your final submission.

For composers, this might involve experimenting with chords, techniques and melodies.

If you are choosing music production or recording then you might want to experiment with samples, sound palettes, recording equipment, microphone placement and potential sound sources.

It is recommended you spend approximately eight hours on the experimentation stage.

Set Task

Activity 1 – Creating a final music product

This part of the set task must be completed in 16 hours of informal supervised assessment.

You must develop and present a music product that clearly communicates your response to the brief. You will need to collect and document evidence of your creative process throughout this activity for use in Activity 2.

You will be assessed on two aspects of the final music product.

a) Application of skills and techniques

- How well you apply and manage resources, techniques and processes to develop your final music product.
- Your technical and interpretative ability.
- How well you present your final music product.

(20 marks)

b) Meeting the brief

- How well your final music product addresses the brief.
- The suitability for the target audience.
- The scope and creativity demonstrated in your response.

(20 marks)

(Total marks for Activity 1 = 40 marks)

Activity 2 – Commentary: creative process (4 hours)

This part of the set task must be completed in four hours of formal supervised assessment.

During this time your teacher/tutor will give you access to a copy of your final music product and notes to begin work on this part of the set task.

You will not be permitted to bring work in and out of the supervised environment.

You must prepare and submit a commentary discussing your creative process that shows how you developed your final music product from initial idea to final product.

The commentary should document the various stages you carried out to develop your final music product and will be assessed on:

- your exploration of processes and techniques to develop your final music product
- the creative choices you have made and how they have supported the development of your final music product
- how you fully account for your individual creative process and explain your thought processes.

Your commentary must include up to a maximum of 10 pages of written and visual content saved as a PDF. You could also illustrate your writing with annotated screenshots, images, sketches and anything else you used when developing your final music product. You may also include up to 5 minutes of audio and/or up to 5 minutes of video. Written content must be in font size point 12.

(Total for Activity 2 = 20 marks)

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS