

2013 Music Performing with Technology

Advanced Higher

Finalised Marking Instructions

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2013

The information in this publication may be reproduced to support SQA qualifications only on a non-commercial basis. If it is to be used for any other purposes written permission must be obtained from SQA's NQ Assessment team.

Where the publication includes materials from sources other than SQA (secondary copyright), this material should only be reproduced for the purposes of examination or assessment. If it needs to be reproduced for any other purpose it is the centre's responsibility to obtain the necessary copyright clearance. SQA's NQ Assessment team may be able to direct you to the secondary sources.

These Marking Instructions have been prepared by Examination Teams for use by SQA Appointed Markers when marking External Course Assessments. This publication must not be reproduced for commercial or trade purposes.

Music with Technology (X233)

Summary of minimum requirements

	Folio contains:	Centre Prepares	SQA Samples		
Intermediate 1	Performing Instrument/Voice	4 mins	3 mins		
	MIDI Sequenced Composition (minimum 4 tracks)	2 mins			
	Sound Engineering & Production (minimum 4 parts)	3 mins (2 pieces)			
Intermediate 2	Performing Instrument/Voice	4 mins	3 mins		
	MIDI Sequenced Composition (minimum 4 tracks)	2 mins			
	Sound Engineering & Production (minimum 4 parts and at least one of the tracks in each piece must use a mic)	4 mins (2 pieces)			
Higher	Performing Instrument/Voice	5 mins	3 mins		
	MIDI Sequenced Composition (minimum 4 tracks)	3 mins			
	Sound Engineering & Production (minimum 5 parts and at least one of the tracks in each piece must use a mic)	6 mins (2 pieces)			
Advanced Higher	Performing Instrument/Voice	10 mins	6 mins		
	MIDI Sequenced Composition (minimum 6 tracks including one or more digital audio parts)	3 mins			
	Sound Engineering & Production (minimum 8 parts and at least one of the tracks in each piece must use a mic; knowledge of digital audio should be evident) OR	6 mins (2 pieces)			
	(stereo techniques master recording of four or more musicians using four or more microphones)	6 mins (2 pieces)			

Additional points for guidance

In submitting Music with Technology folios, separate submissions should be made for each candidate and should be clearly labelled with the candidate's name.

If centres choose to submit a CD with the work of several candidates, with tracks carefully labelled and named, this is considered acceptable. Submitting an audio cassette of recordings may not show candidate work to full advantage and runs the risk of potential confusion when trying to ascertain the location of each candidate's work.

If adopting the above approach with CDs, centres are advised to submit a different CD for each level being presented (and each area of Technology, ie MIDI Sequencing only or Sound Engineering and Production only).

Where the term 'tracks' is used in Sound Engineering and Production Course and Units, centres should be aware that several microphones used for one instrument equals one track when considering the requirements at each level. Examples include a drum kit recorded with multiple microphones which would only count as one 'track' where the requirements at Higher level are for 'five or more tracks and at least one of the tracks in each piece must use a microphone'. Similarly a recording of a piano using two microphones would count as one 'track'.

PERFORMANCE ASPECTS	CRITERIA		PIECE NUMBER						MARKS RANGE			
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Melodic accuracy/intonation	Excellent level											
Rhythmic accuracy	Excellent level										9-10	
Tempo and flow	Appropriate and musically convinc	ing										
Dynamics	Convincing											
Mood and character	Conveyed with sensitivity											
Tone	Confident, convincing and well-devinstrumental/vocal sound	·										
SUMMARY	A convincing and stylish perform which demonstrates sound tech											
Melodic accuracy/intonation	Secure											
Rhythmic accuracy	Secure											
Tempo and flow	Appropriate and consistent											
Dynamics	Effective										7-8	
Mood and character	Conveyed securely											
Tone	Secure and effective control of instrumental/vocal sound										-	
SUMMARY	A secure performance musically technically	and										
Melodic accuracy/intonation	accuracy/intonation Mainly accurate and generally in tune											
Rhythmic accuracy	Mainly accurate											
Tempo and flow	Appropriate and mainly consistent											
Dynamics	Some contrast										5-6	
Mood and character	Conveyed with some success											
Tone	Some evidence of development ar	nd control										
SUMMARY	A satisfactory performance disp sufficient technical and musical											
Melodic accuracy/intonation	Inconsistent and/or passages of pointonation	oor									3-4	
Rhythmic accuracy	Inconsistent											
Tempo and flow	Inappropriate speed and/or some I continuity	oreaks in										
Dynamics	Not observed satisfactorily											
Mood and character	Not conveyed satisfactorily											
Tone	Undeveloped											
SUMMARY	The performance lacks sufficient technical and/or musical skill to communicate the sense of the n											
Melodic accuracy/intonation	Frequent inaccuracies and/or conspoor intonation										0-2	
Rhythmic accuracy	Frequent inaccuracies								1			
Tempo and flow	Totally inappropriate speed and/or stumbling	frequent										
Dynamics	Ignored											
Mood and character	Not conveyed											
Tone	Poor											
SUMMARY	A poor performance with little or evidence of required technical a musical ability											
Additional comments:	PIECE NUMBER		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0-10	

PERFORMANCE ASPECTS	CRITERIA	PIE	ECES	MARKS RANGE			
		1	2				
Recording of individual tracks	Excellent level of accuracy and audio quality						
(incl. microphone placement) Use of controls, effects,	Excellent; demonstrates flair		1				
processes	Excellent, demonstrates half						
Mix	Excellent						
Session log	Well maintained and completely informative						
Musical performance – pitch,	Convincing in all respects						
rhythm, dynamics ensemble	Totally						
Recording to media	Totally secure						
SUMMARY	A convincing and stylish production which demonstrates appropriate musical awareness						
Recording of individual tracks (incl. microphone placement)	Secure						
Use of controls, effects, processes	Secure						
Mix	Appropriate			7-8			
Session log	Appropriate; most of the required information present						
Musical performance – pitch, rhythm, dynamics ensemble	Mainly effective						
Recording to media	Secure naming of tracks and saving of information						
SUMMARY	A secure production musically and technically						
Recording of individual tracks	Mainly secure though containing some errors; overall						
(incl. microphone placement)	satisfactory						
Use of controls, effects, processes	Mainly secure but at a basic level						
Mix	Generally appropriate			5-6			
Session log	Satisfactory level of information; mostly appropriate						
Musical performance – pitch, rhythm, dynamics ensemble	Overall success, though some aspects unsatisfactory						
Recording to media	Overall success, though some aspects unsatisfactory			1			
SUMMARY	A satisfactory production displaying sufficient technical and musical control						
Recording of individual tracks	Inconsistent, contains errors						
(incl. microphone placement)							
Use of controls, effects, processes	Inconsistent						
Mix	Inconsistent			3-4			
Session log	Lacks most of the required evidence						
Musical performance – pitch,	Inconsistent evidence of musical understanding						
rhythm, dynamics ensemble							
Recording to media	Generally unsatisfactory; some limited success						
SUMMARY	Production lacks sufficient technical and musical skill to communicate the sense of the music						
Recording of individual tracks (incl. microphone placement)	Frequent inaccuracies; musical coherence is not maintained						
Use of controls, effects, processes	Little or no use made						
Mix	Totally lacking in musical understanding			0-2			
Session log	No evidence or inaccurate statements						
Musical performance – pitch, rhythm, dynamics ensemble	No sense of musical understanding						
Recording to media	Poor						
SUMMARY	Poor production with little or no evidence of required technical and musical ability						
Additional comments:	INDIVIDUAL MARKS			0-10			
	FINAL MARK /30		1	l			

Additional reference materials for MIDI markers

The following statements are taken from the appropriate Performing with Technology Units.

At Advanced Higher Level:

Where appropriate, you will know how to use the following to enhance the music you are entering into the sequencer or an audio track:

- ambience
- auxiliary send/return
- crossfade
- envelope (ADSR)
- EQ and parametric equalizer
- flanging
- gate (noise) and gated reverb
- harmoniser
- limiter
- line and mic levels
- normalize
- phaser
- synchronisation
- time compression and time expansion
- transient.

At Higher Level:

- (a) You will learn how to use these Controllers:
 - aftertouch
 - delay
 - expression
 - portamento.
- (b) Where appropriate, you will know how to use the following to enhance the music you are entering into the sequencer:
 - distortion
 - nudge
 - pitch shifter.

At Intermediate 2 Level:

- (a) You will learn how to use these Controllers:
 - · chorus depth
 - pitch bend
 - tremolo.
- (b) Where appropriate you will know how to use the following to enhance the music you are entering into the sequencer:
 - chorus (effect)
 - fade in
 - fade out
 - fader and master fader
 - local
 - key command
 - merge
 - mix(down)
 - mono(phonic)
 - multi-timbral
 - overdub
 - punch in/out, drop in/out
 - remix
 - stereo(phonic).

At Intermediate 1 Level:

- (a) You will learn how to use these Controllers:
 - modulation controller
 - reset controller
 - reverb(eration)
 - sustain.
- (b) Where appropriate you will know how to use the following to enhance the music you are entering into the sequencer:
 - dynamics/expression
 - effects (FX)
 - general (MIDI)
 - key change/transpose/modulation
 - level
 - loop
 - MIDI channel
 - MIDI thru
 - pitch
 - programme change
 - quantization
 - snap
 - solo
 - time signature
 - track list.

COURSE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA: MIDI SEQUENCING

PERFORMANCE ASPECTS	CRITERIA	PIECE	MARKS RANGE		
Recording of audio track(s)	Excellent				
Note programming	Excellent				
Set up of tracks	Excellent level of skill				
Use of effects/programme	Imaginative and totally appropriate		9-10		
controls Development of musical ideas	Appropriate and musically convincing		-		
Balance of parts/mix	Imaginative and highly effective		-		
File management	Totally secure naming of tracks and saving of information				
SUMMARY		-			
	SUMMARY A convincing and stylish production demonstrating appropriate musical awareness.				
Recording of audio track(s)	Secure				
Note programming	Secure				
Set up of tracks	Secure				
Use of effects/programme controls	Appropriate		7-8		
Development of musical ideas	Appropriate		_		
Balance of parts/mix	Effective				
File management	Secure naming of tracks and saving of information				
SUMMARY	A secure production musically and technically				
Recording of audio track(s)	Mainly secure, containing some errors, overall satisfactory				
Note programming	Mainly secure, containing some errors, overall satisfactory				
Set up of tracks	Mainly secure but basic				
Use of effects/programme controls					
Development of musical ideas	Some contrast but lacking in musical development				
Balance of parts/mix	Balance works overall				
File management	Basic and perhaps limited. Some valid information saved.				
SUMMARY					
Recording of audio track(s)	Inconsistent and containing errors				
Note programming	Inconsistent and containing errors				
Set up of tracks	Inconsistent				
Use of effects/programme controls	Inappropriate use of effects and controls		3-4		
Development of musical ideas	Lacks contrast and development				
Balance of parts/mix	Not conveyed satisfactorily				
File management	Generally unsatisfactory				
SUMMARY	Production lacks adequate technical/musical skill to convey the musical sense				
Recording of audio track(s)	Frequent errors; musical coherence is not maintained				
Note programming	Frequent inaccuracies; musical coherence is not maintained				
Set up of tracks	Frequent inaccuracies				
Use of effects/programme controls	Totally lacking at any point in the piece		0-2		
Development of musical ideas	No attempt at contrast or development				
Balance of parts/mix	No attempt to balance the parts; many obvious errors				
File management	No file management evident				
SUMMARY	A poor production; little or no evidence of required technical and musical ability				
Additional comments:	MARK /10				
	FINAL MARK /30				

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]