

# Composing: Assessment

- First assessment: Summer 2018.
- This component consists of 60 marks
  - 30 marks for each piece
- Set briefs will be:
  - Released on 1 September for use in the following summer series
  - The first briefs will be released in September 2017 for assessment in 2018
- Centres must ensure that the compositions submitted are valid for the series in which they are submitted.

# Composing: Response to a set brief #1

- Composition briefs will be released via the Pearson website on 1st September each year
- Students must respond to the brief released in September of the academic year of certification (yr 11)
- There will be four set briefs released:
  - Each brief will contain details of the audience or occasion
  - The format of the briefs is listed in the specification, but the content/context will change each year
- Students can compose for any instrument(s) or voice, in any style, subject to the requirements of the selected composition

# Composing: Response to a set brief #2

- The four briefs will link to the 4 Areas of Study
- Students can choose one of the following:
  - Instrumental music 1700-1820
  - Vocal music
  - Music for stage and screen
  - Fusions
- The composition must be a minimum of 1 minute in duration
- Final write-up and recording of the composition must be in the centre under the teacher's supervision

# Composing: Free Composition

- Students produce one composition that is free, i.e. not related to a set brief
- Students can draw inspiration or starting points from the set works, wider listening, or their own interests
- The piece can be composed for any instrument or voice, or combination of instruments and/or voices, and in any style
- The composition must be a minimum of 1 minute in duration
- Final write-up and recording of the composition must be in the centre under the teacher's supervision

# Composing: Scores

- Students must submit a score or a written account for both of their compositions
- The score can be:
  - conventional staff notation
  - a lead sheet or chord chart
  - track sheets
  - written account
  - tables and diagrams
- A written account must contain similar information to a score, with appropriate music vocabulary
- Scores and written accounts must be clearly presented.

# Composing: Assessment

- Composing may take place over multiple sessions.
- Students must complete a minimum of 5 hours composing (across both pieces) including the final write-up and recording of the compositions in the centre under the teacher's supervision
- Internally marked and externally moderated
- Centres must submit:
  - Recording of compositions (set brief and free)
  - Score for each composition (set brief and free)
  - Authentication form

# Assessment criteria

- Compositions are assessed as AO2: Compose and develop musical ideas with technical control and coherence
- Three grids assess:
  - Developing musical ideas
  - Demonstrating technical control
  - Composing with musical coherence



# A level Composing Overview

- The second composition must be from a list of briefs assessing technique, of at least one minute in duration
  - The four briefs assessing technique will always include: Bach chorale, Two-part counterpoint, an Arrangement and a Remix
  - Must be at least one minute in duration
  - Marked out of 20, externally marked by the board
  - This composition must be completed 100% under controlled conditions, within 4-6 hours





# Composing Free Composition

- Students produce one composition that is free i.e. not related to a set brief
- Students can draw inspiration or starting points from the set works, wider listening, or their own interests
- The piece can be composed for any instrument or voice, or combination of instruments and/or voices, and in any style
- The composition must be a minimum of 2 minutes (AS) and 4 minutes (A level) in duration
- Final write up and recording of the composition must be in the centre under the teacher's supervision



# Composing Briefs

## AS and A level free choice

- Composition briefs for AS and for A level free choice will be released via the Pearson website on 1st September each year
- Students must respond to the brief released in September of the academic year of certification
- There will be six set briefs released:
  - Each brief will contain details of the audience or occasion
  - The format of the briefs is listed in the specification, but the content/context will change each year
- Students can compose for any instrument(s) or voice, in any style, subject to the requirements of the selected composition



# Composing Briefs

## AS and A level free choice

- The six briefs will link to the 6 Areas of Study
- Students can choose one of the following:
  - Vocal Music
  - Music for Film
  - Fusions
  - Instrumental Music
  - Popular Music and Jazz
  - New Directions
- The composition must be a minimum of 2 minutes (AS) and 4 minutes (A level) in duration
- Final write up and recording of the composition must be in the centre under the teacher's supervision



# Composing Briefs

## A level techniques

- Composition briefs assessing technique will be released via the Pearson website on 1st April each year
- Students must respond to the brief released in April of the academic year of certification
- There will be four briefs released:
  - Each brief will contain details of the audience or occasion
  - The format of the briefs is listed in the specification, but the content/context will change each year
- Students can compose for any instrument(s) or voice, in any style, subject to the requirements of the selected composition



# Composing Briefs

## A level techniques

- Students can choose one of the following four briefs assessing techniques:
  - Bach chorale
  - Two-part counterpoint
  - Arrangement
  - Remix
- The composition must be a minimum of 1 minute in duration
- This composition must be completed 100% under controlled conditions, within 4-6 hours



# Composing - Scores

- Students must submit a score or a written account for both of their compositions
- The score can be:
  - conventional staff notation
  - a lead sheet or chord chart
  - track sheets
  - written account
  - tables and diagrams
- A written account must contain similar information to a score, with appropriate music vocabulary
- Scores and written accounts must be clearly presented.



# Composing Assessment

- **First assessment: Summer 2017 (AS) Summer 2018 (A level).**
- This component consists of **60 marks**
  - AS - 30 marks for each piece
  - A level – 40 marks for free/free choice, 20 marks techniques
- Briefs will be released:
  - AS and A level free choice - first of September for use in the following summer series, from September 2017
  - A level techniques - first of April for use in the following summer series, from April 2018
- Centres must ensure that the compositions submitted are valid for the series in which they are submitted



# Composing Assessment

- AS and A level free/free choice
  - Composing may take place over multiple sessions
  - 2 hours of work and the final write up and recording of the compositions must be in the centre under the teacher's supervision.
- A level techniques composition
  - This composition must be completed 100% under controlled conditions, within 4-6 hours
- Centres must submit:
  - Recording of compositions (set brief and free)
  - Score for each composition (set brief and free)
  - Authentication form