

## Subject: GCE Music Technology

### Exam Board: Edexcel

#### Component 3

Open book assessment - 45 Minutes      *Weds 21st April P3*

##### Sequencing and DAW

- Uses of sequencing in tracks.
- Humanising techniques (e.g. iterative quantize)
- Appropriate quantize values / quantize techniques.

##### Recording and Capture

- Sources of unwanted noise
- Understand the development of recording technology and the production practices of different eras, including how production techniques have changed over time.
  - Direct to tape mono recording (1930-1963)
  - Early multitrack recording (1964-1969)
  - Large-scale analogue multitrack (1969-1995)
  - Digital recording and sequencing (1980-present day)
  - Digital audio workstation and emerging technologies (1996-present day)

##### Effects and Processing

- Identify effects on individual instruments
- Describe parameters of an effect by ear
- Advanced production techniques e.g. side chain compression, filter sweep.

##### Synthesis

- Oscillator settings (e.g. wave shape)
- Filter settings (e.g. filter type)
- Envelope settings
- Other settings (e.g. arpeggiator, portamento)

##### Audio Editing/Sampling

- Sampling techniques.
- Sample rate and bit depth and how they affect sound quality.

##### Technical Numeracy

- Make frequency calculations.
- Annotate and interpret technical graphs.

##### Comparison Question

- Evaluate the production techniques heard in two songs/two versions of a song.
  - Capture
  - Instruments and Style
  - Dynamics
  - Effects Processing
  - Reflection

#### Component 4

Invigilated assessment- 90 Minutes      *Thurs 6th May (AM)*

##### Sequencing and DAW

- Quantize values.
- Adjusting rhythm and pitch.
- Manipulating pitch bend data.
- Rhythmic dictation.

##### Recording and Capture

- Microphone selection (type, frequency response, polar pattern)
- Microphone placement

##### Synthesis

- Recreate a synthesiser sound from scratch
  - Match oscillator shape and octave.
  - Match filter settings, including filter envelopes.
  - Match amplitude envelope settings.
  - Velocity controlled filters.
  - LFO/modulation settings.

##### Audio Editing/Sampling

- Correct out of time sections of an audio track.
- Repair notes/phrases from material elsewhere.
- Compile a part from multiple audio files, by ear.

##### Technical Numeracy

- Analyse MIDI file and record technical details.
- Convert numbers from decimal to binary.
- Annotate and interpret technical graphs.

##### Mixing Question

- Produce a final mix, including:
  - Compress, noise gate, side chain compression/gate
  - EQ whole track, EQ specific phrase, filter sweep
  - Automated pan, automatic double tracking
  - Identify an effect and recreate it
  - Balance the levels of the mix
  - Produce a final stereo mix (bounce the track)

#### Useful revision resources:

A Level Music Technology revision guide [https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-Level-Music-Technology-Revision/dp/1785586343/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=38QJ01HIE0JPV&dchild=1&keywords=a+level+music+technology+revision+guide&qid=1615995196&prefix=a+level+music+technolo%2Caps%2C175&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-Level-Music-Technology-Revision/dp/1785586343/ref=sr_1_1?crid=38QJ01HIE0JPV&dchild=1&keywords=a+level+music+technology+revision+guide&qid=1615995196&prefix=a+level+music+technolo%2Caps%2C175&sr=8-1)

Quizlet Sets for Tier 3 Vocabulary (available on Google Classroom)

### Component 3

Music Technology revision- Component 3

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yAKLguSjD-U>

### Component 4

#### Revision Videos - Practical Skills

- Mixing (Q5) practice tasks and support videos (Google Classroom)
- Audio Editing practice tasks and support videos (Google Classroom)
- Sequencing practice tasks and support videos (Google Classroom)
- Specimen Paper Walkthrough (Google Classroom)
- Component 4 Revision - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDtV3Pk0sTA>

### Revision Tips

#### Component 3

- Take the time to check your equipment fully before the exam starts. Make sure you have your headphones on the right way around!
- Remember the 'CIDER' acronym to help you with Question 5.
- Answer 'explain' questions using the DEE format (describe, explain, example). You can only get so many marks for 'describing' only.

#### Component 4

- Take the time to read the instructions during the setup process. Make a note of the tempo and the first track you need to import. Add a stereo master fader at this point too.
- Take a highlighter into the exam and highlight key words, bar numbers etc.

### Week Plan

Date	Unit
08/03/21	Coursework
15/03/21	Coursework
22/03/21	Component 3 - Prepare Crib Sheets
Easter Hols	Revise from Crib Sheets
19/04/21	<b>Open Book Component 3 Exam</b>
26/04/21	Component 4 Revision
03/05/21	<b>Component 4 Exam - Thursday 6th May (AM)</b>
10/05/21	Coursework
17/05/21	Coursework
24/05/21	<b>Final Coursework Deadline</b>