

Exam information: AQA (1hr 30 mins)

Section A

You will listen attentively to unfamiliar music from all four areas of study listed below, and accurately describe musical elements, musical contexts and use musical language (including staff notation):

- 1. Western Classical Tradition 1650- 1910
- 2. Popular Music
- 3. Traditional Music
- 4. Western Classical since 1910

Questions will relate to:

- Melody
- Harmony
- Tonality
- Structure
- Sonority (Timbre)
- Texture
- Tempo, Metre and Rhythm
- Dynamics and Articulation

Section B

You will critically appraise the music from the study pieces below.

- Beethoven Symphony I (Movement I))
- Three songs by Queen (Love of My Life, Seven Seas of Rhye, Bohemian Rhapsody).

Questions will relate to:

- the effect of audience, time and place on how the study pieces were created, developed and performed
- how and why the music across the selected areas of study has changed over time
- how the composer's purpose and intention for the study pieces is reflected in their use of musical elements
- relevant musical vocabulary and terminology

Topic	Revised?
• 1. Western Classical Tradition 1650- 1910- The Coronation Anthems and Oratorios of Handel	
• 1. Western Classical Tradition 1650- 1910- The Orchestra Music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven .	
• 1. Western Classical Tradition 1650- 1910- The piano music of Chopin and Schumann .	
• 1. Western Classical Tradition 1650- 1910- The Requiem of the late Romantic period.	
• 2. Popular Music- music of Broadway 1950s to 1990s	
• 2. Popular Music- rock music of 1960s and 1970s	
• 2. Popular Music- film and computer gaming music 1990s to present	
• 2. Popular Music- pop music 1990s to present.	

• 3. Traditional Music- Blues music from 1920 – 1950	
• 3. Traditional Music- Fusion music incorporating African and/or Caribbean music	
• 3. Traditional Music- Contemporary Latin music	
• 3. Traditional Music- Contemporary Folk music of the British Isles.	
• 4. Western Classical since 1910- The orchestral music of Copland	
• 4. Western Classical since 1910- British music of Arnold, Britten, Maxwell-Davies and Tavener	
• 4. Western Classical since 1910- The orchestral music of Zoltán Kodály and Béla Bartók	
• 4. Western Classical since 1910- Minimalist music of John Adams, Steve Reich and Terry Riley.	
• Beethoven Symphony I	
• Queen- Love of My Life	
• Queen- Seven Seas of Rhye	
• Queen- Bohemian Rhapsody	

Revision Links

Useful revision resources

GCSE Music Study Guide AQA by Andrew Coxon

GCSE Music Bible

AQA Past Papers and Mark Schemes

GCSE Bitesize AQA (Music Theory/Western Classical Tradition/Popular Music -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zfwv7nb>

AQA walk through of Beethoven

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VwMqvKTpXEs&list=RDVwMqvKTpXEs&start_radio=1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PE2PCVtRDsw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNW7xjQOkzY>

Bitesize Queen

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2c2b7h>

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