

Year 10 GCSE Music

Coursework outline for WJEC GCSE Music

The course focuses on 4 areas of study:

- Music of Wales
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Music Evolution
- Musical forms and devices

Assessment and coursework:

- 30% solo and ensemble performance exam in March, year 11
- 30% coursework, requiring 2 compositions, from different areas of study, to be submitted with notation, a write up and a recording.
- 40% terminal general listening exam, covering each area of study.

Term 1 Introductory topics covering basic skills for listening, composition and performance

- Melody: What is a motif?
- Rhythm: Irregular time
- Structures: Rondo and reoccurring structures
- Accompaniment styles: Using chords in songs
- Comparing styles, tonality and features (including area of study 1: Music in Wales)
- Musical analysis: theory of music and dictation

Assessment:

- Ensemble performance for the Christmas concert
- Creating initial ideas for composition 1
- Listening exam preparation: focus on the dictation, styles and tonality question

Term 2 Project based study of musical elements and devices related to area of study 4 'Musical forms and devices' Western classical tradition forms

- Fugue, Binary, ternary, strophic, through-composed, cyclic, Ritornello, Rondo,

Theme and Variations, Development

Western classical devices

- Imitation, Sequence, Canon, Ostinato, Pedal, Cadenza

Popular music form (Jazz, Rock, Blues)

- ABA, Middle eight, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Link, Intro, Outro

Popular music devices

- Imitation, sequence, Riff, Improvised break, Call and Response

Assessment

- Preparation for the listening exam: Focus on Jazz, period/ensembles and the comparison question.
- Development of initial ideas for composition 1

Term 3 Project based study of musical elements and devices related to 'Music evolution'

- Impressionism
- Serialism
- Minimalism
- Experimental music
- Aleatoric music
- Classical and Jazz/rock Fusion

Assessment

- Year 10 listening exam: focus on music evolution questions
- Completion and refinement of composition 1
- Solo performance exam at the art exhibition: Mock exam

Term 4 Project based study of musical elements and devices related to 'Music for Stage and Screen'

- Opera
- Musicals
- Ballet
- Film and television drama

Assessment

- Listening Mock exam: focus on the essay question
- Composition 2 based on 'Music for Stage and Screen'

Term 5 Assessment

- Final refinement of composition and write ups
- Final Performance exam

Term 6

- Preparation for the terminal listening exam