

Controlled External Assessment Brief Vocational Scenario

The true origins of music are unknown and predate any historical records. Each country and culture has its own unique connection with music and it emerges in a variety of exciting and interesting ways.

Although it is likely that music arose as a form of communication (and it still used in that way today) it has become much more of an emotional outlet where the musicians of today speak to their listeners by conveying emotion through their songs.

It is this theme that will be explored in an upcoming festival that celebrates 'Emotion in Music'. There is no right or wrong emotion to convey when creating music but it is important to give thought to exactly what you want your audience members to feel when they hear it.

The festival team have approached you and asked for you to create an original composition for their event that will be played to everyone at the festival.

The festival team are excited to uncover talented music producers and composers to help us bring the festival to life.

To do this we would like you to submit a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) project of your work.

To make sure your composition has the very best chance of being played at the festival you should make sure to pay attention to the following guidance:

- The DAW project must be between 3 – 5 minutes in duration
- The DAW project should be created with emotion in mind (what emotions do you want people to feel when they listen to your track?)
- The DAW project must suitably demonstrate your skills

For the DAW project to be successful it must display various characteristics and skills that are detailed in the full brief on the following pages. Keep in mind the duration of the recording and the ultimate goal of this leading to professional work within the industry.

Start with the planning. You need to write no more than 1200 words

Controlled External Assessment Time

Task 1 – Planning

What to do?

The first task is all about how you will plan your DAW project. You need to record your ideas in an appropriate format. This could be evidenced through written work, video presentation, blog or vlog.

How long to spend on it?

It is recommended that you spend around 6 hours on Task 1.
In this time, you need to produce:

1.1 Project plan

You need to create a rigorous plan for your DAW project.
To do this you must cover the following areas:

A statement of personal aims

You must think about your contribution to the project. Your statement should describe your personal aims in relation to the DAW project. You should include at least one aim for each of the following:

- The DAW techniques you want to use
- The sound/style you want to achieve through your track
- The emotion you want to evoke through your track (how is it going to fit with the brief)

When writing your statement consider the following questions:

- What do I want to achieve with my contribution?
- What skills and/or knowledge do I have that I can use?
- How will I know if I've achieved my aim?

A Project timeline

You must produce a project timeline that will map out the DAW project you are undertaking. This can be presented as a flow chart, Gantt chart, or any other way that adequately displays the time taken on different aspects of the brief.

Resources

You will need to consider the resources that will be used during this project. List and describe the resources that you will need to complete your work. This might include the DAW, Keyboard, Headphones, Speakers, Hardware, or software (plug ins not standard to the DAW).

N.B. Your plan may not end up being followed exactly when you carry out your project but you need to show that you can effectively plan for it.