

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 is 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 writing or performing music but it is important to give thought to exactly what you want your audience members to feel when they see you perform.

The festival organisers have contacted you and provided you with the following information to help you prepare for your performance:

We would be delighted if you could prepare a performance for our upcoming festival celebrating 'Emotion in Music'. We would ask that you follow these guidelines whilst making your preparations for the performance:

- The musical set is between 10 – 15 minutes in length
- The musical set can be original material, covers, or a mixture of both
- Your song choices must fit with the festival theme of 'Emotion in Music'

The festival team are excited to see your set and look forward to meeting you at the festival.

Controlled External Assessment Time

Task 1 – Planning

What to do? The first task is all about how you will plan your contribution to the event. Go through each part of the brief and produce work that covers all of elements listed within it. Remember that you must achieve a Pass in all criteria, so make sure you don't leave any out.

How long to spend on it?

It is recommended that you spend around 5 hours on Task 1.

In this time, you need to produce:

1.1 Statement of personal aims

You must think about how you want to contribute to the festival.

Your statement should comprehensively describe your personal aims for your live performance including a minimum of:

- One aim for your instrumental or vocal performance
- One aim linked to the brief (what emotion(s) do you want to evoke through your performance)
- One aim for how the performance will look (think about your stage image)

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?

1.2 A production plan of your contribution to the performance

You must produce a comprehensive production plan to meet the needs of the brief. The production plan should be related to your statement of personal aims and should include details about:

- The requirements of the brief and how you will meet it with your performance.

Does it meet the brief's theme (Emotion in Music)? How does it meet the theme?

- What you intend to do within the performance and how you will do it. You might think about the following:
 - Set list with timings
 - Stage plan
 - Visual resources (backdrop, projection, etc.)
 - Lighting
 - Who you need to involve (Are there other band members? What will they be doing?)
 - What resources you will need (e.g. staging and equipment needs)

1.3 Rehearsal Plan

You must produce a comprehensive rehearsal plan that will set out how you intend to prepare for your live performance. You may want to consider the following:

- Where will the rehearsals take place?
- When will the rehearsals take place?
- Who will be involved?
- What do you intend to work on in the rehearsals?

Try to ensure a sensible progression in your rehearsal plan and give an end point where the rehearsals will be completed and you will be ready to perform.

As part of your plan you must create a rehearsal template that will be used to track your rehearsals. Your rehearsal template should include space to record all of the following:

- Date of rehearsal
- Time of rehearsal
- People in attendance
- What was the plan for the rehearsal (what did you intend to work on)?
- What happened in the rehearsal (what did you actually work on)?
- Was the rehearsal effective?
- Details of any changes/improvements made to the set during the rehearsal

1.4 Health & Safety

Within your plan you must think about any Health and Safety issues that may arise during a live performance and give comprehensive descriptions of the danger and prevention actions.

For each danger identified you should consider:

- What is the potential for harm?
- What steps can be taken to prevent the danger?