



GCE AS/A LEVEL

2660U20-1

Release date: 1 September 2022

MUSIC – AS unit 2

Composing

Composition Brief for submission in 2023

**AVAILABLE ONLY TO CANDIDATES ENTERING THE WJEC
QUALIFICATION APPROVED BY QUALIFICATIONS WALES AND NOT
AVAILABLE TO CENTRES IN ENGLAND**

INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR CANDIDATES

You are permitted to compose for any appropriate combination of instruments/voices, unless otherwise stipulated in the brief.

The composition must be monitored by your teacher three times during the composition process as part of the authentication process.

You must complete and sign a composition log giving details of the composition process.

The piece should be a minimum of 1 minute in duration.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (IN THE COMPOSITION LOG)

All secondary source materials, such as musical quotes or pre-composed samples, must be clearly acknowledged and any work which is not entirely your own must be identified. Software packages must be listed with an explanation of how they have been used. Any musical influences you may have used must also be acknowledged in the composition log.

Set briefs

You **must** compose a piece of music in response to **one** of the following set briefs.

Briefs 1 and 2 require you to write a short piece, and briefs 3 and 4 require you to write sections of a longer piece.

1. Compose a nocturne for piano or small instrumental ensemble, intended for performance in a chamber music concert at the local university.
2. Compose a piece for four performers which features modulation and imitation.
3. Compose the opening of a piece of programme music which sets the scene for a stage production of 'The Merthyr Riots'.
4. Compose the first two sections of a larger choral composition for SATB intended for performance in a choral concert to be held in an outdoor music festival in Singleton Park. Select suitable words or write your own.

You are reminded that all four briefs are set in the context of the **Western Classical Tradition** and the response to the selected brief must result in a composition in a **Western Classical style** which illustrates the understanding of the musical language, techniques and conventions of the period (i.e. Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras). You must choose **a suitable style from these periods**. Further guidance on composing in a Western Classical style can be found in Appendix B of the specification.

Composition evidence

Compositions will be submitted online.

You will be required to provide the following evidence when you submit your composition for assessment:

1. An audio recording of the composition in mp3 format.
2. A score **or** lead sheet accompanied by a detailed written description of the music and an outline of the melody and chords used.
3. A signed composition log outlining the development process and acknowledgements. This can be typed with a digital signature, or scanned. Please use the template available on the WJEC website.