

Revision Olympics



A Level Music

Revision Guide
December 2024–May 2025

Exam Specification and General Support

Exam specification and exam board	AQA A Level Music
Past paper questions	AQA website
Useful revision websites	
Exam info	<p>Component 1: Appraising music This component is 40% of A-level marks (120 marks).</p> <p>Component 2: Performance This component is 35% of A-level marks (50 marks). A minimum of ten minutes of performance in total is required</p> <p>Component 3: Composition This component is worth 25% of A-level marks (50 marks). A minimum of four and a half minutes of music in total is required.</p>



Y13 Music

Week	Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3
<p>1 2.12.24</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Kurt Weill – The Threepenny Opera</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following melodic words is secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contour – ascending, descending, stepwise, conjunct, disjunct, scalar, triadic and arpeggio • intervals, including compound intervals • phrase length – equal, unequal and balanced • ornaments – trill, mordent, turn, acciaccatura and appoggiatura • passing notes – accented, unaccented and chromatic • auxiliary notes – upper, lower and chromatic • note of anticipation • echappée note • portamento • melodic devices – sequence, motif, fragmentation, repetition, intervallic augmentation and diminution.
<p>2 9.12.24</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Kurt Weill - The Rise and fall of the city of Mahagoney</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following harmonic words is secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consonant and dissonant • diatonic – primary and secondary triads, dominant 7th and all inversions • chromatic – diminished 7th, secondary dominant 7th, substitution chords (borrowing from opposite mode), chord of the Neapolitan, Neapolitan 6th and augmented 6th chords (Italian, German, French) • cadences – perfect, imperfect, interrupted, plagal, half close, phrygian and tierce de Picardie • circle of 5ths progression, harmonic sequence • pedal notes – tonic, dominant, inverted and inner • suspensions (4–3, 7–6, 9–8 and bass), preparation and resolution • cadential 6/4.

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<p>3 16.12.24</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Richard Rodgers - Carousel</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following tonal words is secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • major, minor, and their key signatures • modulation to dominant, subdominant, and their relatives, also to tonic minor, relative minor and tertiary keys • enharmonic keys • modality.
<p>4 6.01.25</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Richard Rodgers – Oklahoma!</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following structural words is secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • binary, rounded binary and ternary • ritornello and episode • sonata form • through-composed • introduction and coda • recitative and aria • foursquare • antecedent and consequent phrases • ostinato.
<p>5 13.01.25</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Stephen Sondheim – Sweeney Todd</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following timbral (sonority) words is secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standard orchestral and vocal types • basso continuo • pizzicato, arco, col legno, con sordino, sul ponticello, sul tasto and double stopping • sotto voce, vibrato • una corda, pedalling.

Y13 Music

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<p>6 20.01.25</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Stephen Sondheim - Into the woods</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following textural words is secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solo, monophonic, unison, octaves, parallel 3rds • melody and accompaniment, homophonic, chordal • polyphonic, contrapuntal, imitative, fugal • antiphonal • trio sonata texture • polarised • counter melody, descant • canon.
<p>7 27.01.25</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Claude-Michel Schönberg – Les Miserables</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following metric and rhythmic words are secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • simple and compound time • common Italian tempo terms including ritenuto, rallentando and accelerando • rubato, pause • syncopation, hemiola, cross-rhythm, motor-rhythm.
<p>8 3.02.25</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Claude-Michel Schönberg – Miss Saigon</p>	<p>Ensure your understanding of the following dynamic and articulatory words are secure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • common Italian dynamic terms including sfz and fp • accent, tenuto, staccato, marcato, legato.
<p>9 10.02.25</p>	<p>Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)</p>	<p>Using class notes and PowerPoints from year 12 – revise the main elements of the studied pieces from Jason Robert Brown – The last 5 years</p>	<p>Using the youtube playlist as a starting point, chart the history and developments of jazz music. Creating revision resources as you require.</p>

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Week	Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3
10 24.02.25	Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)	Using the files in teams – please attempt Test1 Q1, 2, 3 and 4. The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Purcell - Sonata for trumpet and strings in D major Z.850 (complete)
11 24.02.25	Mock Exam Week		
12 3.03.25	Mock Exam Week		
13 17.03.25	Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)	Using the files in teams – please attempt Test1 Q13,14,15 and 16. The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Vivaldi - Flute concerto in D II Gardellino op.10 no.3 RV428 (complete)
14 24.03.25	Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)	Using the files in teams – please attempt Test1 Q17, 18, 19 and 20 The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Bach - Violin concerto in A minor BWV1041 (complete)
15 31.03.25	Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)	Using the files in teams – please attempt Test2 Q1, 2 and 3 The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Chopin - Ballade no.2 in F major op. 38
16 21.04.25	Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)	Using the files in teams – please attempt Test2 Q10, 11 and 12 The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Chopin - Nocturne in E minor op.72 no.1
17 28.04.25	Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)	Using the files in teams – please attempt Test2 Q13, 14 and 15 The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Brahms - Intermezzo in A major op.118.no. 2



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18 5.05.25	Utilise the department to develop and complete C2 and C3 (60% of your total grade)	Using the files in teams – please attempt additional jazz questions Qa, b, d and d The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Brahms - Ballade in G minor op.118 no. 3
19 12.05.25	CW deadline		
20 19.05.25	Using the files in teams – please attempt additional Section B - Question 25 The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using the files in teams – please attempt additional theatre Qa, b, d and d The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Grieg - Norwegian march op.54 no. 2
21 2.06.25	Using the files in teams – please attempt additional Section B - Question 24 The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using the files in teams – please attempt additional dictation questions a, b, and c The Mark Scheme is also there for self marking.	Using class notes and PowerPoints from Hardenhuish lessons, revise the Grieg - Notturmo op.54 no. 4
21 9.06.25	EXAM WEEK		