

2005 Music

Intermediate 2 – Sound Engineering & Production

Finalised Marking Instructions

These Marking Instructions have been prepared by Examination Teams for use by SQA Appointed Markers when marking External Course Assessments.

SECTION 1

Marks

In this section the questions are related to specific concepts that feature in excerpts of recorded music.

QUESTION 1

- (a) Listen to this excerpt of music. Which process has been used on the whole track?

Tick **one** box.

- Mono
- Hiss
- Fade out
- Fade in

1

- (b) Listen to this excerpt of music. Which two concepts are present on the guitar?

Tick **two** boxes.

- Fade out
- Popping
- Feedback
- Sibilance
- Distortion

2

- (c) Listen to this excerpt of music. Which term best describes the sound of the voice on this recording?

Tick **one** box.

- Sibilance
- Wet sound
- Feedback
- Dry sound

1

(4)

QUESTION 2

Marks

- (a) Listen to this excerpt and tick **one** box to indicate which term describes the process you are hearing.

Now tick **one** box.

- Distortion
- Panning
- Fade out
- Fade in

1

- (b) This question is concerned with comparing different mixes of the same song.

Listen to two mixes of the same piece. In the second mix **two** things have changed. You must decide which two. You will hear both versions twice.

Here is the first version for the first time.

Here is the second version for the first time.

Here is the first version for the second time.

Here is the second version for the second time.

Now tick **two** boxes.

- The bass has been removed.
- The reverberation levels have been increased.
- The track has been faded in.
- The brass section has been panned to one side.
- The balance has been altered.

2

(3)

QUESTION 3

This question is concerned with a production fault on the stereo master of a recording. Listen to the excerpt and tick **one** box in **Column A** to describe the fault and **one** box in **Column B** to identify a possible solution.

Now tick **one** box in each column.

Column A

- Signal is distorted
- Too much treble
- One channel is missing
- Signal too low

Column B

- Check leads to and from recorders
- Reduce high equalisation
- Increase auxiliary send level
- Decrease the reverberation

(2)

QUESTION 4

Marks

This question is concerned with comparing different mixes of the same song.

You now have thirty seconds to read over the question.

Listen to two mixes of the same piece. In the second mix the balance between drums, bass and electric guitar has changed. During each excerpt these instruments will be isolated from the rest of the mix for part of the excerpt in order to allow you to compare them.

You should place one tick opposite each statement to indicate which excerpt has the better balance.

You will hear both versions twice.

Here is the first version for the first time.

Here is the second version for the first time.

Here is the first version for the second time.

Here is the second version for the second time.

Now tick **one** box opposite each statement.

Bass in relation to drums First excerpt Second excerpt

Electric guitar in relation to drums First excerpt Second excerpt

(2)

QUESTION 5

(a) Listen to the following two excerpts and tick the correct statement.

You have twenty seconds to read over the question.

Here is the first excerpt. Here is the second excerpt.

Now tick **one** box.

The first excerpt was recorded in stereo and the second in mono.

The first excerpt was recorded in mono and the second in stereo.

Both excerpts were recorded in stereo.

Both excerpts were recorded in mono.

1

QUESTION 5 (continued)

Marks

- (b) Listen to two mixes of the same piece. You must decide what is missing from the second mix.

Here is the first version. Here is the second version.

Now tick **one** box.

- Drums
- Keyboards
- Guitar
- Bass Guitar

1
(2)

Total marks Section 1: (13)

[END OF SECTION 1]

SECTION 2

Marks

In this section the questions are related to the principles and practices of sound engineering and production. There are **no** excerpts of recorded music. Read the questions carefully before answering them.

QUESTION 6

(a) Which of the following can you **not** do to an audio signal on a mixing desk?

Tick **one** box.

- Pan it left.
- Reduce its volume level.
- Alter the level of reflections in it.
- Apply equalisation.

1

(b) What is the purpose of an audio buss on a mixing desk?

Tick **one** box.

- To remove tape hiss.
- To allow you to fade in.
- To route signals.
- To prevent popping.

1
(2)

QUESTION 7

Which of the following concepts refers to the process of adding tracks to those that have already been recorded?

Tick **one** box.

- Talkback
- Overdubbing
- Distortion
- Direct injection

(1)

QUESTION 8*Marks*

While making a recording the signal is very loud and breaking up.

Tick **one** box in **Column A** to identify the problem and **one** box in **Column B** to identify its solution.

Column A

- Sibilance
- Distortion
- Tape hiss
- Foldback

Column B

- Use reverberation
- Use noise reduction
- Use a windshield (popshield)
- Reduce recording levels.

(2)**QUESTION 9**

A microphone has a cardioid pickup pattern. Which of the following **best** describes what this means?

Tick **one** box.

- It picks up sound equally from all directions.
- It picks up sound equally from the front and rear.
- It picks up sound reflecting from a surface.
- It picks up sound mainly from the front.

(1)**QUESTION 10**

Which of the following can **not** be used to control the level of a track?

Tick **one** box.

- Trim
- Mute
- Meter
- Gain

(1)**Total marks Section 2: (7)**

[END OF SECTION 2]

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]