



Music: Composing Skills (Higher) Unit

SCQF: level 6 (6 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: H23V 76

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to allow learners to experiment with using a range of complex compositional methods and music concepts in creative ways. Learners will analyse how music is created by musicians and the things which influence their work. They will use their understanding of music and the creative process, to inspire and influence their own creative choices and decisions.

On completion of the Unit, learners will be able to develop and create their own original music and analyse how other musicians create their music.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Create original music

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Higher Music Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support*.

The *Course Assessment Specification* for the Higher Music Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the Higher Music Course.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 5 Music Course or relevant component Units

Equality and inclusion

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information, please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

1 Create original music by:

- 1.1 Analysing how a range of compositional methods and music concepts are used by other composers and the influences on their music
- 1.2 Experimenting and using music concepts and compositional methods in creative ways to develop refine and create original music
- 1.3 Developing musical ideas which make musical sense and realise their creative intentions
- 1.4 Critically reflecting on their music and their creative choices and decisions

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

In this Unit, Evidence Requirements are as follows.

Evidence will be a combination of written or oral and/or recorded and practical evidence.

In this Unit learners will provide evidence of:

- ◆ analysing how compositional methods and music concepts are creatively used by others
- ◆ creative development and refined use of music concepts and compositional methods
- ◆ critically reflecting on their creative decision making

Exemplification of assessment is provided in *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

3 Health and wellbeing

3.1 Personal learning

5 Thinking skills

5.3 Applying

5.4 Analysing and evaluating

5.5 Creating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level of the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Administrative information

Published: April 2014 (version 1.1)

Superclass: LF

History of changes to National Unit Specification

| Version | Description of change | Authorised by | Date |
|---------|---|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1.1 | Page 1 — Unit outline section: 'develop and' added to paragraph two. Page 3 — Assessment Standard 1.2: 'complex' removed. Page 3 — Evidence Requirements for the Unit section: bullet point three reworded from 'critical reflecting' to 'critically reflecting'. | Qualifications Development Manager | April 2014 |
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Note: readers are advised to check SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the Unit Specification.

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