

GCSE Music FAQs

I have a subject specific query – how can I contact your Senior Examining Team?

Please email: gcsemusic@edexcelexperts.co.uk

I would like to organise a customised training event for my centre.

Who should I contact?

Please email: customisedevents@edexcel.com

Please also visit our new Training from Edexcel website to find out more about support that we offer:

<http://www.edexcel.com/resources/Training/customised-training/Pages/default.aspx>

GCSE Music 2012 important information

The **GCSE 2012 linear** Music specification will be available shortly, for first teaching in September 2012. The main changes are:

- There will be no content change to the specification
- Linear assessment structure: all units are taken at the end of the course
- Controlled assessment conducted at any time but submitted at the end of the course

Please visit the website below to find out more:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse-2012/gcse-reforms/Pages/default.aspx>

FAQs 5MU01 and 5MU02

Where can I find the MUS Submission forms for the GCSE coursework units?

The forms can be downloaded from the GCSE Music website:

5MU01 Performing:

<http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/CPS/GCSE%20from%202009/MUS-100-5MU01.pdf>

5MU02 Composing:

<http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/CPS/GCSE%20from%202009/MUS-100-5MU02.pdf>

The above forms will not be sent to centres. Forms should be copied onto A3 paper and folded with the scores and commentaries placed inside.

When will OPTEMS be sent to centres?

OPTEMS will arrive in centres in April. The top copy should be returned to Edexcel to report marks awarded.

Can candidates use their own compositions for their 5MU01 solo performance?

Yes, candidates can choose to perform their own compositions for this task.

How can a 'solo performance' be defined?

A solo performance is a piece in which the candidate's part is not doubled and plays a significant or leading role.

How can an 'ensemble performance' be defined?

Traditional Ensemble can be defined as:

- **Two** or more people performing independent parts together (Specification p12)
- Where a soloist is accompanied by one other instrument such as a piano or guitar, the accompanying candidate may submit this performance as an ensemble **but the soloist may not**
- **Three** players performing independent parts together will always constitute a valid ensemble for any of the performers

5MU01 - can an external instrumental teacher sign the authentication form for my candidate's work?

No, it is not allowed for an external instrumental teacher to sign the form. Only teachers employed directly by the centre are permitted to sign authentication forms. Please refer to the Controlled Assessment Teacher Support Book (page 14) for more details:

<http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/CPS/GCSE%20from%202009/GCSE%20Music%20Controlled%20Assessment%20Teacher%20Support%20Book.pdf>

Can 5MU01 Performances be recorded outside the centre?

Performances should be recorded within the centre if possible. If logistics dictate that a performance must take place outside of the centre itself (for example, if the student is an organist who needs to perform at a certain venue in order to access their preferred instrument), then the Teacher Examiner or another member of the centre's music department **must** be present at the performance.

Can candidates do the task using their own computers?

Yes, as long as any work done to any file that will eventually form part of the final artefact sent to the moderator is saved onto portable media and retained securely by the centre. It is not permitted for any files to be saved onto the computer's hard drive and taken out of the centre.

Can candidates produce two 5MU02 compositions from the same Area of Study?

No, Composition 2 must be from a different Area of Study than that used for Composition 1. Please note that candidates will be penalised if the two compositions are from the same Area of Study. It is possible for candidates to compose two similar pieces that link to two different Areas of Study eg one song in a popular music style (AoS 3) and another song in rondo form (AoS 1).

I would like to find out more about Coursework Regression procedure. Where can I find this information?

Please refer to the GCSE Music website where the above procedure is explained in more detail:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/music/pages/viewNotice.aspx?notice=2517>

Please note that this is an agreed procedure, which is followed by all awarding bodies and underpinned by the **Ofqual Code of Practice**.

Our final marks are different from the marks indicated on the E6 form received from the moderators during the summer – is there an error?

Please note that marks on Form E6 are the **centre's** marks. They are **not** the Moderator's marks, **nor** the final marks.

Please refer to the GCSE Music website where the Coursework Regression Procedure is explained in more detail:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gcse/gcse09/music/pages/viewNotice.aspx?notice=2517>

Where can I find the grade boundaries for GCSE Music?

Please download the grade boundaries using the following link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/I%20want%20to%20%20Tasks/1106%20GCSE%20Units%20Grade%20Boundaries.pdf>

FAQS 5MU03

Where can I order the 5MU03 exam CD from June 2011?

The past CDs, past papers and Sample Assessment Materials can be ordered from Publications, tel: 01623 467 467, email: publication.orders@edexcel.com

Publication code for June 2011 CD - UG028484. The CD is available for loan only, free of charge. The full Publications catalogue can be downloaded from the website below:

<http://www.edexcel.com/resources/publications/Pages/home.aspx>

I would like to order the new GCSE Music Practice Papers. Who should I contact?

The new GCSE Music Practice Papers can be ordered using the link below:

<http://www.pearsonschoolsandfecolleges.co.uk/Secondary/Music/14-16/EdexcelGCSEMusic/ISBN/TeacherResources/EdexcelGCSEMusicListeningTestspackof8ABC.aspx>

If you have any queries about your order, please email: enquiries@pearson.com

How can I obtain 5MU03 past papers?

Past question papers will be posted on the website in August each year. The June 2011 question paper is currently available on the GCSE Music website for secure download.

Past papers can also be ordered from Publications.

What is the structure of the 5MU03 written exam?

The total mark for this unit is 80 marks.

The exam lasts 1 hour and 30 minutes and is divided into two sections.

- Section A (68 marks): candidates answer eight questions identifying musical features from the extracts they listen to. The listening section lasts approximately 65 minutes.
- Section B (12 marks): students answer one set work question in depth (the CD is not used for this section).

Where can I order the GCSE Music Anthology?

The GCSE Music Anthology can be ordered using the link below:

<http://www.pearsonschoolsandfecolleges.co.uk/Secondary/Music/14-16/EdexcelGCSEMusic/ISBN/StudentResources/EdexcelGCSEMusicAnthology.aspx>

If you have any queries about your order, please email: enquiries@pearson.com

How many exam CDs will be sent to each centre?

Each centre will receive one CD and one spare CD. If an error is found during the examination, please use the spare CD provided.

How can I order additional 5MU03 CDs for special consideration candidates?

Centres that require additional CDs (eg for candidates who will sit an exam in a separate room) should send requests to:

Distribution Department at Edexcel

190 High Holborn

London

WC1V 7BH

Or by fax on: 0207 190 5655

The request must be sent on letter headed paper and it must be signed by the head of the centre or the exams officer.

Can CDs be opened by the teacher before the examination?

The CDs must NOT be opened earlier than 1 hour before the examination. A spare CD will be sent to each centre. CDs must be kept in secure conditions until the day of the examination.

Will the 5MU03 music files be available on the GCSE music website for download?

Due to copyright reasons music files will **not** be posted on the website.

Centres can order past CDs from Publications – publication.orders@edexcel.com

Publication code for June 2011 CD - UG028484. The CD is available for loan only, free of charge.

If you have any queries about the teaching of the GCSE Music, such as the content of the Specification, the Administrative Support Guide and how to interpret it, please email: gcsemusic@edexcelexperts.co.uk

Important links

Controlled Assessment Teacher Support Book

<http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/CPS/GCSE%20from%202009/GCSE%20Music%20Controlled%20Assessment%20Teacher%20Support%20Book.pdf>

Controlled Assessment Checklist Unit 1

<http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/GCSE%20New%20GCSE/Controlled-Assessment-Checklist-Unit-1-Performance.doc>

Controlled Assessment Checklist Unit 2

<http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/GCSE%20New%20GCSE/Controlled-Assessment-Checklist-Unit-2-Composition.doc>