

A Level Music – Summer Preparation Work

Component 1 - Performing

It is important that you keep playing your instrument(s) over the summer holiday. If you don't play them regularly then you will get rusty and it will take quite a while to get back to scratch.

Over the summer please ***prepare a piece*** to perform to me and the class in September (probably in the second week of term). It should be a minimum of Grade 6 standard. (See me, or e mail me, cco@suttcold.bham.sch.uk if this is a problem).

Component 2 – Compositing (and Music Theory / Harmony)

There is quite a lot of music theory to cover in preparation for both Component 2 (Composing) and Component 3 (Written exam - Appraising). I need to be certain that you all are familiar with the following by September:

- Reading treble and bass clef fluently
- Recognising major and minor key signatures up to four sharps and flats
- Recognising intervals up to an octave and describe them in terms of major 3rd, perfect 5th etc.

If you are not confident with any of these please could you do a bit of extra preparation work over the summer. Suggestions; use the following website <http://www.musictheory.net/lessons> and the following sections in it:

- The Staff, Clefs and Ledger Lines
- Key Signatures, and Key Signature Calculation
- The section on intervals is very helpful

It is a very useful website, just be aware that they use some American terminology on it, e.g. *half step* rather than *semitone*, etc Additionally you might find it useful to get a Grade 5 theory and work through it.

There will be a formal test in September to check your understanding of music theory.

If any of this causes any problems contact me at school, or e mail me (cco@suttcold.bham.sch.uk)

Component 3 – Appraising

Choose ONE composer/Artist from the list below; research and write a blog of no more than 200 words, of this composer/artist & their related set work. (Discuss this with the others in the group to make sure everyone takes a different area)

This is to be shared as a presentation to the rest of the class in the first lesson in September.

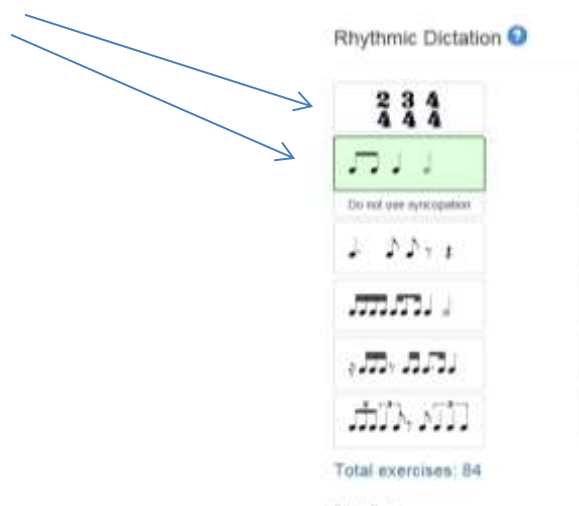
Attach this cover sheet of the Area of Study & Set works to your blog.

Instrumental Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vivaldi, Concerto in D minor, Op. 3 No. 11• Clara Wieck-Schumann, Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 17: movement 1• Berlioz, Symphonie Fantastique
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Please make sure you have practised music dictation skills to help you notate a melody if it is played to you. The best way to do this is to use the exercises on www.teoria.com : (See instructions below):

Rhythmic Dictation

1. Log onto <http://www.teoria.com>
2. Note – you can only access this through **Google Chrome** or **Safari**. If you are using the site in school click on the Windows Start Icon, then ‘All Programs’, then select Google Chrome.
3. Click on ear training / rhythmic dictation
4. Select



5. Click on the audio symbol and then have ago at working out the rhythm. Click on the correct note values.
6. Once you have finished click on check answer

Melody Dictation Practice

1. Click on ear training / scales and melodies / melodic dictation
2. You can then select the level of difficulty you want to use. GCSE Music does not require anything particularly complicated, I would stick to 'Notes 1 to 3' or 'Notes 1 to 5' for GCSE Music to start with at least. Click on OK
3. You can listen to the piece as many times as you like, check answer at the end.

Have a nice summer!

Mr Collet and Mrs Winch