



# NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Music Technology (603/7008/7)

Examined Assessment

Paper number: **Sample Assessment**

Date: **Sample 2021**

9.30am – 11.00am

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

## Learner instructions

- Use black or blue ink.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Read each question carefully.
- You **must** write your responses in the spaces provided.
- You may do rough work in this answer book. Cross through any work you do not wish to be marked.
- All of the work you submit **must** be your own.

## Resources

- Headphones.
- Individual workstation with listening capabilities.
- Audio files:
  - Audio File Section A
  - Audio File Section B
  - Audio File Section C
  - Audio File Section D.

## Learner information

- The marks available for each question are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- It is recommended that you only listen to each of the supplied audio tracks a maximum of 3 times to help you manage your time.
- You may use a calculator.

Please complete the details below clearly and in BLOCK CAPITALS.

Learner name \_\_\_\_\_

Centre name \_\_\_\_\_

Learner number  Centre number

To be completed by the Examiner			
Question	Mark	Question	Mark
1		15	
2		16	
3		17	
4		18	
5		19	
6		20	
7		21	
8		22	
9		23	
10		24	
11		25	
12		26	
13		27	
14			
			TOTAL MARK

**Do not turn over until the invigilator tells you to do so.**

**Section A**

This section has a possible 20 marks.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this section.

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

- 1** Which **one** of the following types of connection would be used to connect a MIDI controller keyboard to a computer? [1 mark]

- A** Quarter inch jack
- B** RCA phono
- C** USB
- D** XLR

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

- 2** Which **one** of the following is the correct track type to use for note input? [1 mark]

- A** Automation track
- B** Mono audio track
- C** Software instrument track
- D** Stereo audio track

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

- 3** Which **one** of the following risks is associated with exposure to noise as a hazard? [1 mark]

- A** Back pain
- B** Electrocutation
- C** Eye strain
- D** Hearing loss

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

4 Name a dynamic processor which silences audio below a set threshold. **[1 mark]**

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5 Explain **one** advantage of using an MP3 file format. **[2 marks]**

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6 Listen to **audio file section A**.

The drums in **audio file section A** are a combination of a recorded acoustic drum kit and sampled drum sounds.

Assess **one** way the technique of sampling drum sounds has affected the musical outcome.

**[2 marks]**

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7

Explain how **three** technological developments in the 1960s contributed to the development of rock music.

[6 marks]

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8 Listen to **audio file section A**.

Overdubbing has been used in the production of the recording.

Explain **three** different ways that this technique can be used to improve the recording of a piece of music.

**[6 marks]**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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## Section B

This section has a possible 20 marks.

We recommend that you spend 20 minutes on this section.

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

- 9 Which **one** of the following scalic interval relationships is used when playing a natural minor scale?

[1 mark]

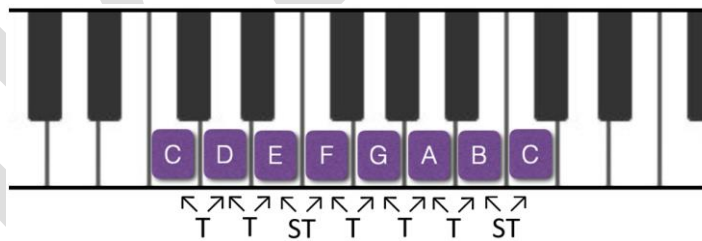
- A T, T, T+S, T, T+S  
 B T, S, T, T, S, T, T  
 C T, S, T, T, S, T+S, S  
 D T+S, T, T, T+S, T

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

- 10 **Figure 1** shows a piano keyboard.

Identify the scale indicated by the notes on the keyboard when played from left to right.

**Figure 1**



[1 mark]

- A C harmonic minor  
 B C major  
 C C minor pentatonic  
 D C major pentatonic

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

11 Which statement best describes a diatonic melody?

[1 mark]

- A Melody that uses notes chromatically
- B Melody that uses different scales throughout
- C Melody that uses every note in a scale
- D Melody that uses only notes from one scale

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

12 State the name of the following structural music form:

ABCBA

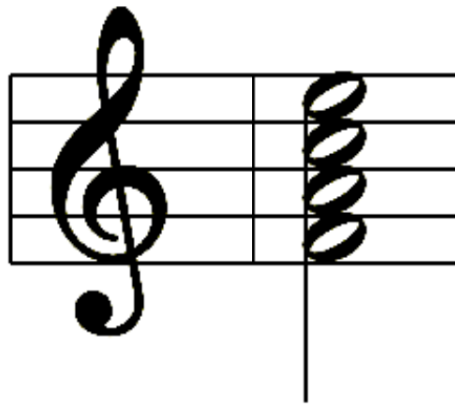
[1 mark]

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13 **Figure 2** shows a chord.

**Figure 2**



Identify the chord.

[2 marks]

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14

You are planning to record an acoustic guitar in a studio. You will use an audio interface, computer, computer peripherals, DAW software and speakers.

Identify **one** additional item of music technology equipment that you will need to make the recording and describe why it is required.

[2 marks]

**Item:**

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**Description:**

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Explain how underscore can be used in the **three** different forms of media shown below.

[6 marks]

**TV adverts:**

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**Video games:**

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**Installations:**

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**16**

Listen to **audio file section B**.

**audio file section B** is a piece of music which has been composed for a scene in a movie.

Assess how one change in each of the following are used in the piece:

- melody
- rhythm
- instrumentation.

**[6 marks]**

**Melody:**

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**Rhythm:**

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**Instrumentation:**

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## Section C

This section has a possible 19 marks.

We recommend that you spend 20 minutes on this section.

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

- 17** A band called The Blistering Beats are about to sign a recording contract as musical artists.

Which **one** of the following activities is a musical artist responsible for?

[1 mark]

- A** Creation and development of material
- B** Finding opportunities for their client
- C** Setting up recording hardware and software
- D** Sourcing talent for record labels

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

- 18** The Blistering Beats are considering selling merchandise.

Which of the following is **not** a form of merchandise?

[1 mark]

- A** Hooded tops
- B** Posters
- C** T-shirts
- D** Website

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

**19** Which **one** of the following consumer audio formats features **two** playing sides, requiring the listener to turn the media over to access music from the other side? **[1 mark]**

- A** Cassette
- B** CD
- C** Minidisc
- D** MP3

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

**20** The Blistering Beats are creating a backup of their recording session. They have copied their files to an SSD.

What does SSD stand for?

**[1 mark]**

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**21** Listen to the drums present in **Audio File Section C**.

The drums have been played into a DAW using a MIDI keyboard.

Identify **one** editing tool which could be used to improve the timing of the drum part.

**[1 mark]**

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22 A sampler patch in a part that you have created is distorting.  
Explain **two** ways the sample patch could have been improved. **[2 marks]**

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23 The electric bass guitar was a popular instrument during the 1950s.  
Explain how **one** feature of the electric bass affected performers during the 1950s. **[2 marks]**

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24 The bass guitar player in The Blistering Beats has used different effects during the performance in **audio file section C**.  
Identify **four** different effects used by the bass guitar player. **[4 marks]**

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- 2. 

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- 3. 

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- 4. 

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Explain the function of the following **three** terms when releasing an album.

**[6 marks]**

**Shipping:**

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**Aggregators:**

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**Streaming platforms:**

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