



GCE AS/A LEVEL – NEW

2660U20-1



MUSIC – AS unit 2
Composing

Composition Brief for submission in 2018

Release date: 1 September 2017

**AVAILABLE ONLY TO CANDIDATES ENTERING THE WJEC
QUALIFICATION APPROVED BY QUALIFICATIONS WALES AND NOT
AVAILABLE TO CENTRES IN ENGLAND**

INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR CANDIDATES

You are permitted to compose for any appropriate combination of instruments/voices, unless otherwise stipulated in the brief.

The composition must be monitored by your teacher three times during the composition process as part of the authentication process.

You must complete and sign a composition log giving details of the composition process.

The piece must be a minimum of 1 minute duration.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (IN THE COMPOSITION LOG)

All secondary source materials, such as musical quotes or pre-composed samples, must be clearly acknowledged and any work which is not entirely your own must be identified. Software packages must be listed with an explanation of how they have been used. Any musical influences you may have used must also be acknowledged in the composition log.

Set briefs

You must compose a piece of music in response to **one** of the following set briefs.

Briefs 1 and 2 require you to write a short piece, and briefs 3 and 4 require you to write sections of a longer piece.

- 1. Compose a short instrumental piece intended for performance to be held in Margam Orangery.** It may be written for solo with accompaniment, ensemble, or piano.
- 2. Compose a short vocal duet intended for performance at Christmas or a winter Music Festival.** You may write your own words or choose appropriate words for the piece. You are advised not to choose words from a well-known song as this may lead to a predictable response. The duet may be accompanied or unaccompanied.
- 3. Compose the first two sections of an instrumental piece in rondo form intended to be performed in a sixth form music concert to be held in aid of charity.** (Candidates must compose the opening A and B sections.)
- 4. Compose the first two verses and refrain of an accompanied song, intended for performance as part of a ‘celebration of song’ in the local music college.** You may write your own words or choose appropriate words for the piece. You are advised not to choose words from a well-known song as this may lead to a predictable response.

You are reminded that all four briefs are set in the context of the **Western Classical Tradition** and the response to the selected brief must result in a composition in a Western Classical **style** which illustrates understanding of the musical language, techniques and conventions of the period (i.e. Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras). You must choose a suitable **style from these periods**. Further guidance on composing in a Western Classical style can be found in Appendix B of the specification.

Composition evidence

Compositions will be submitted online.

You will be required to provide the following evidence when you submit your composition for assessment.

- 1.** An audio recording of the composition in MP3 format.
- 2.** A score **or** a detailed written description of the music accompanied by an outline of the melody and chords used, in pdf format or compatible with MS Office.
- 3.** A signed composition log outlining the development process and acknowledgements. This can be typed with a digital signature, or scanned. Please use the template available on the WJEC website.