



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

To be given to candidates on or after 1 September 2023 for assessment in June 2024

AS Level Music

H143/02 Composing

Section 1: Composing briefs



INSTRUCTIONS

- Choose **one** of the briefs. Create a piece of music from the brief you have chosen.
- You must submit your composition as a recording and include a score, an annotated lead sheet **or** a written account of the piece.
- Group compositions are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark is **35**.
- This document has **2** pages.

Choose **one** brief

1 Area of Study 1: Instrumental Music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven

Compose an Allegro movement of a string quartet in the classical style. The piece will be performed by a newly-formed quartet of aspiring young musicians, as part of a concert to take place during the Mu Th (Musik and Theater), Winter 2024 season in Vienna.

2 Area of Study 2: Popular Song: Blues, Swing, Jazz and Big Band

Compose a solo or duet popular song, using the theme of Christmas. You can write your own lyrics or borrow them from an existing song or text. The accompaniment should comprise a minimum of three instrumental parts, all of which should be appropriate to the area of study. The song will be performed at a Winter Solstice event in London during December 2024.

3 Area of Study 3: Developments in Instrumental Jazz, 1910 to the present day

Compose an upbeat dance in any jazz style to be used in a new Agatha Christie drama production. The dance will take place at the beginning of the drama, where all characters will be gathered in a carefree mood. Write for a minimum of six instrumental parts, all of which should be appropriate to this area of study.

4 Area of Study 4: Religious Music of the Baroque Period

Compose an Aria for any voice type using an Easter theme. The words can be borrowed from an existing text or you can write your own. Instrumental accompaniment should use either forces appropriate to the baroque era, and have a minimum of four parts, or you can write for just piano or organ accompaniment. The Aria will be performed by music students at an end-of-term concert in April 2024.

5 Area of Study 5: Programme Music, 1820–1910

Compose an orchestral piece which depicts the passing of either a day or a night, within any natural environment of your choice, such as the Alps, the Amazon Jungle, or the Sahara Desert. Use instruments appropriate to the area of study and include a minimum of six instrumental parts (no voices). The piece will be performed by the BBC Concert Orchestra as part of a documentary radio series exploring the natural beauty of the world's most diverse regions.

6 Area of Study 6: Innovations in Music, 1900 to the present day

Compose a piece for the opening ceremony of an international sporting event, to be aired on national television. You can write in any style appropriate to the area of study, but your choice should reflect the chosen sporting event. Write for any instrumental combination, which may include synthesised sounds.

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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