

A Level Music : Summer Work

Welcome to A level Music!

Task 1

There are 13 set works for A level music that you will need to become very familiar with as they will form the basis of your final exam. You must listen to each piece at least twice over the summer. The pieces can be found on Spotify and YouTube:

J.S.Bach: Cantata 'Eine feste Burg ist unser Gott' BWV 80 – Movement 1, 2 and 8

Vaughn Williams: On Wenlock Edge – No. 1, No. 3 and No. 5

C. Shumann: Piano Trio in G minor Op.17 – Movement 1

Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique – Movement 1

Herrman: Psycho – 'Prelude', 'The City', 'Marion', 'The Murder', 'The Toys', 'The Cellar', 'Discovery' and 'Finale'

Elfman: Batman Returns – 'Birth of a Penguin Part 1 and 2', Batman Vs the Circus' and 'The Rise and fall from Grace

The Beatles: Revolver Album – 'Eleanor Rigby', 'Here, there and everywhere', 'I want to tell you', and 'Tomorrow Never knows'

Courtney Pine: Back in the day – 'Lady Day and John Coltrane', 'Inner State of Mind' and 'Love and Affection'

Kate Bush: Hounds of Love – 'Cloudbusting', 'And dream of sheep' and 'Under Ice'

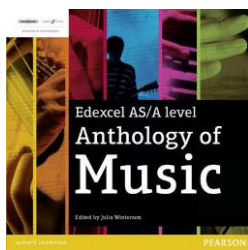
Debussy: Estampes - No. 1 Pagodes and No. 2 La Soiree dans Grenade

Anoushka Shankar: Brathing Under Water Album– 'Burn', 'Breathing under water' and 'Easy'

Saariaho: Petals for Cello Solo and Optional Electronics

Stravinsky: The Rite of Spring – 'Introduction', 'Les augures printaniers' and 'Jeu de rapt'

We shall be analysing each set works, so you may wish to purchase the Anthology book – 'Edexcel As/A level Anthology of Music' edited by Julia Winterson, and follow the score as you listen to each piece.

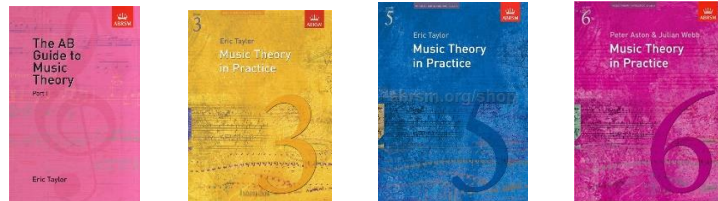


Task 2

Choose two contrasting composers from the above list and do some research into those composers. Create a 'fact file' of your findings. You should include the period of history in which they lived, musical style, musical influences, famous works and any other interesting information.

Task 3

If you have not already taken Grade 5 theory, I strongly recommend you buy some theory books and do some theory over the summer. It would be extremely useful to have the pink AB Guide to Music Theory Part 1 by Eric Taylor; this has all the theory info needed for Grades 1-5. In addition you should start working through the ABRSM Music Theory in Practice workbooks (which start from grade 1). These cost about £5 and can be purchased from ABC Music in Market Harborough and on-line. Anyone considering applying to study music or music technology at university would also be expected to have done Grade 5 theory.



If you have any questions please email Lucy Wass, the Head of Music:

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