

# Music

Exam Board: Pearson

Qualification: BTEC Level 3 National extended certificate in performing arts



A significant part of the Music course is based around performance. This involves developing your own skills, practising and then performing. As part of the performance you will be considering – accuracy, fluency, attention to detail, creation of the atmosphere of a performance, connection with the audience, use of equipment, etc.

As such, we would like you to:

- 1) Watch a concert or live music performance on youtube/DVD/stream online and make detailed notes about it on 2 sides of A4, in bullet point form. These notes should tell us the venue, the names of the musicians or band, a drawing of the stage layout (note whether it changed depending upon the song or the musicians that were taking leading roles), key moments in the concert (explaining why), the genre, the style, the use of lighting, the use of any special effects (pedals etc.)
- 2) Write a review of up to 1000 words, answering the following question:  
“Explain how one or more musician (s) used effective instrumental or vocal techniques in their performance, in one live production that you have seen, and assess their success in doing so at particular moments in that performance”.

Consider the following when writing your reviews:

## 1) Accuracy of Performance

Confidence, good physical co-ordination, fluency, accuracy (timing, tone, intonation, dynamics and tempo) and rhythmic control.

## 2) The way the meaning of the music is conveyed:

Confidence, authority, musicality, dynamics, expression, phrasing, detail and control of timing and tempo

## 3) The way musicians worked together (if appropriate):

Communicating with other players, musical connectivity and ‘tightness’, eye contact, sensitivity to sensible dynamics, tempo and rhythmic control, tone production and volume control.

## 4) The arrangement of the songs/performances (if appropriate): Choose one of your favourite songs and write up....

Which performers had the solo passages at different places? Why? What effect did that create? When the rest of the group came in, what effect was created? Why did they do that? Is this a

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different version to one that you've heard either on an album or in another concert? If so, how and why was this version successful (or not!)?

*Enjoy the experience, and we look forward to seeing you in September and reading your reviews. Please remember, any musical experience you can listen to is valuable... Keep listening to instrumental techniques and the way different parts of a piece work together.... 😊*