SQA Specimen Question Paper

Total marks — 40

Attempt ALL questions

Question 1

This question is about different styles of music.

(a) Tick (✓) one box to describe what you hear. 1

- ☐ Gospel
- ☐ Concerto
- ☐ Musical
- ☐ Minimalist

(b) Listen to that excerpt again and write one concept to describe the texture. 1

_____

(c) Listen to a different piece of music and tick (✓) one box to describe what you hear. 1

- ☐ Symphony
- ☐ Concerto
- ☐ Musical
- ☐ Minimalist

(d) Listen to more music from the same piece and name the ornament featured by the solo instrument. 1

_____

(e) Listen to a new piece of music and tick (✓) one box to describe what you hear. 1

- ☐ Symphony
- ☐ Concerto
- ☐ Baroque
- ☐ Minimalism

(f) Listen to that excerpt again and write the Italian term to describe the string playing technique. 1

_____

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Question 2

In this question you will hear an excerpt of instrumental music.

A guide to the music has been laid out on the next page. You will see that further information is required and you should insert this in each of the four areas.

There will now be a pause of one minute to allow you to read through the question.

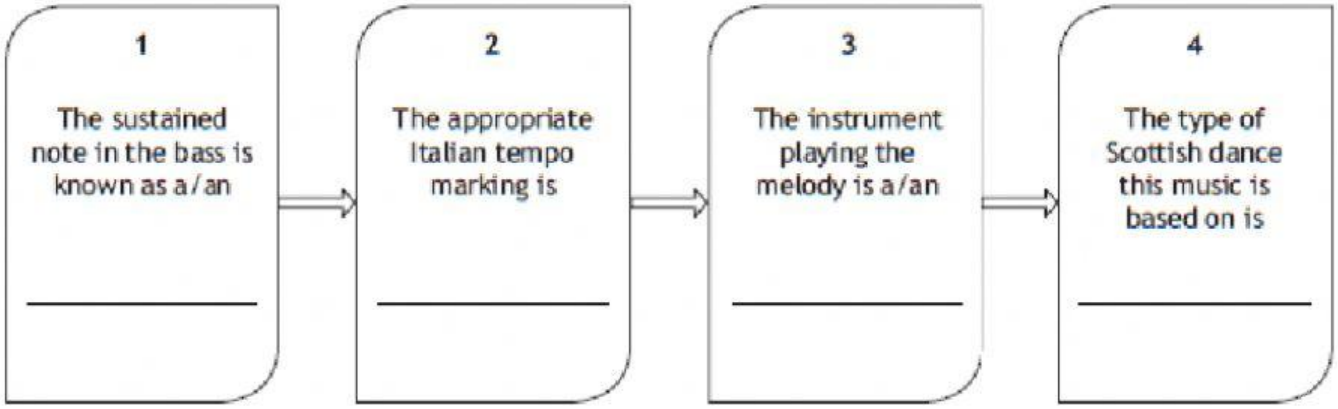
The music will be played three times, with a pause of 30 seconds between playings.

In the first two playings, a voice will help guide you through the music. There is no voice in the third playing.

Here is the music for the first time.

Here is the music for the second time.

Here is the music for the third time. 4



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Question 3

You now have to answer questions about the guide to the music printed below.

Listen to the excerpt and follow the music. Here is the music.

You now have 30 seconds to read through the question.

The music will be played three more times with a pause of 30 seconds between playings. After the final playing you will have 2 minutes in which to complete your answers. A warning tone will sound 30 seconds before the next question starts.

Here is the music for the first time.
Here is the music for the second time.
Here is the music for the third time.



(a) Name the key of this excerpt. _____ 1

(b) Insert the time signature in the correct place. 1

(c) Give the number of a bar where there is an octave leap. _____ 1

(d) Write an Italian term at the correct place to indicate the tempo. 1

(e) Write tr above a note where a trill is played. 1

(f) Complete bar 2 by inserting the missing notes. 1

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Question 4

This question features vocal music in contrasting styles.

(a) Listen to this excerpt and tick (✓) one box to describe what you hear. **1**

- ☐ Aria
- ☐ Gospel
- ☐ Ragtime
- ☐ Reggae

(b) Listen to another excerpt and name the style. **1**

_____

(c) Listen to this excerpt and tick (✓) one box to describe what you hear. **1**

- ☐ Soprano
- ☐ Mezzo soprano
- ☐ Alto
- ☐ Tenor

(d) Tick (✓) one box to identify the chord sequence heard in this song.
You will hear the music twice, with a pause of 10 seconds between playings.
The music is in the key of G major. **1**

☐

I	IV	V	VI
G	C	D	Em

☐

I	VI	IV	V
G	Em	C	D

☐

I	V	VI	IV
G	D	Em	C

(e) Listen to this excerpt and tick (✓) two boxes to describe features of the music. **2**

- ☐ Syllabic
- ☐ Aria
- ☐ Homophonic
- ☐ Modulation
- ☐ Polyphonic

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(f) Listen to more music from the same piece and tick (✓) one box to describe what you hear. 1

- ☐ Mouth music
- ☐ Accelerando
- ☐ Descant
- ☐ Con sordino

(g) Here is the music again. In the space provided, name the instrument playing the accompaniment. 1

_____

Question 5

In this question you will hear an excerpt of a Scottish dance which will be played three times.

Tick (✓) one answer only in each of the four sections. 4

Solo instrument
Accompanying instrument
Scottish dance
Tempo

You now have 30 seconds to read the question before hearing the excerpt.

Here is the excerpt for the first time.

Here is the excerpt for the second time.

Here is the excerpt for the third time.

		Tick (✓)	
Solo instrument	Flute		Tick (✓) one box from this selection
	Bagpipes		
	Clarsach		
Accompanying instrument	Pan pipes		Tick (✓) one box from this selection
	Trombone		
	Acoustic guitar		
Scottish dance	Strathspey		Tick (✓) one box from this selection
	Waltz		
	Reel		
Tempo	Allegro		Tick (✓) one box from this selection
	Adagio		
	Rallentando		

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Question 6

In this question, you are asked to describe music you hear by inserting the appropriate concepts in the text below.

There will now be a pause of 20 seconds to allow you to read through the question.

You will hear the music twice, with a pause of 10 seconds between playings and 20 seconds before the next question starts. 3

Here is the music for the first time.

Here is the music for the second time.

There are _____ beats in each bar.

A small group of instruments from the _____ family join in the accompaniment.

The excerpt is in _____ form.

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Question 7

This question features instrumental music.

(a) As you listen to the excerpt:

(i) tick (✓) one box to describe the style of music, and 1

(ii) in the space below, give a reason to support your answer 1

There will be a pause of 20 seconds before the next question starts. Here is the music.

- ☐ African music
- ☐ Ragtime
- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Latin American

Reason _____

As you listen to a different excerpt:

(b) (i) tick (✓) one box to describe the style of music, and 1

(ii) in the space below, give a reason to support your answer 1

There will be a pause of 20 seconds before the next question starts.

Here is the music.

- ☐ Classical
- ☐ Aria
- ☐ Romantic
- ☐ Baroque

Reason _____

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Question 8

As you listen to this excerpt, you are asked to identify the prominent features of the music.

In your answer, comment on at least three of the following:

- rhythm/tempo
- melody/harmony
- instruments/voices and how they are used
- dynamics (Italian terms).

You will hear the music three times, with a pause of 2 minutes at the end for you to complete your final answer. A warning tone will sound 30 seconds before the end of the question paper.

You may use the table below for rough working, but your final answer must be written on the opposite page.

Rough work

rhythm/tempo	
melody/harmony	
instruments/voices and how they are used	
dynamics (Italian terms)	

Final answer

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