ENGLAND GCSE MUSIC AQA · UNIT 4 · 25 QUESTIONS

Western Classical Tradition Since 1910 and Listening Skills — Practice Test

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button so it can be fixed.

1 **A vinyl record of Stravinsky The Rite of Spring spins on a record player. In which year was it first performed?**

A 1913

B 1903

C 1923

D 1933

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2 **A trumpet plays the opening of Copland Fanfare for the Common Man. In which year was it written?**

- A 1942
- B 1932
- C 1922
- D 1952

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3 **Headphones play an extract of Reich Music for 18 Musicians. Which American composer wrote it?**

- A Philip Glass
- B Terry Riley
- C Steve Reich
- D John Adams

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4 **A conductor baton rises as an orchestra starts Copland Appalachian Spring. Which Shaker hymn is used as a theme in it?**

- A Jerusalem
- B Simple Gifts
- C Abide With Me
- D Amazing Grace

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5 **A saxophone plays a jazzy line in a twentieth-century piece. What does bitonality mean?**

- A Two tempos used at the same time
- B Two instruments playing the same note
- C Two singers singing in unison
- D Two keys used at the same time

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6 **A piano stands in a room where a student listens to a minimalist piece. What is minimalism in music?**

- A Music with huge orchestras only
- B Music built from short repeated patterns that change slowly
- C Music that changes key every bar, which can happen in some cases
- D Music with no rhythm at all

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7 **Which Hungarian folk instrument is heard in the Hary Janos study piece?**

- A Bouzouki
- B Cimbalom
- C Balalaika
- D Sitar

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8 **Which of these is a feature of minimalist music?**

- A No repeated material
- B Free rhythm with no pulse, in some situations
- C A steady pulse with gradual change
- D Constant loud climaxes

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9 **In which year was Britten The Young Person Guide to the Orchestra first performed?**

- A 1935
- B 1955
- C 1945
- D 1925

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10 **Which question skill asks a student to judge how well a piece works?**

- A Transposition
- B Dictation
- C Evaluation
- D Sight reading

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11 **Which Britten opera is set in a Suffolk fishing village?**

- A Billy Budd
- B A Midsummer Night Dream
- C Peter Grimes
- D The Turn of the Screw

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12 **Which film score by Malcolm Arnold won an Academy Award?**

A Lawrence of Arabia

B The Guns of Navarone, in some situations

C The Bridge on the River Kwai

D Ben Hur

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13 **What does rubato mean?**

A Playing strictly in time, in some situations

B Playing very quietly

C Playing very loudly

D Freedom with the tempo for expression

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14 **Which work is the Area of study 4 study piece?**

A Little Shop of Horrors

B Graceland by Paul Simon, in some situations

C Appalachian Spring

D Hary Janos by Zoltan Kodaly

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15 **Which composer wrote 4 minutes 33 seconds in 1952?**

A Terry Riley

B John Cage

C John Adams

D Steve Reich

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16 **Which feature gives Copland music its open American sound?**

A Constant loud brass

B Wide intervals and open fifths

C Fast chromatic runs

D Thick clusters of notes, in some situations

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17 **What does AO4 ask students to do in Component 1?**

A Perform with accuracy

B Compose original music, in some situations

C Use appraising skills to evaluate music

D Play from memory

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18 **At whose funeral was Tavener Song for Athene sung in 1997?**

- A Winston Churchill
- B Margaret Thatcher
- C Diana, Princess of Wales
- D Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

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19 **What is phasing in the music of Steve Reich?**

- A A sudden change of key
- B Two identical patterns slowly moving out of step
- C A pattern played backwards
- D Two patterns played in unison, in some situations

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20 **How long is the Component 1 written exam?**

A 1 hour 45 minutes

B 2 hours

C 1 hour 30 minutes

D 1 hour

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21 **Which area of study must one of the Section B study pieces come from?**

A Area of study 4

B Area of study 2

C Area of study 1

D Area of study 3

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22 **How many sets of linked questions are in Section A of Component 1?**

A Ten

B Four, in some situations

C Eight

D Six

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23 **Which ballet by Stravinsky caused a riot at its first performance in 1913?**

A Pulcinella

B The Rite of Spring

C The Firebird, in some situations

D Petrushka

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24 **In which year was Bartok Concerto for Orchestra completed?**

- A 1953
- B 1943
- C 1933
- D 1923

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25 **What is a tone row?**

- A A row of twelve singers
- B A chord of three notes
- C An ordering of all twelve notes of the chromatic scale
- D A scale with five notes, which can happen in some cases

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ANSWER KEY

1.	A	**10.**	C	**19.**	B
2.	A	**11.**	C	**20.**	C
3.	C	**12.**	C	**21.**	C
4.	B	**13.**	D	**22.**	C
5.	D	**14.**	D	**23.**	B
6.	B	**15.**	B	**24.**	B
7.	B	**16.**	B	**25.**	C
8.	C	**17.**	C		
9.	C	**18.**	C		

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