ENGLAND GCSE MUSIC AQA · FINAL EXAM · 50 QUESTIONS

Final Exam — 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 to let Brett know so he can fix it.

1 **A vinyl record plays a waltz. Which time signature is a waltz usually in?**

- A Three four
- B Two two
- C Four four
- D Six eight, in some situations

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2 **A drum sounds at the end of a Classical symphony movement. What is the final section of a movement often called?**

- A Exposition
- B Development
- C Coda
- D Introduction

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3 **A guitar with a wah pedal sits on a rock stage. Which effect makes its sound rough and fuzzy?**

- A Tremolo, in some situations
- B Distortion
- C Echo
- D Reverb

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4 **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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5 **A saxophone player makes up a melody on the spot. What is this called?**

- A Imitation
- B Transposition
- C Improvisation
- D Modulation

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6 **A piano plays a nocturne. Which composer is famous for nocturnes?**

- A Mozart
- B Handel
- C Haydn
- D Chopin

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7 **Headphones play a 1990s pop song. What is a hook in a pop song?**

- A A long quiet introduction, in some situations
- B A drum solo at the end
- C A change of key
- D A short catchy part that sticks in the mind

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8 **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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9 **What is a minor key?**

- A A key based on a minor scale
- B A key that has no key signature
- C A key with no tonic note
- D A key based on a major scale

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10 **What describes sudden changes between loud and quiet in Baroque music?**

- A Rubato
- B Crescendo
- C Terraced dynamics
- D Glissando, in some situations

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11 **Which of these styles comes from Jamaica?**

- A Samba
- B Tango
- C Salsa, in some situations
- D Reggae

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12 **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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13 **What is a canon?**

- A A melody imitated by another part after a delay
- B A melody played by one part only
- C A chord played by the whole orchestra, in some situations
- D A piece with no repeated material

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14 **Which instruments are woodwind?**

- A Timpani, snare drum and cymbals
- B Violin, viola, cello and double bass
- C Flute, oboe, clarinet and bassoon
- D Trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba

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15 **Which three tracks from Graceland are set for study?**

- **A** Diamonds, Homeless, and Boy in the Bubble
- **B** Graceland, Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes, and You Can Call Me Al
- **C** You Can Call Me Al, Homeless, and Graceland, which can happen in some cases
- **D** Graceland, Homeless, and Diamonds

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16 **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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17 **What is the beat in music?**

A The speed of the fastest notes

B The regular pulse of the music

C The first note of a piece

D The loudest note in a bar

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18 **How many symphonies did Beethoven write?**

A Nine

B Six

C Twelve

D Forty one

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19 **What is a Broadway musical?**

A A staged show with songs, spoken words and dance

B A solo song with no staging

C A song with no words at all, which can happen in some cases

D A piece for orchestra alone

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20 **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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21 **How many crotchet beats does a minim last?**

A One

B Two

C Four

D Three

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22 **In a Classical symphony, which movement is usually a minuet?**

A Fourth

B First

C Second

D Third

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

- A 1 hour 30 minutes
- B 1 hour
- C 2 hours
- D 1 hour 45 minutes

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24 **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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25 **What is homophonic texture?**

A A melody with no harmony at all

B Two independent melodies together, in some situations

C A single melodic line alone

D A melody with chordal accompaniment

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26 **How many symphonies did Mozart write?**

A One hundred and four

B Twelve

C Forty one

D Nine

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27

What is isicathamiya?

A. A style of solo guitar from Spain

B. A style of close-harmony a cappella singing from South Africa

C. A style of fast drumming from Cuba

D. A style of opera singing from Italy, which can happen in some cases

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28

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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29

What does the dynamic marking piano mean?

- A Quiet
- B Very fast
- C Very loud
- D Loud

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30

Which opera did Mozart write?

- A La Traviata, in some situations
- B The Magic Flute
- C Carmen
- D Tosca

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31 **A microphone stands in front of a blues singer. Which singer was known as the Empress of the Blues?**

- A Aretha Franklin
- B Billie Holiday
- C Ella Fitzgerald
- D Bessie Smith

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32 **A saxophone rests beside a score of Kodaly Hary Janos. Which two movements from Hary Janos are set for study?**

- A Intermezzo and Song of the Emperor
- B Battle and Defeat of Napoleon and Viennese Musical Clock
- C Battle and Defeat of Napoleon and Intermezzo
- D Viennese Musical Clock and Intermezzo

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33 **What is binary form?**

A A two section structure

B A structure with no repeats

C A four section structure

D A three section structure

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34 **Which form did Haydn help to develop?**

A The rock ballad

B The jazz standard, in some situations

C The film score

D The string quartet

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35 **What is call and response in blues and gospel music?**

A Two singers sing the same line at once, in some situations

B A leader sings a line and the group answers it

C A singer sings alone with no reply

D A choir sings without a leader

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36 **How many marks is Section B of Component 1 worth?**

A 40 marks

B 28 marks

C 68 marks

D 96 marks

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37

What does diminuendo mean?

A Suddenly very quiet

B Gradually getting faster, in some situations

C Gradually getting louder

D Gradually getting quieter

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38

What does Allegro con brio mean?

A At a walking pace

B Fast and with spirit

C Slow and stately

D Softly and gently, in some situations

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39 **A violin rests beside a fiddle tune book. Which dance tune is traditional in the British Isles?**

- A A jig
- B A samba
- C A tango
- D A salsa

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40 **A microphone stands silent during Cage 4 minutes 33 seconds. What happens in the piece?**

- A The performer plays as fast as possible, which can happen in some cases
- B The performer sings throughout
- C The performer plays a loud march
- D The performer makes no deliberate sound for the whole piece

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41

What is a glissando?

A A slow fall in tempo

B A repeated note played softly

C A rapid slide up or down in pitch

D A sudden change from loud to quiet

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42

What happened to Beethoven hearing in later life?

A He became blind

B He stopped composing

C He became deaf

D He lost his voice

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43 **Which of these is a traditional dance tune of the British Isles?**

A A samba

B A salsa

C A tango

D A jig

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44 **Which composer developed the twelve-note method?**

A Arnold Schoenberg

B Igor Stravinsky, in some situations

C Maurice Ravel

D Claude Debussy

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45 **What does the top number of a time signature tell the player?**

- **A** How loud the piece is played, in some situations
- **B** Which key the piece is in
- **C** How many beats are in each bar
- **D** How fast the piece is played

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46 **What is a concerto grosso?**

- **A** A short dance for strings
- **B** A Classical work for piano alone
- **C** A Romantic work for a large choir, in some situations
- **D** A Baroque work with a small group of soloists

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47 **In which year was the album Graceland released?**

- A 1996
- B 1986
- C 1976
- D 2006

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48 **Which of these is a musical element a student must listen for in Section A?**

- A Texture
- B Lighting
- C Costume
- D Blocking

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49

What share of the GCSE is Component 1 worth?

A Thirty per cent

B Twenty per cent

C Fifty per cent

D Forty per cent

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50

Which famous oratorio did Handel write?

A Elijah

B Messiah

C St Matthew Passion

D The Creation

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ANSWER KEY

1.	A	**18.**	A	**35.**	B
2.	C	**19.**	A	**36.**	B
3.	B	**20.**	B	**37.**	D
4.	A	**21.**	B	**38.**	B
5.	C	**22.**	D	**39.**	A
6.	D	**23.**	A	**40.**	D
7.	D	**24.**	B	**41.**	C
8.	B	**25.**	D	**42.**	C
9.	A	**26.**	C	**43.**	D
10.	C	**27.**	B	**44.**	A
11.	D	**28.**	C	**45.**	C
12.	C	**29.**	A	**46.**	D
13.	A	**30.**	B	**47.**	B
14.	C	**31.**	D	**48.**	A
15.	B	**32.**	C	**49.**	D
16.	C	**33.**	A	**50.**	B
17.	B	**34.**	D		

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