2026.M51

2026L067G2EL

Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination 2026

Music

Listening

Ordinary Level

Thursday 18 June Afternoon 1:30 - 3:00

100 marks

Examination Number

Date of Birth

For example, 3rd February 2005 is entered as 03 02 05

Centre Stamp

Instructions

Write your examination number and Date of Birth in the boxes on the front cover.

There are **six** questions in this examination paper. Answer all questions.

- Write your answers in blue or black pen. You may use pencil for staff notation.
- Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. There is space for extra work / roughwork at the end of the booklet. Label any such extra work clearly with the question number and part.
- Before the examination begins, listen carefully to the test excerpt. If you cannot hear the recording clearly, inform the Superintendent immediately.
- This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. Anything that you write outside of the answer areas may not be seen by the examiner.
- There will be suitable pauses throughout for you to read and answer questions.

Question 1 **(25 marks)**

Five excerpts from *Symphonie Fantastique* by Berlioz.

- Answer the questions on each excerpt.

Excerpt 1, played three times.

(a) Identify the percussion instrument heard in this excerpt.

- ☐ cymbals
- ☐ snare drum
- ☐ timpani

(b) Describe the use of dynamics heard in this excerpt.

Description:

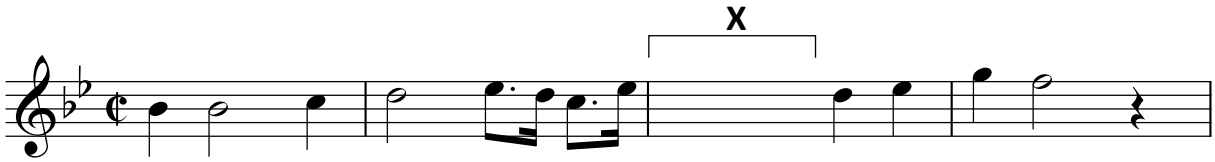
This question continues on the next page.

Excerpt 2, played three times.

(c) The texture of the music in this excerpt is polyphonic. Describe with reference to the instruments heard in this excerpt.

Description:

Excerpt 3, played three times. An outline score of the opening four bars of the excerpt is printed below.



(d) The missing notes at **X** on the score are

☐ 

☐ 

☐ 

Excerpt 4, played three times.

(e) Tick whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
(i) The tempo of this excerpt is *Adagio*.	☐	☐
(ii) The music contains sequences.	☐	☐
(iii) The melody is played by the string family.	☐	☐
(iv) A perfect cadence is heard at the end of this excerpt.	☐	☐

Excerpt 5, played three times.

(f) Identify the theme heard in this excerpt.

Answer:

(g) Identify the instrument heard playing this theme.

Answer:

(h) *Symphonie Fantastique* is an example of programme music. Identify what Berlioz was trying to depict in this excerpt.

Answer:

Question 2 **(10 marks)**

Three excerpts from *Piano Concerto No. 23 in A Major, K488* by Mozart.

- Answer the questions on each excerpt.

Excerpt 1, played three times.

(a) The tonality of the music in this excerpt is

major	minor
☐	☐

(b) Identify two features of the music played by the piano in this excerpt.

Feature 1:

Feature 2:

Excerpt 2, played three times.

(c) The tempo of the music in this excerpt is

Allegro	*Adagio*
☐	☐

(d) Name two instruments playing the melody in this excerpt.

Instrument 1:

Instrument 2:

Excerpt 3, played three times.

(e) This excerpt is taken from the cadenza. Explain the term cadenza.

Answer:

Question 3 **(10 marks)**

Two excerpts from *Seachanges (with Danse Macabre)* by Raymond Deane.

- Answer the questions on each excerpt.

Excerpt 1, played three times. An outline score of the excerpt is printed below.



(a) Insert the missing time signature at **X** on the score above.

Excerpt 2, played three times.

(b) In this excerpt Raymond Deane uses the compositional techniques of inversion and the subtraction principle. Select one of these techniques and explain it with reference to the music heard in this excerpt.

Inversion ☐	Subtraction Principle ☐
Explanation:	

Excerpt 2, played once more.

(c) Identify the instrumental technique,  , seen on the staves below, as performed by each of the following instruments in this excerpt.

(i)

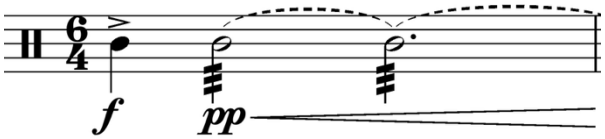
Flute in G



Instrumental technique:

(ii)

Cymbal



Instrumental technique:

(iii)

Violin



Instrumental technique:

Question 4 **(10 marks)**

Three excerpts from *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* by The Beatles.

- Answer the questions on each excerpt.

Excerpt 1, played three times.

(a) The time signature of the music in this excerpt is

$\frac{3}{4}$ ☐ $\frac{4}{4}$ ☐

(b) Identify the three instruments heard playing in this excerpt.

Instrument 1:

Instrument 2:

Instrument 3:

Excerpt 2, played three times.

(c) Identify one feature of the melody in this excerpt.

Melodic feature:

(d) Identify one feature of the rhythm in this excerpt.

Rhythmic feature:

Excerpt 3, played three times.

(e) Identify two features of the music heard in this excerpt. (Tick two boxes)

- ☐ Drum kit back beat
- ☐ Unison singing
- ☐ Distortion
- ☐ Sustained chords

(f) At the end of the excerpt there is a

- ☐ falling chord
- ☐ rising chord
- ☐ falling scale
- ☐ rising scale

Question 5 **(25 marks)**

Irish Music

This question is based on four excerpts of music.

- Answer the questions on each excerpt.

Excerpt 1, played three times.

(a) Name two instruments heard playing the melody in this excerpt.

Instrument 1:

Instrument 2:

(b) Name two instruments heard playing the accompaniment in this excerpt.

Instrument 1:

Instrument 2:

Excerpt 2, played three times.

(c) (i) The dance heard in this excerpt is

a reel ☐ a hornpipe ☐ a jig ☐

(ii) The time signature of this dance is

$\frac{4}{4}$ ☐ $\frac{6}{8}$ ☐ $\frac{9}{8}$ ☐

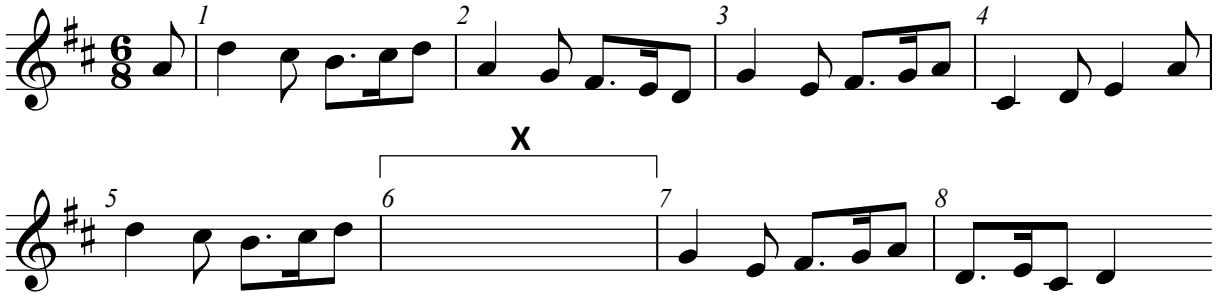
(iii) A typical bar of rhythm associated with this dance is

☐ 

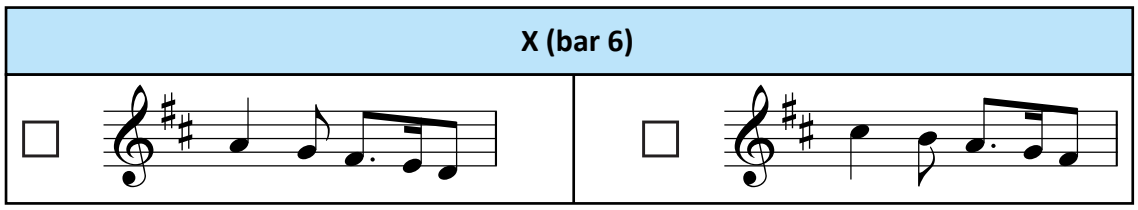
☐ 

☐ 

Excerpt 3, played three times. An outline score of the melody is printed below.



(d) The missing notes at **X** on the score (bar 6) are



Excerpt 4, played three times.

(e) Identify two features of Irish traditional music heard in this excerpt.

Feature 1:

Feature 2:

(f) Identify two non-traditional features heard in this excerpt.

Feature 1:

Feature 2:

There is a twelve minute gap before the next question.

Question 6 **(20 marks)**

Aural Skills

This question is based on six excerpts of music.

- Answer the questions on each excerpt.

Excerpt 1, played three times.

(a) Identify the instrument which plays the melody in this excerpt.

☐ Clarinet

☐ Flute

☐ Oboe

(b) Identify two features of the accompaniment heard in this excerpt.

Feature 1:

Feature 2:

Excerpt 2, played three times.

(c) The form of the music in this excerpt is

ABAB ☐ ABBA ☐ AABB ☐

Excerpt 3, played three times.

(d) Describe the texture of the music heard in this excerpt.

Answer:

Excerpt 4, played three times.

(e) Identify two features of the melody heard in this excerpt.

- ☐ Chromatic movement
- ☐ Octave leaps
- ☐ Repeated notes
- ☐ Scales

This question continues on the next page.

Excerpt 5, played three times.

(f) Tick whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
(i) The time signature is $\frac{3}{4}$	☐	☐
(ii) The tonality is major.	☐	☐
(iii) The melody contains triplets.	☐	☐
(iv) The melody is repeated at a lower pitch.	☐	☐

Excerpt 6, played three times.

(g) Identify the instrument playing the melody in this excerpt.

Instrument:

(h) Identify one feature of the music heard in this excerpt.

Feature:

You have two minutes to complete the examination paper.

Extra work / Roughwork

Extra work / Roughwork

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