Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu Higher Grade Music

Early and Renaissance Music

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This unit of work involves studying the main musical forms, features and concepts associated with Early and **Renaissance** music.



This sign indicates a short excerpt of music to illustrate a particular musical feature or style.

Further information about listening to music can be found on the following websites:

Carolina Classical Connection: www.carolinaclassical.com

Listening Online: www.ltscotland.org.uk/nq/resources/learnlisteningonline

BBC: www.bbc.co.uk/radio3

Classic FM: www.classicfm.co.uk

History of Music

The History of Music can be broadly divided into separate periods of time, each with it's own characteristics or musical styles. Musical style does not, of course, change overnight. It can often be a gradual process with styles overlapping, and newer styles emerging out of old. It is generally agreed, however, that the History of Music can be divided into the following six periods (approximate dates are given for each period):

Medieval Music (up to about 1450)

This is the earliest music we know. An important feature of this period is **Plainchant**; an early form of church music with Latin words, based on **Modes**.

Renaissance Music (1450-1600)

During this period, composers started to explore a variety of different textures (including **Homophonic** and **Polyphonic textures**) and forms, including: sacred music – **Mass** and **Motet**; secular music - **Madrigal** and **Ballet**; and dance music – **Pavan** and **Galliard**.

Baroque Music (1600-1750)

The music of this period has a reputation for being highly ornamented. Important features include; Ground Bass, Fugue, French and Italian Overtures, Concerto Grosso, Ripieno, Concertino, Basso Continuo, Ritornello, Opera, Chaconne and Passacaglia.

Classical Music (1750-1810)

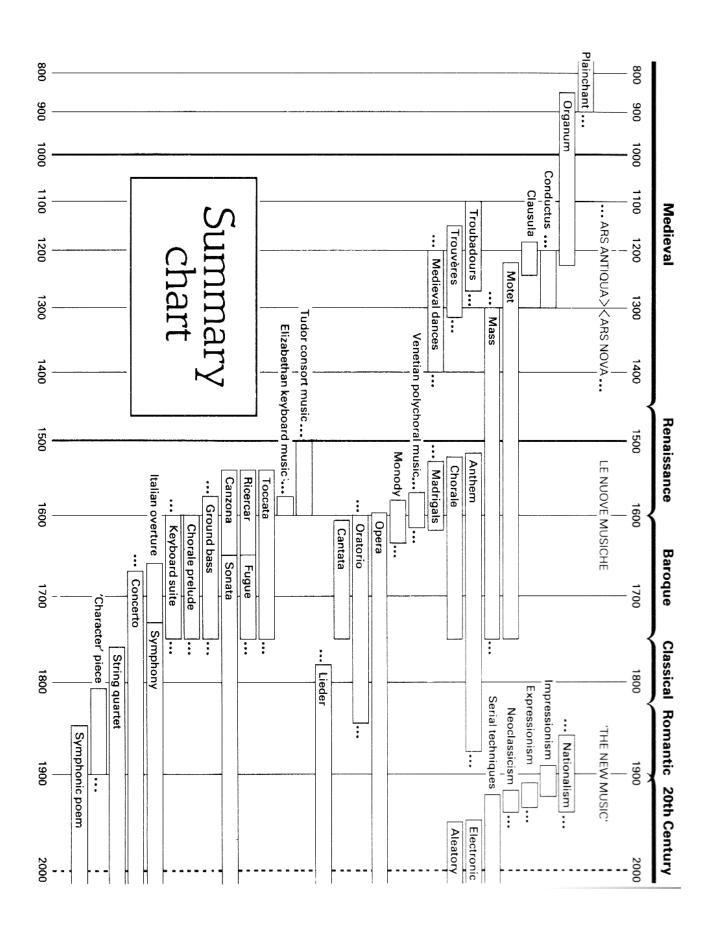
Composers of this period placed much importance on form and structure. Important features include; Sonata, Sonata Form, Symphony, Concerto, Opera, Minuet and Trio, Rondo, Theme and Variations, Alberti Bass, Cadenza and Scherzo.

Romantic Music (1810-1900)

Music of the 19th century tended to be very expressive with many references to emotions, literature and the other arts. Important features include; **Nationalism, Lied, Song Cycle, Word Painting, Symphonic Poem, Tone Poem, Idee fix, Leitmotiv** and **Opera.**

20th Century Music (1900 onwards)

The 20th century has produced a wide range of musical styles. While some composers have taken quite a traditional approach to music, others have been very experimental. Important features include: popular styles such as Latin American, Blues, Ragtime, Swing, Samba, Salsa, Jazz, Boogie-woogie, Soul, Country and jazz-Funk; and more experimental music such as Impressionist, Serial, Minimalist, Aleatoric, Musique Concrete, and Neo-Classical.



Early Music

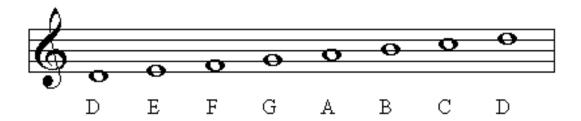
Plainchant

The earliest music that we know, both sacred and secular, consists of a single line melody. This is a monophonic texture.

Examples of this can be found in early church music, in the form of **plainchant** (also known as **plainsong** or **Gregorian chant**). **Plainchant** melodies were generally flowing, often moving by **step** rather than by **leap**, and would be sung in an **a cappella** style (i.e. **unaccompanied**).

The rhythm would be irregular and very free, following the natural rhythms and stresses of the Latin words.

Plainchant melodies were based on special types of scaled called **modes**. **Modes** can be found by playing any notes within an octave, but keeping to the white notes only. Here is an example of a **mode**:



Here is an example of a simple **plainchant** melody, dating from about the year 800:



Listen to this excerpt while following the music. Complete the following table, identifying the concepts in the music.

Melodic	Harmonic	Rhythmic	Structural

Sacred Music in the Renaissance period

Composers throughout history have written sacred music. In the Renaissance period sacred music was generally sung in Latin and performed **a cappella** (without instrumental accompaniment). It often contained some of the following features:

Melodic	Harmonic	Rhythmic	Structural
Imitation	Consonance	Simple time	Contrary motion
Melisma	Dissonance	Rallentando	Pedal
Mode	Modal		Inverted pedal
Plainchant	Suspension		Polyphony
	Passing notes		Homphhony
	Plagal cadence		

The most important forms of sacred music in the **Renaissance** period were the **Mass**, **Motet** and **Anthem**.

Mass

The **Mass** is the chief service of the Catholic Church. The Latin setting of the Mass divides into five main sections, or "items":

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison	Lord have mercy, Christ Have mercy
Gloria in excelcis Deo	Glory to God in the highest
Credo in unum deum	I believe in one God
Sanctus; Osanna; Benedictus	Holy, holy, holy; Hosanna; Blessed is he
Agnus Dei	Lamb of God

Motet

The **Motet** is a short sacred choral work, usually contrapuntal in style, with a Latin text. Here are some examples of texts used for motets:

Veni Sancte Spiritus	Come, Holy Spirit
Haec Dies	This is the day
Ave Maria	Hail Mary
Jubilate Deo	Be Joyful in the Lord
O quam gloriosam est regnum	O How Glorious is the Kingdom
Ave Verum Corpus	Hail, True Body
O Magnum Mysterium	O Great and Mighty Wonder

Anthem

The **Anthem** is a short sacred choral piece sung in English. It may be sung a cappella or with organ accompaniment. Examples of Anthems include:

I Will Exalt Thee Teach Me O Lord Sing Joyfully Unto God

Mass

Listen to the Kyrie from Missa Brevis by Palestrina



Motet

Listen to O quam gloriosam est regnum by Victoria



Anthem

Listen to If Ye Love Me by Tallis. Notice the Homophonic texture at the beginning.



Sacred Music – Revision of Concepts

(a) Lick four boxes to identify	the titles of mo	vements you wou	id expect to find in a ivias	S.
Kyrie eleison		Veni Sancte	Spiritus	
Exsultate Deo		Sanctus		
Credo		For unto us	a child is born	
Ave Maria		Agnus Dei		
(b) Tick four features you wo	uld expect to fir	nd in a <i>Mass</i> from	the <i>Renaissance</i> period.	
Pavan		Modal		
A cappella		Basso conti	าน๐	
Suspensions		Polyphonic		
Polytonality		Passacaglia		
(c) Complete the table below description given. Choose Plainchant		in the correct c	oncept alongside the br Anthem	rief
description given. Choose	from.			ief
description given. Choose Plainchant Chorale prelude	from. Motet	Mass	Anthem Cantata	rief
description given. Choose Plainchant	Motet Oratorio five main section	Mass Passion ons, usually sung	Anthem	rief
Plainchant Chorale prelude Description A large-scale choral work in the in Latin, being the chief s	Motet Oratorio five main sections of the	Mass Passion ons, usually sung Roman catholic	Anthem Cantata	rief
Plainchant Chorale prelude Description A large-scale choral work in the in Latin, being the chief schurch. A short unaccompanied choral A short sacred choral piece states.	Motet Oratorio five main section service of the sung in English	Mass Passion ons, usually sung Roman catholic Latin.	Anthem Cantata	
Plainchant Chorale prelude Description A large-scale choral work in the in Latin, being the chief schurch. A short unaccompanied choral	Motet Oratorio five main section service of the sal piece sung in section sung in English sempaniment.	Mass Passion ons, usually sung Roman catholic Latin. It may be sung	Anthem Cantata	
Plainchant Chorale prelude Description A large-scale choral work in the in Latin, being the chief suchurch. A short unaccompanied choral A short sacred choral piece such a cappella or with organ account.	Motet Oratorio five main section service of the sal piece sung in sung in English smpaniment.	Mass Passion ons, usually sung Roman catholic Latin. It may be sung clude recitatives,	Anthem Cantata	rief
Plainchant Chorale prelude Description A large-scale choral work in the in Latin, being the chief suchurch. A short unaccompanied choral A short sacred choral piece such a cappella or with organ account of the Easter story set to mularias, duets and chorus.	Motet Oratorio five main section service of the sal piece sung in section sung in English sempaniment. Isic. It may incomist, chorus and	Mass Passion ons, usually sung Roman catholic Latin. It may be sung clude recitatives, orchestra.	Anthem Cantata	
Plainchant Chorale prelude Description A large-scale choral work in the in Latin, being the chief suchurch. A short unaccompanied choral piece such a cappella or with organ account arias, duets and chorus. A small-scale oratorio for solo An extended composition for	Motet Oratorio five main section service of the service of the service in English sempaniment. Isic. It may incomist, chorus and or organ base	Mass Passion ons, usually sung Roman catholic Latin. It may be sung clude recitatives, orchestra. d on a chorale	Anthem Cantata	ief

Listening Exercise

Listen carefully to the following excerpts of music.

For each excerpt of music you should identify the musical style. Write the correct style into the appropriate space.

Choose from:

Mass Motet Anthem

1.	This is an example of
2.	This is an example of
3.	This is an example of
4.	This is an example of
5.	This is an example of
6.	This is an example of
7.	This is an example of
8.	This is an example of
9.	This is an example of
10.	This is an example of
	Total out of 10

Comparison Question

You are asked to compare two excerpts of music. In the column on the left of the page musical concepts are listed. You should select from that column features which are present in the excerpts, and tick the appropriate columns (Excerpt 1, Excerpt 2, Common to both Excerpts).

The number of marks listed at the foot of each column indicates the maximum number of concepts to be written in that column; marks will be deducted if you exceed that number. Both excerpts will be played three times.

Grid 1 (Rough Work)

Concepts	Excerpt 1	Excerpt 2	Common to both excerpts
Melodic			
Syllabic			
Modal			
Imitation			
Melismatic			
Harmonic	·		•
Perfect Cadence			
Tierce de picardie			
Suspensions			
Major			
Rhythmic	<u>.</u>		
Scotch Snap			
Anacrusis			
Triple time			
Duple time			
Structural	·		•
Homophony			
Polyphony			
Ground Bass			
Pedal			
Timbre	·		•
A cappella			
Pipe organ			
Accompanied			
Choral			
Styles / Forms	<u>.</u>		
Anthem			
Motet			
Mass			
Plainchant			

Grid 2 (Final Answer)

Concepts	Excerpt 1	Excerpt 2	Common to both excerpts
Melodic			-
Syllabic			
Modal			
Imitation			
Melismatic			
Harmonic			
Perfect Cadence			
Tierce de picardie			
Suspensions			
Major			
Rhythmic			
Scotch Snap			
Anacrusis			
Triple time			
Duple time			
Structural			
Homophony			
Polyphony			
Ground Bass			
Pedal			
Timbre			
A cappella			
Pipe organ			
Accompanied			
Choral			
Styles / Forms		-	
Anthem			
Motet			
Mass			
Plainchant			
	7	7	3
	Marks	Marks	Marks

Total out of 17	

Specimen Examination Question 1

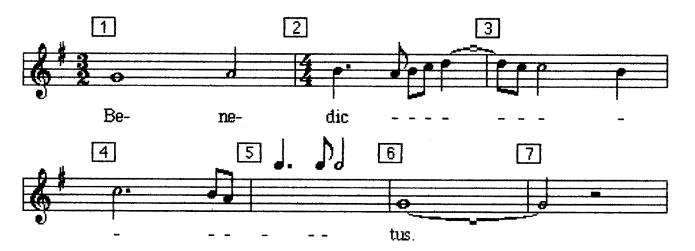
This question is based on "Benedictus" by Palestrina.

Intermediate 1

(a) Tick one box to identify the co	ombination of performers.
Choir and organ	Pipe organ and strings
Choir and strings	Unaccompanied choir
(b) Tick one to identify a musical	feature present in the piece.
Scotch snap	Imitation
Ostinato	Anacrusis
(c) Tick one feature to describe t	he overall performance.
Legato	Staccato
Intermediate 2	
(a) Tick one feature to describe t piece.	he word setting in the opening bars of this
Melismatic	Scat singing
Syllabic	Chromatic
(b) Tick two features to describe	the texture of this music.
Homophonic	Contrapuntal
Polyphonic	Ground bass
(c) Tick one feature to describe t	he way in which this music is performed.
Pizzicato	Glissando
Arco	A cappella

Higher Grade

(a) Follow the opening melody (printed below) and insert the missing notes (bar 5). The rhythm has been given above the stave.



(b) Tick three features present in the music.		
Minimalist	Tritone	
Mode	Turn	
Three against two	Suspensions	
Time changes	Acciaccatura	
Serial		
(c) Tick one box to identify the type of v	work this music is from.	
Anthem	Mass	
Motet	Chorale	
(d) Tick one box to identify the period of	or style of this music.	
Renaissance	Romantic	
Baroque	20 th century	
Classical		

Specimen Examination Question 2

This question is based on "O quam gloriosam est regnum" by Victoria.

The queeton to bacca en e qua	m gronocam cot rognam by viotona.
Intermediate 1	
(a) Tick one box to identify the co	mbination of performers.
Choir and organ	Solo voice and organ
Choir and strings	Unaccompanied choir
(b) Tick one box to describe the v	voices.
The voices are singing in u	ınison
The voices are singing in h	narmony
Intermediate 2	
•	o contrasting textures used. Tick one box texture of the bars 1-4 and one box from re in bars 5-9.
Column A	Column B
Single line melody	Single line melody
Homophonic	Homophonic
Polyphonic	Polyphonic
(b) Tick one box to identify a feat	ure of the performance.
Arco	Glissando
A cappella	Tremolando
(c) Tick one feature to describe the	ne time signature of this piece.
Simple duple	Simple quadruple

Compound duple

Simple triple

Higher Grade

(a) Follow the opening melody (printed below) and insert the missing notes (bar 8). The rhythm has been given above the stave.



(b) Tick three features present in the n	nusic.
Change to compound time	Syncopation
Whole-tone scale	Mordent
Hemiola	Retrograde
Tierce de picardie	Imitation
Melisma	
(c) Tick one box to identify the type of v	work this music is from.
Anthem	Mass
Motet	Chorale
(d) Tick one box to identify the period of	or style of this music.
Renaissance	Romantic
Baroque	20 th century
Classical	

Secular Music in the Renaissance period

Alongside developments in Renaissance church music, there were also important developments in secular songs and dances. Elizabethan **Madrigals** were popular songs of the period while important dances were the **Pavan** and **Galliard**.

The Madrigal

Madrigals are varied in style and express all kinds of human emotion, with composers often making use of **word-painting** (using music to illustrate the meaning of the words).

The **madrigal proper** was **through-composed** (i.e. new music for each verse) and usually very **polyphonic** (or **contrapuntal**). It often contained some of the following features:

Melodic	Harmonic	Rhythmic	Structural
Imitation	Consonance	Simple time	Through-composed
Melisma	Dissonance		Polyphony
Word-painting	Suspension		
	Passing notes		

An example of a **madrigal proper** is As Vesta was from Latmos Hill descending by Thomas Weelkes. Written for six solo voices, this piece contains clear examples of word-painting in the following lines:

To whom Diana's darlings came running down amain, First two by two, then three by three together, Leaving their goddess all alone, hasted thither.

Text	Word-painting
running down amain	Descending sequences
First two by two	Voices in pairs
then three by three	Voices in threes
Together	All voices singing
all alone	A solo voice

The **ballett** was lighter in style with clear-cut dance-like rhythms. It tended to be **strophic** (i.e. the same music for each verse) and usually **homophonic** (chordal) in texture, with a "fa-la-la" refrain. It often contains some of the following features:

Melodic	Harmonic	Rhythmic	Structural
Syllabic	Consonance	Simple time	Strophic
	Dissonance	Dance-like	"fa-la-la" refrain
	Passing notes		Homophony

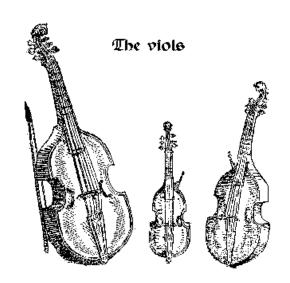
An example of a **ballett** is *Now is the month of Maying* by Thomas Morley.

The **ayre** (or song) was often performed by a solo voice, accompanied by either lute or viols. A very expressive and melancholy **ayre** is *Flow my teares* by John Dowland.

Instrumental and Dance Music in the Renaissance period

Popular instruments of the Renaissance period included the **lute**, **viols** (stringed instruments), **sackbut** (an early kind of trombone) recorders, and **crumhorn** (a reed instrument). A group of similar instruments (e.g. viols or recorders) would be known as a **consort**, while a mixed group of instruments (e.g. viols <u>and</u> recorders) would be known as a **broken consort**. William *Byrd's In Nomine for Five*

Viols is an example of a consort.



Pavan and Galliard

Instrumental dance music became very popular in the Renaissance period, two of the most common being the **Pavan** and **Galliard**.

The **Pavan** is a slow and dignified dance with a feeling of either 2 or 4 beats in a bar.

The **Galliard** is a slightly quicker dance with 3 beats in the bar.

The **Galliard** generally followed the **Pavan**, and was often based on a variant of the **Pavan** tune, as can be seen in the following examples:



William Byrd wrote a very famous Pavan and Galliard called The Earl of Salisbury:

As you listen to these two dances, answer the questions at the bottom of the page.











- 1. What is the time signature of this piece? _____
- 2. What is the form /structure of the piece? _____
- 3. Name the cadence at bar 8: _____
- 4. Name the ornament that is featured several times: ______
- 5. Identify two melodic concepts in bars 5 7:
- 6. What concept can be used to describe the final chord? _____

Galliard









- 1. What is the time signature of this piece? _____
- 2. What is the form / structure of the piece? _____
- 3. What is the key of the piece? _____
- 4. Name the ornament that is featured several times: ______
- 5. Identify the final cadence: _____
- 6. What concept can be used to describe the final chord? _____

Secular Music in the Renaissance period - Revision

(a) Tick four boxes to identify proper .	the features	you might expec	t to find in a Madrigal	
Homophony		Pavan		
Word-painting	-painting Strophic			
Lute		Polyphonic		
Imitation		Through cor	nposed	
(b) Tick three features you mig	ght expect to	find in a Pavan .		
Word-painting		Consort		
Slow stately rhythm		Lively rhythr	m	
2 or 4 beats in the bar		3 beats in th	e bar	
(c) Tick three features you mi	ght expect to	find in a Ballett		
Strophic form		Slow stately	rhythm	
Polyphonic texture	Polyphonic texture Latin words			
Homophonic texture	ure A "fa-la-la" refrain			
(d) Complete the table below description given. Choose Madrigal Through- composed		in the correct of Ayre Galliard	concept alongside the b Strophic Consort	rief
escription			Concept	
song in which the same music i	-	or each verse.		
vocal composition with a "fa-la-				
quick dance with 3 beats in the				
solo voice with lute accompaniment. song in which the music is different for each verse.				
group of instruments playing a				
slow stately dance with 4 beats		<u></u>		
contrapuntal vocal composition		ainting		

Secular Music – Listening Exercise

features which are present. You will h	ear the music twice.
Homophony	Ayre
Word-painting	A cappella
Ballett	Galliard
Ayre	Lute
Listen to What if I never speed? by Jopresent. You will hear the music twice	ohn Dowland and tick three features which are
Galliard	Consort
Ayre	Lute
Counter tenor	Solo contralto voice
Anthem	Polyphony
3. Listen to Sweet Suffolk owl by Thoma present. You will hear the music twice	s Vautor and tick three features which are
Madrigal	Melisma
Broken consort	Word-painting
Ballett	Viols
Harpsichord	Galliard
4. Listen to an excerpt from <i>The Earl of</i> seatures which are present. You will h	
Ballett	Pavan
Binary form	Word-painting
Galliard	Tierce de picardie
3 beats in the bar	Consort

Specimen Examination Question 3

This question is based on "La Mourisque" by Susato

Intermediate 1

(a) Tick two boxes to describe methods of producing sound in this excerpt.						
Striking	Plucking					
Strumming	Blowing					
(b) Tick one feature to describe the tor	nality of the piece.					
Major key	Minor key					
(c) Tick one box that best describes the	e tempo towards the end.					
Rallentando	Imitation					
Change to compound time	Accelerando					
(d) Tick one box to describe a feature	of the melody.					
Sequence	Variation					
Imitation	Minor					
Intermediate 2						
(a) Tick the correct version of the main	theme.					

Higher Grade

(a) Tick one feature that best describe	es the group of instruments playing.
String quartet	Brass band
Ghanaian drum ensemble	Consort
(b)Tick three features present in the	music.
Anacrusis	Tambourine playing on the beat
Madrigal	Modal
Homophonic texture	Anthem
Galliard	Simple duple time
Modulation	
(c) Tick one box to identify the period	or style of this music.
Renaissance	Romantic
Baroque	20 th century
Classical	
(d) Copy out the correct version of op bass clef, transposing it down a	pening four bars of the melody in the an octave.
) :	
7	
	

Comparison Question

You are asked to compare two excerpts of music. In the column on the left of the page musical concepts are listed. You should select from that column features which are present in the excerpts, and tick the appropriate columns (Excerpt 1, Excerpt 2, Common to both Excerpts).

The number of marks listed at the foot of each column indicates the maximum number of concepts to be written in that column; marks will be deducted if you exceed that number. Both excerpts will be played three times.

Grid 1(Rough Work)

Concepts	Excerpt 1	Excerpt 2	Common to both excerpts
Melodic			<u>-</u>
Mordent			
Repetition			
Melismatic			
Sequence			
Harmonic			
Perfect Cadence			
Tierce de Picardie			
Major			
Minor			
Rhythmic			
Down beat			
Anacrusis			
Triple Time			
Quadruple time			
Structural			
Homophony			
Polyphony			
Retrograde			
Inverted pedal			
Timbre			
Consort			
Recorders			
Strings only			
Pizzicato			
Styles / Forms			
Pavan			
Galliard			
Madrigal			
Anthem			

Grid 2 (Final Answer)

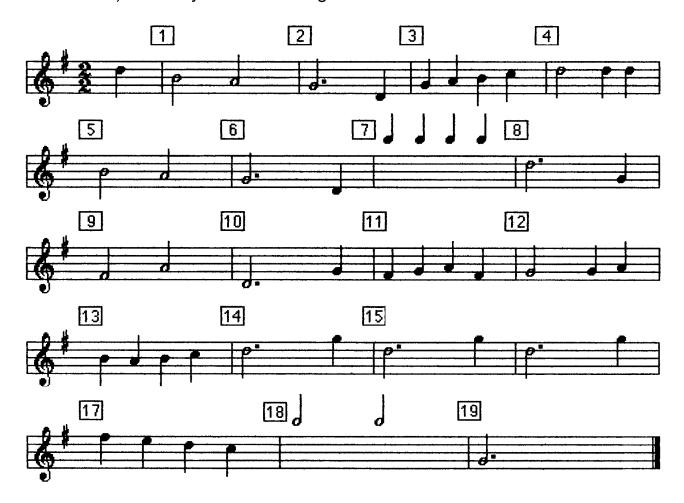
Concepts	Excerpt 1	Excerpt 2	Common to both excerpts
Melodic			-
Mordent			
Repetition			
Melismatic			
Sequence			
Harmonic			
Perfect Cadence			
Tierce de Picardie			
Major			
Minor			
Rhythmic	•		
Down beat			
Anacrusis			
Triple Time			
Quadruple time			
Structural	•		
Homophony			
Polyphony			
Retrograde			
Inverted pedal			
Timbre			
Consort			
Recorders			
Strings only			
Pizzicato			
Styles / Forms	•		
Pavan			
Galliard			
Madrigal			
Anthem			
	1	1	9
	Mark	Mark	Marks

Specimen Examination Question 4

This question is based on "Quittez, Pasteurs"

Intermediate 1	
(a) What type of voice is singing the	melody? Tick one box.
Soprano	Alto
Tenor	Bass
(b) Tick one phrase, which best desc	cribes the backing of the music.
Accompanied	Unaccompanied
(c) Tick the best description of this ex	xcerpt.
Waulking song	Madrigal
Folk song	Plainsong
(d) Tick one phrase, which best desc	cribes the overall tonality of the music.
The music is in major key	The music is in a minor key
Intermediate 2	
(a) Tick the best description of the rh music:	ythmic feature at the beginning of the
The melody begins on the first	t beat of the bar.
The melody does not begin or	the first beat of the bar.
(b) Tick one phrase, which best des	cribes the final three bars of the melody.
Descending minor scale	Ascending minor scale
Ascending major scale	Descending major scale

(c) Follow the melody that is printed below and insert the missing notes (bars 7 and 18). The rhythm has been given above the stave.



Higher Grade

(a) Tick three features present in the music.

Compound time	Hemiola
Leap of a perfect 4th	Mordent
Turn	Falling minor 3rd
Anacrusis	Melisma
Octave leap	

Renaissance Music – Listening Test

features which are present. You will hear the music twice.		
Homophony	Pavan	
Mass	A cappella	
Madrigal	Motet	
Anthem	Polyphony	
 Read through the list of features below before hearing the music. Tick three features which are present. You will hear the music twice. 		
Mass	Consort	
Ayre	Harpsichord	
Viols	Arco	
Pizzicato	Word-painting	
 Read through the list of features below before hearing the music. Tick three features which are present. You will hear the music twice. 		
Pavan	Melisma	
Madrigal		
	Mode	
Galliard	Mode Tierce de picardie	
Galliard Binary form		
	Tierce de picardie Motet w before hearing the music. Tick three	
Binary form 4. Read through the list of features below	Tierce de picardie Motet w before hearing the music. Tick three	
Binary form 4. Read through the list of features below features which are present. You will have been supported by the second of the second o	Tierce de picardie Motet w before hearing the music. Tick three ear the music twice.	
Binary form 4. Read through the list of features below features which are present. You will have below the below features which are present. You will have below the below features which are present.	Tierce de picardie Motet w before hearing the music. Tick three ear the music twice. Pavan	