

Introduction

The sample material presented has been prepared to support teacher professional development. It offers a broad indication of types and formats of assessment items that might be used to assess the learning outcomes in the Junior Cycle Music Specification at common level, but it is not a complete set of the types and formats that may be used. The items included should be read as examples of individual pieces of assessment material; they do not constitute full or partial examination papers. They are not full or partial questions from an examination paper, neither do they attempt to replicate how the examination paper might be laid out, for example, as an integrated booklet that includes the questions and the space for the student's responses.

The Junior Cycle Music Specification and Assessment Guidelines can be found on www.curriculumonline.ie.

How to access the music clips

The music clips required for the aural portion of these samples are attached within this document. When viewing the document on Adobe Reader they can be found under the attachments menu, symbolised by a paperclip. Each file is named for the sample it relates to.

If you do not have Adobe Reader, we recommend downloading it for free at the following link: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>.

Sample 1

One audio file to be played 3 times.

This excerpt will be played three times.

(i.) Name the instrument that:

- Plays the melody: _____

- Plays the accompaniment: _____

(ii.) Tick whether each of these statements is true or false:

	Statement	True	False
1	The melody contains rising and falling scales.		
2	There are sequences in the melody.		
3	The music is in a minor key.		
4	The tempo is <i>Largo</i> .		
5	The texture is monophonic.		
6	The accompaniment has a drone.		

Sample 2

All audio repetition and gaps are included.

You will hear an extract from the song *Perfect* performed by Ed Sheeran. *The extract will be played twice.*

The lyrics of the song are printed below:

*I found a love for me
Darling just dive right in
And follow my lead
Well I found a girl beautiful and sweet
I never knew you were the someone waiting for me*

*'Cause we were just kids when we fell in love
Not knowing what it was
I will not give you up this time*

*But darling, just kiss me slow, your heart is all I own
And in your eyes you're holding mine*

1. Is the music sung by:
(a) a male singer (b) a female singer
2. How many beats are in each bar of the music?
(a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4
3. Does the melody begin
(a) at the start of the bar (b) on an up-beat/ anacrusis?

This section will be played twice

Line 1 'Cause we were just kids when we fell in love

Line 2 Not knowing what it was

Line 3 I will not give you up this time

(circle chord changes)

Line 4 But darling, just kiss me slow, your heart is all I own

Line 5 And in your eyes you're holding mine

4. This section features:
(a) repeated notes (b) sequences (c) imitation
5. Circle each word in lines 4 and 5 where you hear a chord change.

Sample 3

Play the audio sample 3 times.

Please see an 8-bar melody printed below with missing notes. There are **three** parts to answer in this question.

Part 1, bars 1-4 involves listening to and writing down a melody.

Part 2, bars 5-8 asks you to write your own melody

Part 3, bars 5-8 asks you to add chords to the melody.

All instructions are included with each section. The melody included here is for illustration purposes only and should not be filled in. Answer each section separately.



1 2 3 4

d r m s m r s m

5 6 7 8

m f s d r d t l s s

Part 1: Bars 1 - 4

- The opening four-bar phrase will be played three times on the piano.
- There will be a pause after each playing.

Use the given rhythm to fill in the missing melody notes in bars 3 – 4 below. You may insert the missing notes on the score OR write the tonic solfa in the empty box below. The tonic solfa for Bars 1 and 2 has been included to help you. There are 8 notes missing.



1 2 3 4

d r m s m r s m

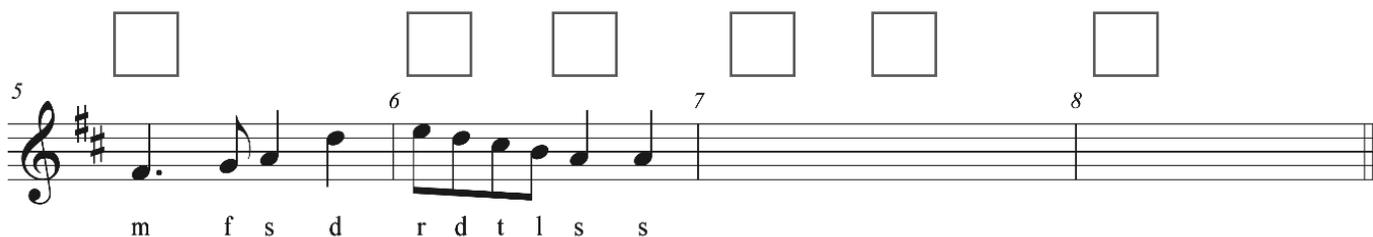
SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

Part 2: Bars 7 – 8

- Add a melody to bars 7 – 8 below, making the tune sound finished.

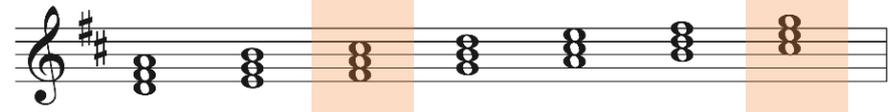
Part 3: Bars 5 – 8

Now, choose suitable chords to accompany bars 5 – 8 below. Write them into the boxes above the melody. You may use Chord Symbols or Roman Numerals.



A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of the following notes: Bar 5: m (quarter), f (quarter), s (quarter), d (quarter); Bar 6: r (quarter), d (quarter), t (quarter), l (quarter), s (quarter), s (quarter); Bar 7: (empty); Bar 8: (empty). Above the staff, there are seven empty square boxes for writing chords, one above each bar from 5 to 8.

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

Scale	
Triads	
Chord Symbols	D Em F#m G A Bm C# ^o
Roman Numerals	I ii iii IV V vi vii ^o



Four sets of blank musical staves (treble clef) provided for rough work.

Sample 4

You have been asked to compile a playlist for a special event (e.g. family holiday/ school sporting event). Name the special event and name three songs you would include on the playlist, giving a reason why you are including each song, referring to musical features.

Name of special event

Three songs

Song title	Reason why this song is suitable for the playlist
1.	
2.	
3.	

Sample 5

Play the audio file 3 times.

The music for this question will be played **THREE** times

This question is based on a song called *Aus meinen Tränen spriessen* by Robert Schumann. There are four musical phrases in this song. The first phrase is printed for you:

Aus mei - nen Trä - nen sprie - ssen viel blü - hen - de Blu - men her - vor,

Identify the letter plan (structure) of the song.

1 st phrase	A
2 nd phrase	
3 rd phrase	
4 th phrase	

This is an example of:

Unitary Form

Binary Form

Ternary Form

The melody is sung by:

Female voice

Male voice

Name the instrument that accompanies the singer:

The composer used the text of an existing poem for this piece. It is an example of:

A ballad

An aria

An art song

Sample 6

Q.1 Name an organisation that collects royalties on behalf of composers in Ireland.

Q.2 Name an internet platform / website/ app where you can share music with other people.

Q.3 Give two reason why composers should receive royalties.

Reason 1

Reason 2

Sample 7

Play the audio file 3 times.

ONE excerpt played *THREE* times.

This question is based on an excerpt from *Spiegel im Spiegel* by Arvo Pärt played on the piano and the viola.

(i.) The piano plays

Rising scales

Falling scales

Rising triads

Sequences

(ii.) The viola plays

Sustained notes

Syncopation

Staccato

Repeated notes

(iii.) The composer has created a piece of music that has a calm mood. Describe how the following musical elements help to create this mood.

Dynamics

Tempo

Sample 8

Part 1

There are two excerpts in this question.

Excerpt 1 is a recording of the traditional song *Róisín Dubh*. Excerpt 2 is from *Mise Éire*, composed by Seán Ó Riada. *You will hear each excerpt TWICE.*

Excerpt 1: Play the audio file twice.

(i.) Name the Irish traditional instrument playing the melody.

(ii.) The musical texture is:

Monophonic Homophonic Polyphonic

Explain your answer:

Excerpt 2: Play the audio file twice.

(i.) Which instrument plays the melody in this excerpt?

Cor Anglais French Horn Trumpet Oboe

(ii.) Which dynamic best describes the music in this excerpt?

ff *p* *crescendo*

(iii.) Explain the meaning of these dynamics:

<i>ff</i>	
<i>p</i>	
<i>crescendo</i>	

Sample 8

Part 2

Now you will hear excerpt 1 and excerpt 2 twice more. Answer the questions below.

Play both audio files twice.

(i.) Describe **one** musical similarity between the two excerpts.

(ii.) Apart from instruments, describe **one** musical difference between the two excerpts.

Sample 9



The Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) is the regulator of broadcasting in Ireland. You are working for this national agency and have been asked to report back on the time allocated to two Irish artists on local and/or national media.

Present your report below with reference to two Irish artists you have studied

1. State the names of your chosen artists

(i) _____ (ii) _____

2. Give a brief description of the style of music these artists perform

3. Identify the types of media you investigated for this report

Present your findings on the time allocated

Sample 10

Part 1

Play the audio file twice.

ONE excerpt played TWICE.

(i.) The music in this excerpt is played by instruments from which orchestral section:

Strings Woodwind Brass Percussion

(ii.) Choose ONE musical feature that occurs in the music:

Rising Scale Sequence Syncopation Pizzicato

(iii.) There are two musicians playing in this excerpt.

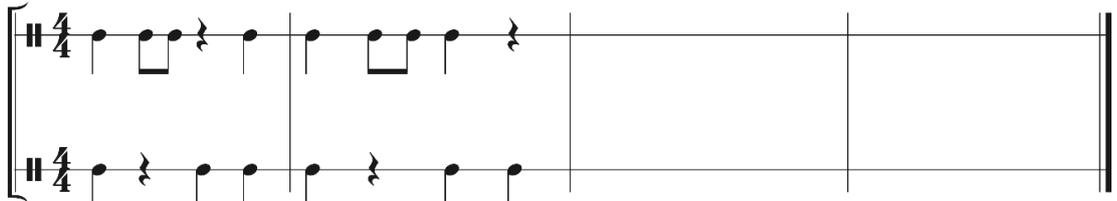
A piece of music for two performers is called: _____

Sample 10

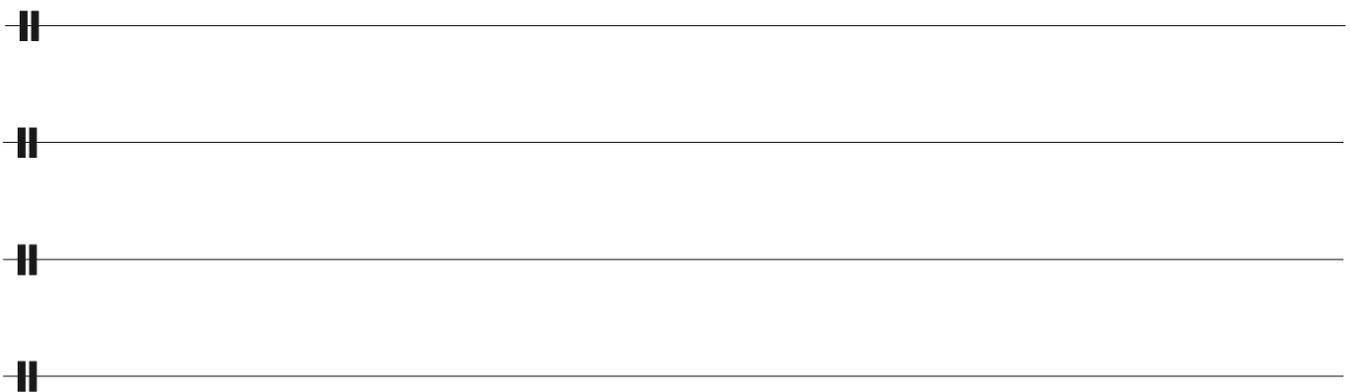
Part 2

- Study the excerpt below. It is the opening of a short piece for two percussion instruments.
- Complete the piece by composing a suitable rhythm for each instrument in bars 3 and 4.
- Choose a percussion instrument from the list below for each of the parts. Write their names in the boxes provided.

BASS DRUM	TAMBOURINE	SNARE DRUM	WOOD BLOCK
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<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK



Sample 11

TWO excerpts played twice.

This question is based on the song *Radio GaGa* by Queen.

Excerpt 1: Play the audio file twice.

There is a chordal accompaniment in this part of the song. Underline the words or syllables where the chords are played. The first one is underlined for you. You will hear this excerpt twice.

Line 1 I'd sit alone and watch your light

Line 2 My only friend through teenage nights

Line 3 And everything I had to know

Line 4 I heard it on my radio

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Excerpt 2: Play the audio file twice.

This is an excerpt from the chorus section of the song. You will hear it twice.

The first four bars are written here to help you:

(i.) The bass drum plays:

- Syncopation An ostinato A drone

(ii.) The beats have been numbered in **bold** below the Bass Drum part.

Circle one beat where you hear hands clapping.

Sample 12

Play the audio file. All audio repetition and gaps are included.

You will hear music from a television advertisement for an airline company. The music is from Mozart K.488, Adagio movement. *The music will be played twice.*

1. Name the instrument that you hear at the start of this advertisement.

2. When the full orchestra enters the texture is

Monophonic Homophonic Polyphonic

3. Give two reasons why you think this music is suitable for an advertisement for an airline company.

Reason 1 _____

Reason 2 _____

4. Name an advertisement you have studied which includes music. Name the product advertised and describe how the music promotes the brand being advertised.

Product advertised _____

How the music helps to promote the brand:

Sample 13

- Name a style of music that you have studied in class.
- Give the title and composer/performer of two pieces of this style of music
- Name and describe three features of this style
- You should refer to the music you have studied in your answer.

Style _____

Two pieces of music studied (title and composer/ performer):

1. _____

2. _____

Feature 1

Feature 2

Feature 3

Sample 14

All audio repetition and gaps are included.

You will hear an excerpt from Schubert's Quartet No. 12 C minor 1st movement. The excerpt will be played once.

1. Circle the family of instruments heard in this excerpt:

STRINGS	WOODWIND	BRASS	PERCUSSION
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You will now hear an excerpt from Dvorak's Piano quintet op. 81 2nd movement. The excerpt will be played once.

2. Circle the answer that best describes the tempo (speed) of this music:

fast (allegro)	slow (lento)	at a walking pace (andante)
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3. Tick the statement which best describes the role of the piano in this excerpt:

- The piano is heard all of the time
- The piano is heard some of the time

Now you will hear excerpt 1 and excerpt 2 *twice* more. Answer the questions below.

Play from the start of the audio file.

4. Name two ways in which the excerpts are similar. Refer to musical features (e.g. tempo, dynamics, instrumentation, texture) in your answer.

(i) _____

(ii) _____

5. Name two ways in which the excerpts are different. Refer to musical features (e.g. tempo, dynamics, instrumentation, texture) in your answer.

(i) _____

(ii) _____

Sample 15

You have been asked to create your own music for an advertisement and give your music to a production company. They have lots of ideas about how to improve the recording but most importantly they need to add some effects to the recording.

Give an example of two effects (FX) that musicians add to music when recording or performing live and describe the impact it has on the sound of the instrument/voice:

1. _____

2. _____

You are now looking to promote and share your music to a wider audience. Give two examples of how you could share your music to a wider audience.

1. _____

2. _____

Sample 16

1. The RTÉ Choice Music Prize is an annual music prize awarded to the best album from a band or solo musician who is a citizen of the Republic of Ireland and/or Northern Ireland. For bands, the majority of the members must be Irish citizens.

How might a nomination for this prize help Irish artists to promote their music to a national audience?

2. A contemporary Irish folk music group from Dublin named Lankum, consisting of brothers Ian and Daragh Lynch, Cormac MacDiarmada and Radie Peat, won the 2019 Album of the Year.

Why might winning this prize boost the time allocated to Lankum on local and national media?

3. Westlife won Song of the Year for 2019 with their track '*Hello my Love*'. The Song of the Year award is decided by a public vote.

How might the time given to playing Westlife's song on local and national media influence the public's decision to vote for them in comparison to artists whose songs are played less often?
