

Section 1: Focus on MELODY

Across the four areas of study, these are the 'must-know' musical terms for **MELODY**:

Anacrusis	Sequence	Leitmotif/motif	Ornamentation/ decoration
Conjunct (stepwise)	Imitation	Chromatic movement	Counter melody
Disjunct (angular)	Repetition	Pentatonic	Answering phrase
Arpeggio (broken chord)	Contrast	Blue notes	Thematic
Scalic (ascending + descending)	Range (Low/high pitch)	Intervals: microtone; semitone; tone/major 2nd; major 3rd; perfect 4th; perfect 5th; major 6th major 7th; octave	Fanfare

Area of Study 1: Musical Forms and Devices

1. You will hear the opening of a keyboard sonata by Handel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5F8xpdgDal8> [from start to 0'26"]

An outline score of the extract (treble clef only) is printed below.

I. Tick the **two** musical terms that best describe the **shape** of the melody in bar 1. [2]

Term	Tick
Conjunct	✓
Disjunct	
Ascending	
Descending	✓
Pentatonic	

II. Give the name of a **melodic device** used in bars 2 and 3. [1]

Imitation

III.

i. State the term that best describes the **shape** of the melody in bar 4. [1]

Disjunct

ii. Underline the name of the interval featured in bar 4. [1]

2nd

3rd

4th

5th

iii. Give the name of a **melodic device** used in bars 4² – 6² in the right-hand part (i.e. the treble clef part). [Bar 4² means bar 4, beat 2; Bar 6¹ means bar 6, beat 2] [1]

Sequence

IV. Give one word that describes the melody in bar 12. [1]

Scalic

V. Give the name of the **melodic device** used in bars 13 and 14.
(You must offer a different answer than the one given in (ii) above.) [1]

Repetition

- Suggest a tempo marking for this extract.
- Is the tonality major, minor, or modal?
- Is this type of time signature known as SIMPLE DUPLÉ, SIMPLE TRIPLE OR SIMPLE QUADRUPLE?
- Find out whether Handel was a composer from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic or Modern eras.
- What instrument would have been used for the original performance of this piece? Listen to another recording here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITqRbBUNMNq>

2. The following extract is from the opening of a piece known as '*The Hebrides Overture*'
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAXyj1dy-PE> [from start to 0'52"]

I. This short extract is based on a distinctive melodic pattern.
Tick what you believe to be the correct notation of the pattern the first time it is heard. [1]



II. Underline the correct term for this pattern. [1]

Microtone Motif Modulation Middle 8

III. Underline the melodic device heard in the opening part of the extract. [1]

Scalic Stepwise Staccato Sequence

IV. Describe how the melodic material is contrasted in the second part of the extract (23" – 52") [2]

Higher in pitch / covers a wider range / played by more instruments / dynamic is louder

*Try not to just guess the answer in a multiple-choice question. Make sure that you know what all the melodic terms mean.

*As you answer question (IV), focus on what changes in melody have been made in the second part of the extract; this will ensure that you get marks for answering the question set, and you don't provide information that is unnecessary.

For consideration: **Do you know what an 'OVERTURE' is?**

Research: Find out **who** composed this piece. **When** was it composed?

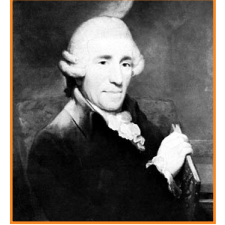
Make a note of whether the style of the music is Baroque, Classical, Romantic or Modern.

Area of Study 2: Music for Ensemble

1. Chamber Music

You will hear an extract from part of a Haydn String Quartet.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_chH88_--A [from start to 1'23"]



An outline score of the melody is printed below.

Complete the following questions on MELODY, while listening carefully to the extract.

1. Underline the word which best describes the opening of the melody.

[1]

Anacrusis

Bridge

Countermelody

Chromatic

II. Complete the missing notes of the melody in bars 8³ – 10. (The rhythm is given for you.) [6]

III. In the table below, tick (✓) 2 musical features which are heard in bar 3. [2]

Musical Features	Tick
Turn	✓
Trill	
Anacrusis	
Interval of a 3 rd	✓
Interval of a 4 th	
Interval of a 5 th	

Make sure you know the meanings of all these melodic terms. Then, you can choose the answer with confidence.

IV. Underline the term which best describes the shape of the melody heard in bar 13. [1]

Chromatic Conjunct Dissonant Disjunct

V. Name the melodic device heard in bar 12³ - bar 14³. [1]

Sequence

VI. Give the bar number where the interval of an octave may be heard in the melody. [1]

Bar 16

- Find some more intervals in the melody – look for a 2nd, a 3rd, a 4th, a 5th, a 6th, and a 7th.
- What is meant by **sfz** and **p** as written on the score?
- There is a melodic ornament on the last beat of bar 15 and on the last beat of bar 19. Find out **what** this is called, and **how** it works in performance. Play the entire tune on an instrument of your choice to appreciate fully how it works.
- In bar 11 – 12, a musical change occurs. What is this change?
- What ornament is heard in bar 19?
- Identify the correct time-signature for this musical extract. Is this known as SIMPLE DUPLÉ, SIMPLE TRIPLE, or SIMPLE QUADRUPLE?

2. Musical Theatre

This musical extract is the opening of a song from the show '**Godspell**'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrtRlgjq5fo> [From start to 0'38"]

Here are the words of the first verse.

1. *Where are you going?*
2. *Where are you going?*
3. *Can you take me with you?*
4. *For my hand is cold*
5. *And needs warmth*
6. *Where are you going?*

Tick the box to show the correct musical shape of the first vocal phrase, sung to the words in line 1 "Where are you going?"

[1]







I. Underline the name of the interval heard at the end of line 1.

[1]

Major 2nd

Major 3rd

Perfect 4th

Perfect 5th

II. Underline the name of the interval heard in line 2.

[1]

Major 2nd

Major 3rd

Perfect 4th

Perfect 5th

III. Give one word to describe the general melodic movement in line 6.

[1]

Conjunct

IV. Tick two features which best describe the vocal line in this extract.

[2]

Features	Tick
High pitch	
Narrow range	✓
Wide range	
Middle pitch	✓
Chromatic	
Low pitch	

Remember:

* You also need to be able to recognise semitones, major 7ths and octaves.

Complete the following:

A semitone is.....

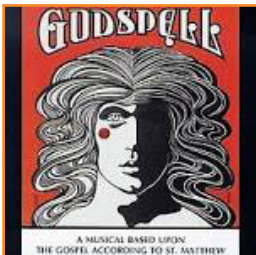
A major 7th is.....

An octave is.....

* **Chromatic** is a special type of melodic movement that moves in semitones. Play a chromatic scale (starting on any note) on the keyboard to get the feeling of the sound it creates.

* This extract starts with a short instrumental **introduction**, followed by a short **solo**, then **duet**. In the duet, the voices start in **unison**, then sing in **harmony**, before one voice echoes the other.

Make sure you know what these structural and textural terms mean, and listen carefully to the extract to identify them.



'Godspell' was a musical was composed by Stephen Schwarz.

Find out the name of another musical he wrote.

Area of Study 3: Film Music

1. This is a musical extract from the film *Pirates of the Caribbean*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27mB8verLK8> [from start to 0'32"]

The extract is in two sections: the short **introduction**, followed by the **theme**.

- I. Tick two melodic features which can be heard in the short introduction. [2]

Features	Tick
Fanfare	
Repetition	✓
Wide pitch range	
High pitch	
Low pitch	✓

- II. Underline which feature is heard at the start of the main theme. [2]

Anacrusis Anticipation note Alberti bass

- III. Describe how the composer uses the element of melody to achieve the feeling of excitement in the music. [2]

Mainly conjunct / memorable and strong theme / notes within a narrow range / use of patterns and accented notes

Remember to consider different types of musical terms and their meanings when you are asked to describe them in a question.

PROMPT: Does the melody move by step or leap? Does it include repetition? Is it based on one or more patterns? Does it include scales, or arpeggios? What type of pitch range does it cover? Can you hear any sequences, repetition or any imitation of the ideas?

What other musical elements contribute to the feeling of **excitement** and **adventure**?

2. You will hear the opening from 'Moon River', a famous song from the film *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEdPe1SxitI> [from start to 0'42"]

Complete the following questions on the melody, while listening carefully to the extract. An outline of the musical score is printed below.

(N.B. The rhythm is a guide as the singer interprets the song in their own way.)

Moon Ri-ver wi-der than a mile, I'm cross-in' you in style some day Old dream

10 ma-ker, you heart break-er, where ev - er you're go - in' I'm go - in' your way... etc.

- I. Examine the first three notes of the melody. Tick the statement below which accurately describes the two intervals (i.e. the interval between the 1st and the 2nd note, followed by the interval between the 2nd note and the 3rd note). [1]

Features	Tick
A perfect 4 th followed by a major 3 rd	<input type="checkbox"/>
A major 3 rd followed by a major 6 th	<input type="checkbox"/>
A major 6 th followed by a major 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>
A perfect 5 th followed by a major 2 nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If you are not sure what these intervals sound like, listen to some online examples – or better still work them out and play them on a keyboard before attempting this task.

- II. Complete the missing notes of the melody in bars 14-16. (The rhythm is given for you.) [6]

- III. Name the **device** heard in the melody in bars 3 – 6. [1]

Repetition

IV. Name the melodic feature in bar 13– 14¹ (i.e. bar 13– the first beat of bar 14). [1]

Arpeggio

V. Underline one term below which best describes this melodic extract. [1]

Wide pitch range

Low pitch range

High pitch range

- Suggest a tempo marking.
- Is this time signature SIMPLE or COMPOUND time?
- Draw the shortest note-value in this extract.
- Draw the longest note-value in this extract.

Area of study 4: Popular Music

1. Listen to the following extract from a song by Sam Smith – ‘Dancing with a Stranger’.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lexrhy-1kRI> [from start to 1’10”]

You should play it three times while considering the questions below. Here are the words:

1. *I don't wanna be alone tonight (Lone tonight)*
2. *It's pretty clear that I'm not over you (Over you, over you)*
3. *I'm still thinking 'bout the things you do (Things you do)*
4. *So I don't want to be alone tonight, alone tonight, alone tonight*
5. *Can you light the fire? (Light the fire, light the fire)*
6. *I need somebody who can take control (Take control)*
7. *I know exactly what I need to do*
8. *'Cause I don't wanna be alone tonight, alone tonight, alone tonight*
9. *Look what you made me do, I'm with somebody new*
10. *Ooh, baby, baby, I'm dancing with a stranger*
11. *Look what you made me do, I'm with somebody new*
12. *Ooh, baby, baby, I'm dancing with a stranger*
13. *Dancing with a stranger*

- I. Underline the musical interval heard on the opening words ‘I don’t’. [1]

Major 3rd Perfect 4th **Perfect 5th** Major 6th

- II. State the **musical device** used at the start of lines 1-4. [1]

Repetition

- III. Describe two changes to the **melody** heard in lines 5-8. [2]

Lines 5 and 7 use different notes/pitches; melody goes a little higher / covers a wider pitch range

IV. In the table below, tick (✓) **2 musical features** heard in the first phrase of line 9 ('Look what you made me do').

[2]

Features	Tick
Interval of a 5 th	✓
Sequence	
Interval of an octave	
Descending movement	✓
Ascending movement	

2. You will hear another extract of popular music, this time by the group **Coldplay**.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k4V3Mo61fJM> [from start to 1'07"]

Play it three times, while answering the following questions.

The extract consists of the first two verses of the song.

Verse 1:

When you try your best but you don't succeed
 When you get what you want but not what you need
 When you feel so tired but you can't sleep
 Stuck in reverse

Verse 2:

When the tears come streaming down your face
 'Cause you lose something you can't replace
 When you love someone but it goes to waste
 What could it be worse?

Answer the following questions on the melody.

I. Verse 1 consists of 4 musical lines/phrases. The beginning of each phrase begins with one of the following features. Underline which feature you think this may be. [1]

Sequence Chromatic movement Fanfare **Anacrusis**

II.

i. The interval found at the start of the first 3 lines is the same interval each time. Underline which interval you believe this to be. [1]

Major 6th Perfect 5th Perfect 4th Major 3rd

ii. Underline the term which best describes the shape of this interval. [1]

Ascending Descending Inverted

III. Tick **two** of the following characteristics which best describe the melody in this extract. [2]

Features	Tick
Low pitched	
Mostly disjunct	✓
Triadic	
Scalic	
High pitched	✓

IV. Name the melodic device used in the first three lines of verse 1. [1]

Repetition

V. Explain how melodic contrast is achieved in the last line of verse 1. [2]

Different melodic shape/different pitches/ ascending instead of descending line (until last falling interval).

- The singer performs in his '**false**to' voice. Find out what this means.
- Make a note of any terms that you are unsure of and find out what they mean. Play around with ideas on a keyboard (or another instrument) to help with your understanding of all melodic terms. If you know what they are, you will be able to recognise them in the exam.
- Sometimes an exam question will require a more extended answer. A good deal of information has been covered in the above question. Use this to write a long paragraph to '**Describe the use of melody in the given extract**'.