

AoS 2:

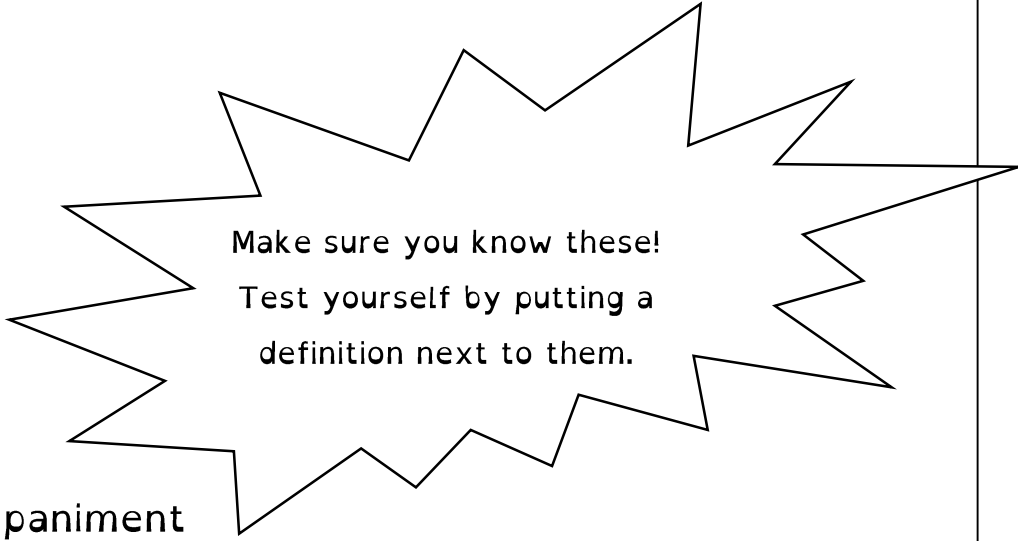
Music for Ensemble

Revision tips and exercises

From the Eduqas specification:

Through studying chamber music, musical theatre, jazz, and blues, learners will study texture, including how composers use the following textures:

- Monophonic
- Homophonic
- Heterophonic
- Polyphonic
- Unison
- Chordal
- Layered
- Melody & accompaniment
- Round
- Canon
- Countermelody/ Contrapuntal
- Fugue
- Antiphonal



Make sure you know these!
Test yourself by putting a
definition next to them.

Learners will also consider how textures is used in the following ensembles:

- Vocal ensembles (solos, duets, trios, use of backing vocals)
- Jazz/ blues trios
- Rhythm section
- String quartet
- Basso continuo
- Sonatas

What to expect:

AoS 2 – Music for Ensemble

- Chamber music
- Jazz/Blues
- Musicals

There are likely to be compare/
contrast questions, describe
questions, and identify questions.

AoS 2 – Music for Ensemble

Chamber Music



← Hiring an orchestra costs ££££!

Chamber group =
fewer players = ££
Can fit into a house
(not church/ court/
concert hall)



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Chamber Music

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwJRzYv6HNI>

and listen to the first minute
without looking at the video.



Is this Baroque, Classical, or Romantic?
Why?

1. How many instruments can you hear?
2. What type of ensemble is playing?
3. What name is given to the part that provides the bass line and harmony?
4. In this example, what instruments provide this?

AoS 2 – Music for Ensemble

Chamber Music

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwJRzYv6HNI> and listen to the first minute.

1. Is this Baroque, Classical, or Romantic? **Baroque**
Why? **Use of harpsichord**
2. How many instruments can you hear? **4**
3. What type of ensemble is playing?
Chamber ensemble
4. What name is given to the part that provides the bass line and harmony? **Basso continuo**
5. In this example, what instruments provide this?
Cello and harpsichord

REMEMBER:

Trio sonata = three lines of music –
melody + melody + accompaniment
(provided by basso continuo –
bass instrument plus
harpsichord/ organ/ lute/ theorbo)



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Chamber Music

Listen again, and this time try to describe the TEXTURE.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwJRzYv6HNI>

Make two points about the texture of the music. Don't just say it's homo/ mono/ polyphonic – talk about the texture between different instruments, whether it changes or not, whether there are lots of instruments or few, whether they always play together or not... push yourselves!

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Chamber Music

Look at the score on the next age. Before listening to it, **PREDICT** what happens to the texture.

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jF54fy5H1fw> and listen from 18.28 – 18.51.



- What ensemble is this written for?
- Do you think it is **Baroque**, **Classical**, or **Romantic**?
- What **key** do you think the music is in?
- Which instruments have the melody?
- How many times will we hear the main melody?
- How many different themes are there?

Bonus question: what textural technique is being used in this piece?

Now listen to the piece.

Do you still agree with your prediction on key?

Finale IV
Fuga a due Soggetti

sempre sotto voce

10

20

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Chamber Music

ROUND UP

1. How many instruments normally play in a Baroque trio sonata?

- a) Two or three
- b) Three or four
- c) Four or five

2. Which instruments might play the continuo in a Baroque trio sonata?

- a) Harpsichord and violin
- b) Two harpsichords
- c) Organ and cello

3. How many movements does a Classical string quartet normally have?

- a) Three
- b) Four
- c) Five

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Chamber Music

ROUND UP

4. How many instruments normally play in a Baroque trio sonata?

- a) Two or three
- d) Three or four
- e) Four or five

5. Which instruments might play the continuo in a Baroque trio sonata?

- a) Harpsichord and violin
- b) Two harpsichords
- c) Organ and cello

6. How many movements does a Classical string quartet normally have?

- a) Three
- b) Four
- c) Five

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Chamber Music

ROUND UP *cont...*

4. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

- a) The first string quartets were written in the nineteenth century
- b) Haydn was the first well-known composer to write string quartets
- c) The four string quartet instruments play equally important parts

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Chamber Music

ROUND UP *cont...*

4. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

d) The first string quartets were written in the nineteenth century

e) Haydn was the first well-known composer to write string quartets

f) The four string quartet instruments play equally important parts

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BLUES

- Complete the table below to show the 12-bar blues chord sequence:

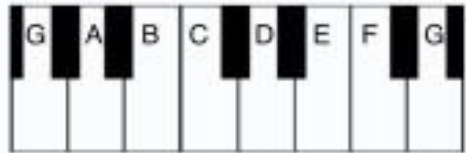
I	I		
		I	I
		I	I

- If the key was F major, what would the table look like?

Bb			

- Why is it a Bb?

Blues Keywords

Keyword	Meaning
Structure	
12 bar blues	
Strophic	
AAB Structure	
The Head	
Melody	
Improvisation	
Blues Scale	
Scat	
Fill	
Chords / Harmony	
7th chords	
Rhythm	
Syncopated Rhythm	

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Jazz and Blues

You may be asked to compare two or three versions of the same song/piece, and to describe any differences.

Remember:

- DO NOT repeat yourself
- Listen carefully for simple differences such as the number of instruments and the pitch/key of the version
- Try to say the opposite of each feature e.g. swung rhythm/ straight rhythm

Extract 1:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yd60nl4sa9A>



Extract 2:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtLhPeLB9bA>



Listen to extract 1, followed by extract 2. Give three ways in which extract 2 is different from extract 1.

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Musical Theatre

Music for Ensemble - Musicals Revision grid	Voices and Ensembles Solos Duets Trios Backing Vocals Soprano Mezzo soprano Tenor Baritone Bass Falsetto
Interaction and Texture Monophonic Homophonic Polyphonic Unison Melody and accompaniment Canon Countermelody Imitation Harmony	Sonorities (Instruments of the orchestra) Percussion (timpani/cymbals/snare or bass drum) Strings (violin/cello/bass) Woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon) Brass (French horn, trumpet, trombone) Guitar Piano
Devices Major/Minor Allegro/Andante Ritenuto (Rit) Forte/Piano Crescendo/Diminuendo Sforzando Colla Voce Recitative Declamatory Writing	

Eduqas sample questions on Musical Theatre

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5Mi6-AiXI4> and listen from 1.24



Area of Study 2 – Music for Ensemble

You will hear a recording of 'One Hand One Heart' from *West Side Story*. It will be played four times with a 30 second pause between each playing. There will be a 3 minute silence after the final playing for you to complete your answer. [12]

You now have 30 seconds to read the questions before the first playing of the extract.

1. Suggest a suitable tempo marking for this music. [1]

2. What is the time signature of this piece? [1]

3. Identify the 2 instruments that accompany the male solo sung at the beginning of the duet. [2]

i. _____

ii. _____

4. Is the opening of this piece major or minor? [1]

Eduqas sample questions on Musical Theatre (continued...)

5. What type of voice does the main male character of Tony have? Underline your answer.

[1]

Baritone

Bass

Tenor

6. What type of voice does the main female character Maria have? Underline your answer.

[1]

Alto

Soprano

Mezzo Soprano

7. What is the texture at the beginning of this excerpt?

[1]

8. What is the interval between Tony and Maria when they sing together?

Underline your answer.

[1]

4th

5th

8ve

9. Identify any three instruments that have solo lines after the singers have finished.

[3]

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

AoS 2: Music for ensemble

Texture	The layers in a piece and how they work together
Monophonic	One melody line e.g. solo or unison
Unison	Several voices/ instruments on one melody
Octaves	Several voices/ instruments playing the same melody 8 notes apart
Heterophonic/ Heterophony	One melody with a second ornamented version playing at the same time e.g. World, folk music
Homophonic/ Homophony	Harmony – moving in chords e.g. guitar chords, psalm chants/ hymn tunes, Classical music
Melody and accompaniment	One melody with chords underneath - homophonic
Layered	Multiple layers of instruments/ voices
Polyrhythm/ Polyrhythmic	Multiple rhythms that interweave
Polyphony/ Polyphonic	Multiple melodies that interweave
Counterpoint/ Contrapuntal	Melodic lines interweaving
Counter melody	A melody that fits with the original melody
Imitation/ Imitative	A short section of the melody repeated in another instrument/ voice; could start on a different pitch
Canon/ Canonic	The exact melody repeated at the same pitch in a different voice/ instrument at a different time
Fugue/ Fugal	A very specific type of counterpoint where the melody is heard in each voice on the tonic, dominant, tonic, dominant, while the other voices have counter melodies
Antiphony/ Antiphonal	Call and response
Trio sonata	A Baroque composition for two instruments accompanied by a <i>basso continuo</i>
Basso continuo	A Baroque accompaniment group consisting of a bass instrument ('cello, viol, bassoon) and a keyboard (harpsichord, organ) or plucked instrument (lute/ theorbo)

Concerto	Literally, playing together. Baroque period – a small group of soloists accompanied by a larger group to create contrast Classical period and later – a solo instrument accompanied by a full orchestra, usually showing off the soloist's skill
Solo	One person playing
Duet/ Trio	Two/ Three people playing
Backing vocals	A group of singers adding backing harmonies
Chorus	In a musical/ opera/ oratorio: the large group of singers on stage who perform together and/ or accompany the soloist(s)
Jazz/ Blues trio	Three instruments playing jazz; typically piano/ bass/ drums, may include vocalist/ saxophone/ clarinet/ trumpet
Rhythm section	The group including bass and drums which accompany jazz musicians once additional instruments are added to the trio
String trio	2 violins + 'cello
Piano duet	2 pianos, or one piano with two players
Piano trio	Violin, 'cello, piano NOT 3 pianos!
String quartet	2 violins, viola + 'cello
Piano quartet	Piano + three instruments, usually a violin, viola and 'cello NOT 4 pianos!
Flute quartet	4 flutes
Saxophone quartet	4 saxophones – may be alto, tenor, baritone etc.
String quintet	String quartet with an extra player – either an extra viola, 'cello or sometimes double bass
Piano quintet	Piano + four instruments, usually 2 violins, viola + 'cello (string quartet) NOT 5 pianos!
Woodwind quintet	Any five wind players, usually flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn and bassoon
Sonata	Literally: sounding. A piece for a solo instrument, often with keyboard accompaniment
Symphony	An orchestra work developed in the Classical period with 4 movements: fast, slow, Minuet + Trio, fast