

# Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

**Release Date: Sunday 1 September 2024**

**Time** Minimum 5 hours

**Paper  
reference**

**1MU0/02**

## **Music**

### **Component 2: Composing**

**You do not need any other materials.**

### **Instructions to Teachers**

- The final write-up and recording of the composition must be completed under teacher supervision.
- Candidates will need access to manuscript paper if writing their scores by hand, or access to a computer if using software.
- The materials submitted must include a:
  - Score/written account – ‘score’ refers to any of the following: a full score in conventional staff notation; a lead sheet or chord chart; track sheets; written account, tables or diagrams.
  - Recording – a complete recording of both pieces.
  - Completed Composition Authentication Sheet, available on the Pearson website.
- All assessment materials must be uploaded onto the Learner Work Transfer platform by **15 May 2025**.
- Teacher-Assessors are advised to refer to the Administrative Support Guide available online.

### **Information for Candidates**

- Component 2: Composing is made up of two compositions: one free composition and one in response to a set brief.
- The total mark for this component is 60.
- This document outlines four set briefs. Candidates must select one brief to respond to.
- Both the chosen brief and free composition are each marked out of 30.
- Each composition must be at least one minute in duration, and the total of both compositions must last a minimum duration of three minutes.
- You are reminded of the importance of clear and orderly presentation of your score and recording.

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## Composition Task

You will compose **two** pieces.

### Free composition

You must compose **one** piece that is a free composition, as outlined in the specification (GCSE Music (9–1) Specification, Issue 4, page 31).

You should use your imagination and skills to compose a piece of music. You can draw inspiration or starting points from the set works and suggested wider listening, as well as your own interests and the world around you. You should consider the role of the audience and/or occasion in your composition. The piece composed may be for any instrument or combination of instruments, acoustic and/or amplified and/or synthesised. The music may be in any style.

This document only covers the Awarding Organisation's set brief.

### Set Brief

You must compose **one** piece of music based on **one** of the four briefs listed below.

You can draw on your knowledge of the set works, and any other pieces of music that you have studied and/or listened to, in order to help you think about the structure, style and features of your composition. Consider treatment of ideas, techniques and structures in your composition. You should consider the role of the stated audience and/or occasion in your composition.

The word 'instrument' includes voice (GCSE Music (9–1) Specification, Issue 4, page 36).

## Composition briefs

Select **one** of the following briefs and compose your piece of music according to the brief.

### **Brief 1 – Instrumental Music 1700–1820**

Develop and extend an existing melodic theme composed between 1700 and 1820 to create a theme and variations. Compose for a solo instrument and accompaniment to be performed at a chamber music festival.

- The piece should exploit the potential of the solo instrument and accompaniment.
- The accompaniment may be for one or more instrument(s).
- The instruments may be acoustic and/or amplified and/or synthesised.
- The music may be in any style.

### **Brief 2 – Vocal Music**

Compose a song for solo voice and accompaniment, using a 32 bar song structure, to be performed at a New Year's Eve concert.

- The piece should exploit the potential of the solo voice and the accompaniment.
- You may choose any text or write your own.
- The accompaniment may be for one or more instrument(s).
- The instruments may be acoustic and/or amplified and/or synthesised.
- The music may be in any style.

### **Brief 3 – Music for Stage and Screen**

Compose music to underscore the discovery of a new planet in a Sci-Fi movie.

- The music will reflect the discovery and the landscape of the new planet.
- You may use one or more instrument(s).
- The instruments may be acoustic and/or amplified and/or synthesised.
- The music may be in any style.

### **Brief 4 – Fusions**

Combine the musical features of Reggae with any Latin American style to create a piece of music to be performed at a party in the park.

- You may write for one or more instrument(s).
- The instruments may be acoustic and/or amplified and/or synthesised.