

CBA2: Programme Note

Advice for Students

...Assessment Guidelines, p.22-23

Work for this assessment will be monitored and supported by your teacher. You will need to include in this Programme Note some facts on the composer or the songwriter, some interesting points about the purpose behind the composition and some musical highlights so that the audience or the listener can be alerted to and be aware of the context of the pieces for your practical examination.

In considering what information to include you could ask yourself the following questions for each piece:

- ♪ Who is the composer/songwriter of this piece?
- ♪ Why did the composer/songwriter write this music?
- ♪ If the composer or songwriter is unknown (for example in the case of some traditional music or folk music) what type of instrumental or vocal piece is this?
- ♪ Who are some famous exponents of this type of traditional or folk music?
- ♪ What was happening in the composer's country at the time of this composition?
- ♪ Is this piece typical of the time it was written or collected in?
- ♪ What is the most interesting moment in this piece for me?
- ♪ What do I want the attention of the listener to be guided towards?
- ♪ What is or where is my favourite section of this piece?

Whether you are performing as a soloist or as part of group, or a combination of both, you will still need to provide an individual programme note, but the note on the group performance should include a comment on your role and contribution to the group performance. Note, it will be your individual Programme Note that is the focus of assessment for the JCPA.

If you are the composer of any of the pieces that comprise your programme for the practical examination, you should comment on and reflect upon these questions above in the same manner.



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The structure of the Programme Note is left to your discretion, and you have the choice and the flexibility to present this in a format of your choosing, and in a way that allows you to focus on the aspects relevant to your upcoming performance.

As programme notes are usually accessed by people with a wide variety of background knowledge, the challenge is in creating notes that cater for this range and provide something of interest to both the well-informed listener and the novice listener.

This Programme Note will need to be completed two weeks in advance of the practical examination and it is advised that you spend no more than three weeks on researching and completing the Programme Note.

You may find it easier to complete your Programme Note as you learn your pieces as this research will also inform your practicing and refining of these pieces in preparation for the practical examination.



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