

**Cambridge IGCSE™ (9–1)**CANDIDATE
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MUSIC**0978/12**

Paper 1 Listening

May/June 2026**Approximately 1 hour 15 minutes**

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen. Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- You may use an HB pencil for any music.
- There will be time for you to look at the questions before you hear each extract of music. You may find it helpful to make notes on the music as you listen.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 70.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains additional scores referred to in the questions.

This document has **16** pages.

Extract 1

This extract is from the area of study: Music and words

You will hear an extract from an art song. The music will be played **three** times with a pause between each playing.

[Piano introduction]

- 1 *Spring, the sweet spring, is the year's pleasant king,*
- 2 *Then blooms each thing, then maids dance in a ring,*
- 3 *Cold doth not sting, the pretty birds do sing:*
- 4 *Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo!*

[Piano]

- 5 *The palm and may make country houses gay,*
- 6 *Lambs frisk and play, the shepherds pipe all day,*
- 7 *And we hear aye birds tune this merry lay:*
- 8 *Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo!*

1 What type of voice is heard?

☐

Soprano

☐

Alto

☐

Tenor

☐

Bass

[1]

2 Comment on the relationship between the voice and the piano in line 4.

.....

..... [1]

3 Which of these best describes the melodic shape of line 5?

☐

Begins with an ascending fourth, then moves mainly by leap

☐

Begins with an ascending fourth, then moves mainly by step

☐

Begins with an ascending octave, then moves mainly by leap

☐

Begins with an ascending octave, then moves mainly by step

[1]



- 4 How does the music reflect the meaning of the words? You may refer to the music of the piano as well as the voice.

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]



Extract 2

This extract is from the area of study: Romantic music

You will hear **two** passages from a piece of orchestral music, separated by a short gap. The extract will be played **four** times with a pause between each playing. The printed music shows the start of the **first** passage.

Horn in F

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20 21

Transpose

Chord?

Describe

Extract continues ...

5 Which of these is a suitable tempo marking for the **first** passage?

- ☐ Allegro
- ☐ Andante
- ☐ Grave
- ☐ Vivace

[1]

6 On this staff, write the first **two** notes of the horn part at sounding pitch. The key signature has been given.

1

[2]



7 Describe the accompaniment to the printed melody.

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

8 What type of chord is heard on the pause at the end of bar 15?

☐

Diminished seventh

☐

Dominant seventh

☐

Major chord

☐

Minor chord

[1]

9 Describe the short section of music which begins in bar 21.

.....

.....

..... [2]

10 In the **second** passage, the main melody is heard again. Compare the different ways it is performed and accompanied with the first passage.

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]

11 Using your knowledge of this area of study, explain some of the features of Romantic music heard in this extract.

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

Extract 3

This extract is from the area of study: Music for dance

You will hear an extract of EDM. The music will be played **three** times with a pause between each playing.

- 1 *I'm, I'm up in heaven tonight,*
- 2 *Watching the stars in your eyes.*
- 3 *Feels like I'm touching the sky,*
- 4 *Can we stay here forever?*

- 5 *The sun's coming up,*
- 6 *We're coming down,*
- 7 *Time waits for no one, no one.*
- 8 *There's only us,*
- 9 *There's only now,*
- 10 *So stay in the moment before it's gone.*

- 11 *Let's do something we'll never forget,*
- 12 *Live a life that we won't ever regret,*
- 13 *Hold me closer before the night ends,*
- 14 *'Cause this moment is as good as it gets.*

- 15 *If tomorrow goes up in flames,*
- 16 *Rather burn out than fade away,*
- 17 *Make the most of the time we got left,*
- 18 *'Cause we're never gonna be this young again.*

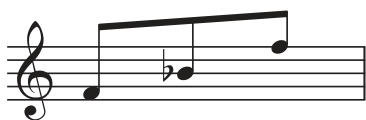
- 19 *Never gonna be this young again,*
- 20 *Never gonna be this young again.*

12 What is the tempo in beats per minute (BPM)?

- ☐ 110 BPM
- ☐ 126 BPM
- ☐ 142 BPM

[1]

13 Comment on the use of this melodic motif.



.....

.....

..... [2]





14 Explain the concept of 'build and drop' in EDM, referring to the music from line 15 onwards.

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]





Extract 4

This extract is from the area of study: Classical music

You will hear an extract of orchestral music. The music will be played **four** times with a pause between each playing. Refer to the printed music in the separate insert.

- 15 (a) Compare the music of bars 8^3-12^1 with 0^3-4^1 , commenting on the ways in which the music is different.

.....

.....

..... [2]

- (b) Compare the music of bars 24^3-28^1 with 8^3-12^1 , identifying similarities and differences in the way the music is performed.

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 16 Describe the music and instrumentation in bars 32^3-36^2 .

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

- 17 What is the most likely structure of the movement from which this extract is taken?

- ☐ Minuet and trio
- ☐ Ritornello form
- ☐ Sonata form
- ☐ Theme and variations

[1]





18 Who composed this music?

☐

Bach

☐

Haydn

☐

Liszt

[1]



Extract 5

This extract is from the area of study: Music for small ensemble

You will hear **two** passages from the same piece of Jiangnan sizhu music, separated by a short gap. The music will be played **four** times with a pause between each playing. The printed music shows the melody at the beginning of the **first** passage.



Extract continues ...

19 Comment in detail on the scale used in the printed melody.

.....

.....

..... [2]

20 Describe the texture of the music in the **first** passage.

.....

.....

..... [2]

21 Comment on the use of percussion in the **second** passage.

.....

.....

..... [2]



- 22 At the end of the extract, a short melodic motif is played three times. In what order do the instruments play it?

☐

Dizi – Erhu – Yangqin

☐

Dizi – Yangqin – Erhu

☐

Erhu – Dizi – Yangqin

☐

Erhu – Yangqin – Dizi

[1]



Extract 6

This extract is from the area of study: Music for stage and screen

You will hear an extract of orchestral ballet music. The scene is a busy marketplace in ancient Rome, where slaves are dancing for the entertainment of their captors. The music will be played **four** times with a pause between each playing. The printed music shows the start of the extract.

Allegro vivace

1 15-bar introduction

16 Horns 17 18 Violins

19 20 21 Accompaniment?

22 23

3 3 3 3

Extract continues ...

23 Describe how the music in the introduction builds excitement.

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]

24 Describe the accompaniment to the printed melody in bars 18–23.

.....

.....

..... [2]



25 Immediately after the printed melody, which of these rhythms do the brass instruments play?

☐

☐

☐

☐

[1]

26 How does the music from bar 18 onwards support the action on stage – dancing in the marketplace?

.....

.....

..... [2]



Extract 7

This extract is from the area of study: Baroque music

You will hear an extract from a concerto. The music will be played **four** times with a pause between each playing. Refer to the printed music in the separate insert.

27 Name the solo instrument in this concerto.

..... [1]

28 Which of these ornaments is played in bars 5 and 7?

☐

Acciaccatura

☐

Appoggiatura

☐

Trill

☐

Turn

[1]

29 Which of these shows the missing melody in bar 13?

☐

☐

☐

☐


[1]

30 What musical device is used in bars 23³–24?

..... [1]

31 Give the exact name of the bracketed interval in bar 34.

..... [2]





32 Outline the features of ritornello form heard in this extract, referring to the main keys and bar numbers.

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]



Extract 8

This extract is from the area of study: Music for stage and screen

You will hear an extract of video game music. The printed music shows a motif which features in the extract. The music will be played **four** times with a pause between each playing.



33 Using your knowledge of this area of study, write a short description of the music and its performance. In your answer, you should:

- refer to the melody, tonality, rhythm, tempo, instrumentation and texture, as appropriate to the extract
- comment on any features which are typical of video game music.

.....

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.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [6]

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