

Pearson BTEC Level 3 Nationals Diploma

Music Technology

Unit 6: DAW Production

Part S

Window for supervised period:
Monday 30 April 2018 – Monday 14 May 2018
Supervised hours: 15 hours

Paper Reference
31810H

You do not need any other materials.

Instructions

- This booklet contains material for the completion of the set task under supervised conditions.
- This booklet is specific to each series and this material must only be issued to learners who have been entered to undertake the task in the relevant series.
- This booklet must be kept securely until the start of the 15-hour supervised assessment period.
- This booklet must be issued to learners during the period of 2 weeks specified by Pearson.
- This booklet should not be returned to Pearson.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.

Turn over ►

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Instructions to Teachers/Tutors

Centres must issue this booklet at the appropriate time and advise learners of the timetabled sessions. It is expected that scheduled lessons or other timetable slots will be used for some or all of the supervised assessment period.

Work must be completed on a computer.

All learner work must be completed independently and authenticated by the teacher/tutor before being submitted to Pearson.

The supervised assessment will take place in a period specified by Pearson.

Centres should schedule all learners at the same time or supervise cohorts to ensure there is no opportunity for collusion.

Teachers/Tutors should note that:

- learners should not be given any direct guidance or prepared materials
- learners should not be given any support in writing or editing notes
- all work must be completed independently by the learner.

Learners must not bring anything into the supervised environment or take anything out without teacher/tutor approval.

Centres are responsible for putting in place appropriate checks to ensure that only permitted material is introduced into the supervised environment.

Maintaining security

- During the supervised assessment sessions, the assessment areas must only be accessible to the registered learners and to named members of staff.
- Learners can only access their work under supervision.
- Any work learners produce under supervision must be kept securely.
- Only permitted materials for the set task can be brought into the supervised environment.
- During any permitted break and at the end of the session materials must be kept securely and no items removed from the supervised environment.
- Learners are not permitted to have access to the internet or other resources with the exception of the relevant software during the supervised assessment period.

After the session the teacher/tutor will confirm that all learner work has been completed independently as part of the authentication submitted to Pearson.

The set task is a formal external assessment and must be conducted with reference to the instructions in this booklet and the BTEC Nationals Instructions for Conducting External Assessments (ICEA) document to ensure that the preparatory period is conducted correctly and that learners have completed their preparation validly and independently.

Outcomes for submission

One CD-ROM/USB storage device per learner, labelled with the learner's name, registration number and centre number. This must contain a total of **four** files: three audio files to CD standard quality (44.1 kHz/16-bit) and one word processed document, as follows:

- a stereo mix of the complete track
- a 30-second edit of the track
- a 60-second edit of the track
- production notes – these should be in a 12-point font and saved as a pdf file. The production notes should include screenshots of the project at relevant points in its development, and should be written under the following headings:
 - Analysis of the source material (Pearson-provided audio files)
 - Response to the requirements of the brief
 - Production techniques used to complete the brief

Each learner must complete an authentication sheet.

The work should be submitted no later than Friday 25 May 2018.

Instructions for Learners

Read the set task information carefully. You will be asked to carry out specific activities using the information in this booklet and your own research.

You will also be provided with audio files.

Plan your time carefully to allow for the completion of all the activities.

You will complete the activities within the set task under supervision and your work will be kept securely during any breaks taken.

You will have access to a computer.

You must work independently throughout the supervised assessment period and should not share your work with other learners.

Your teacher/tutor may clarify the wording that appears in this task but cannot provide any guidance on completion of the task.

Outcomes for submission

You will need to submit the following items:

A CD-ROM/USB storage device, labelled with your name, registration number and centre number. This must contain a total of **four** files: three audio files to CD standard quality (44.1 kHz/16-bit) and one word processed document, as follows:

- a stereo mix of the complete track
- a 30-second edit of the track
- a 60-second edit of the track
- production notes – these should be word processed in 12-point font and saved as a pdf file. Your notes should include screenshots of the project at relevant points in its development. Your production notes should be written under the following headings:
 - Analysis of the source material (Pearson-provided audio files)
 - Response to the requirements of the brief
 - Production techniques used to complete the brief

You must complete a declaration that the work you submit is your own.

Set Task Brief

You are a composer-producer who has been specially commissioned by a leading national theme park, Tayleforth Adventure Park, to produce the theme music for its new roller coaster – Nitro Drop. The ride will have a record-breaking top speed and a long, steep drop. Tayleforth Adventure Park would like your music to reflect the speed, drop and excitement of the new roller coaster.

Tayleforth Adventure Park has asked you to include audio from all of the files provided alongside your own original material in your completed piece. The completed piece should last between two and four minutes and will be played to visitors as they approach the front of the queue to ride the roller coaster.

Tayleforth Adventure Park would also like you to provide two edits of the piece for advertising and promotional purposes. One edit should last 30 seconds and the other edit 60 seconds. The 30-second edit will be used for a television advertisement and the 60-second edit will be used as a soundtrack for promotional web content.

You will need to use the allocated 15 hours to:

- create a complete piece of music and two shorter edits in response to the briefing information. You will be provided with audio files to edit, manipulate and incorporate into your piece of music
- write production notes detailing the creation of your piece. You must incorporate screenshots to aid your explanations. Your production notes should be written under the following three headings:
 - Analysis of the source material
 - Response to the requirements of the brief
 - Production techniques used to complete the brief.

Set Task

You must complete ALL activities within the set task.

Activity 1: Producing a track

- Produce a complete, arranged piece of music lasting **between two and four minutes**. To meet the requirements set out by Tayleforth Adventure Park, your piece should reflect the speed and excitement of the new roller coaster, as well as its steep drop. To do this you should:
 - import the given audio files into a DAW project
 - consider how you will edit, manipulate and incorporate each of the five audio files
 - incorporate your own original MIDI-programmed material.
- Mix the piece making use of equalisation, dynamics processing, effects and automation. Your completed mix should be professional and creative.
- Create two additional edits:
 - a 30-second edit for a television advertisement
 - a 60-second edit for promotional web content.
- Bounce down the complete piece and the two additional edits to CD standard quality (44.1 kHz/16-bit) for transfer to a CD-ROM/USB storage device.

(Total for Activity 1 = 45 marks)

Activity 2: Production notes

To accompany Activity 1, you must provide written information about your interpretation of the brief and how you made effective creative and technical use of the DAW to realise your intentions. You will need to include relevant screenshots of your project to illustrate examples of the progress of your work.

Your production notes should be structured under the following headings.

- 1 Analysis of the source material**
Discuss your ideas, choices and decisions for the use and manipulation of the provided audio files.
- 2 Response to the requirements of the brief**
Detail your intentions and musical ideas for successful realisation of the brief.
- 3 Production techniques used to complete the brief**
Explain how you used production techniques that display creativity and musicality, giving reasons why you used them. This should include:
 - your choice of instruments and sounds
 - software instrument sound editing
 - specific instances of creative MIDI programming
 - manipulation of audio
 - use of software samplers
 - application of plug-ins
 - use of mixing techniques
 - effects and automation.

(Total for Activity 2 = 15 marks)

TOTAL FOR TASK = 60 MARKS