

A-LEVEL Appraising – Extended Terminology

MUSICAL CONTEXT

<i>Musical Period</i>	<i>Musical Style</i>	<i>Date piece written</i>
<i>Written for?</i>	<i>Written with?</i>	<i>Musical features common to each period</i>
<i>Musical features common to each style (eg jazz)</i>	Programme music	

MELODY

<i>Know all the ornaments, their symbols and where they are used in your pieces</i>		
<i>Be able to identify all intervals; major/minor/diminished/augmented</i>		
Diatonic	Conjunct / disjunct	Repeated notes
Word setting	Melisma / syllabic	Ascends / descends
Higher/lower pitch	Narrow or wide range/tessitura	theme
Counter-melody	subject	Octave(s)
unison	Repetitive/loop	ornamentation
Phrases/ phrase lengths	ostinato	riff
Chromatic/dissonant	Portamento/glissando/slide	sequence
Dialogue/dialoguing	Call and response	imitation
Scalic	suspensions	Blue notes
leitmotif	hexatonic	Tied notes
Contrary motion	Modal (influence)	Motif/motivic
Auxiliary note (lower/upper)	Acciaccatura/grace note/crushed note	

HARMONY (also harmonic device)

Diatonic	repetitive	functional
Tierce de picardie	riff	Chromatic/dissonant
sequence	Circle of 5ths	cadences
Pedals	quartal	modal
Tonic/dominant/inverted		
Whole tone	pentatonic	enharmonic
Dominant 7th	Diminished 7 th	inversions
Altered chords	Extended chords	Added chords
Ground bass	Chord progression	False relations
realisation	Substitution chords	Suspensions 'sus' chords
Close harmony (vocals)	drone	augmented
tritone	Harmonic rhythm	Prepared/unprepared Modulation/dissonance
French/German/Italian 6th	neapolitan	

TONALITY

<i>Know all keys and key signatures that your pieces are in and modulate to</i>		
Tonic	subdominant	dominant
Relative minor/major	Diatonic	bitonal
Dissonant/atonal	modulates	Related keys
chromaticism	Modal (know names and starting notes of each mode)	Tonal centre

STRUCTURE (also structural device)

Binary A/B	Rounded binary A/A/B/B	Ternary A/B/A
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Sonata form	Fugue/fugal/fugato	strophic
instrumental	layering	imitation
Parallel motion	Verse/chorus	Coda/codetta/outro
episodic	Through-composed	
METRE		
<i>Identify simple/duple time signatures</i>	<i>What time signature is it in? Does it change?</i>	
RHYTHM		
<i>Know all the note names/types and where they feature in the piece</i>		
Syncopated (off-beat)	Dotted/swung	repetitive
silence	ostinato	loop
riff	Poly rhythm	Cross rhythms
Duplets/triplets etc	Push rhythm	Metric shifting
Augmentation/diminution	displacement	Backbeat (beats 2&4)
Scotch snap/Lombardic rhythms		
TEMPO		
<i>Know Italian terms and meaning for all tempi in your pieces</i>		
accelerando	Ritenuato/rallentando	
DYNAMICS & ARTICULATION		
<i>Know all dynamic markings including use of subito</i>		
Staccato	legato	detached
accented	Pause/fermata	
Guitar techniques		
TEXTURE		
unison	monophonic	homophonic
Melody dominated homophony	polyphonic	Contrapuntal/counterpoint
antiphonal	heterophonic	Layered texture
Two-part Three-part	homorhythmic	canonic
Part doubling	Contrary motion	Arpeggio/broken chord
tremolo	Pedal (all types see harmony)	imitation
Sparse/dense	divisi	Stabs/interjections
Walking bass line	continuo	
SONORITY		
<i>Use of particular instruments together (orchestration) or use of an instrument at an extreme range</i>		
Strings: double-stopping or multiple stopping		Pizzicato/arco
String: sul ponticello (bridge)	Strings: Up/down bows	glissando
harmonics	Use of piano pedals (sustain, una corda, sostenuto)	Prominent brass (or other group)
(drum/timpani) rolls	flutter-tonguing	Micro/quarter tones
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY		
Guitar effects	Amps and effects	Studio/production effects
Pre-recorded	Multi-tracked	dubbed
panning	Stereo field	EQ