**The History of Recording**

**Section .A.**

1. How did Edison’s phonograph work?

Edison spoke into the horn of a hand-cranked machine which captured the vibrations of his voice by means of a diaphragm with a needle attached. The need recorded the vibrations by indenting them onto a continuously grooved, revolving metal cylinder wrapped in foil. The sound then could be played back

1. When were microphones first used in recording studios?

1925

What impact did the microphone have on musical styles when it first appeared?

Microphones helped the voice to be heard over the jazz band and swing orchestras. They also allowed singers to sing softly( called crooning) with the microphone held close to the singer’s mouth. Increased frequency range meant the string bass could be heard more easily.

1. In 1927 the first successful sound film appeared.
2. What was is called?

The Jazz Singer

1. What was the sound recorded on?

Gramophone

1. When magnetic tape was first invented, what advantages did it have over the direct recording process?

Allowed editing. Seamless splice editing allowed producers to use the best material from a number of takes

1. What do you understand by the term musique concrete?

Music based on environmental and everyday sounds, recorded and then transformed by, for example, playing backwards, speeding up, slowing down, splicing, and looping. Pioneered by Pierre Schaeffer in the 40s.

**Section .B.**

1. Describe three ways in which pop music has influenced the development of music technology.
2. Overdubbing techniques created an increased demand for multitrack recording. Analogue tape recorders moved from simple 2 track recorders to 24 track recorders.
3. Tape delay, for example slap back echo used on Elvis Presley’s Heartbreak Hotel, led to extensive experimentation with tape based effects. Effects such as chorus, flanger, delay and phaser were used on pop records.
4. Pop musicians began to invest large sums of money to buy equipment for their own studios, which gave them the freedom to experiment. This led to a home recording market and portable recording devices like the Tascam Portastudio were developed.
5. Describe three ways in which music technology has influenced the development of pop music.
6. Development of the microphone meant singers could be heard over the band
7. Analogue tapes made it easy to edit music. Producer could choose the best take from many, which led to more creative control
8. Mixer, microphones and multitrack recorders allowed musicians to compose, experiment and record material in the studio, as opposed to recording their live material.