

## SECTION A

Answer ALL questions in both sections .

1. Johnny Cash : Ring of Fire

<https://youtu.be/mIBTg7q9oNc>

a. Describe the bar lengths of the opening trumpet phrase. (3)

**3/4 4/4 3/4 4/4 accept two bars of 7/4**

b. What effect (common to 1950's recording) is used on the lead vocal. (1)

**Slap back echo.**

c. What must you look out for when recording brass instruments. (1)

**High Sound Pressure Levels.**

d. How, through mic placement , can you avoid this. (1)

**Place the mic slightly off axis.**

f. This was recorded in 1963. Give four facts to support this statement. (4)

**Largely Acoustic instrumentation, lack of effects, no automation, bleed between parts, hiss, poor quality final mix, no multi-tracking, lack of definition of parts, limited dynamic processing, loose 'live'feel.**

**(Total for question 1= 10 marks)**

2. Human League : Fascination

<https://youtu.be/QqqBs6kkzHE>

- a. How has the low growl synth sound been panned. 0.28 seconds. (1)

**Hard left**

- b. How are the vocals thickened on the chorus . (3)

**two girls in unison with male vocal an octave lower.**

- c. The opening synth riff goes slightly out of tune due to the recording process. Why would this not occur in digital recording. (2)

**Synth part was layered several times causing fluctuation on the tape. Digital recording creates no such fluctuations.**

- d. This track was recorded with analogue synthesisers. What are the four components of an envelope in synthesis. (4)

**Attack, Decay, Sustain, Release.**

**(Total for question 2 = 10 marks)**

3. Duke Ellington : Afrique (take 3)

<https://youtu.be/Uw0p4669Qyl>

- a. This track was recorded in 1970. Name four production techniques of the time. (4)

**Multi track recording, overdubbing, individual mic placements, automated effects, alter speed / pitch of tape, reverse tape, delay, double tracking.**

- b. How have the vocal and piano been separated. (2)

**Vocal panned right, piano panned left.**

- c. Duke Ellington was more famous for his swing recordings. Name four key elements of big band swing. (4)

**Walking bass, shuffle rhythm, horn section, woodwind section, syncopation, stabs, dynamic phrasing, straight fours.**

**Total for question 3 = 10 marks)**

4. ZAYN, Taylor Swift: I Don't Wanna Live Forever <https://youtu.be/7F37r50VUTQ>

a. This song is in A minor. If A above middle C is 440 Hz what is its frequency one octave lower. (2)

**220 hz**

b. What is the tempo of this track. (2)

**118 bpm**

c. This track contains several vocal samples. What sampling rate would you expect to have been used and why (6)

**44.1hz. Nyquist theorem states sampling rate should be twice as fast as the originals highest frequency component.**

**(Total for question 4=10 marks)**

**Total for section A = 40 marks**

## Section B

5. The Persuaders : Some Guys Have All the Luck <https://youtu.be/fVbDgUD6BIQ>  
Robert Palmer : Some Guys Have All the Luck <https://youtu.be/y5ugg624SFw>

Compare the different production and performance techniques used in the two versions.

(20)

**Original: 1973 soul, slow funk feel, strings, emotive vocal, live feel , acoustic instrumentation,**

**lack of effects, limited dynamic processing, key change, several voices interacting.**

**Cover: 1980, heavily synthesised, drum machine, gated reverb, one vocalist layered, sampled, electronic feel, compressed guitars, multi tracked vocal parts, call and response, angular phrasing.**

**(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)**

## 6. Led Zeppelin : Black Dog

Loud, loud rock music. Briefly outline the evolution of the guitar amplifier. (15)

1920's -designed for acoustic guitars-not commercial-no effects.

1930's - pick ups added to guitar sending a signal to a speaker-Rickenbacker and Gibson experiment with amps based on radios.

1940's Leo Fender introduces the Fender Champion 1st amp with volume control-

1947 Fender Dual pro 2 channels 2 volumes-adopted by Hawaii/ country lap steel guitars.

1950's Gibson Les Paul amp - Fender Tweed series/ Bassman - treble bass middle and presence, first effects Vibrato (pitch change) Tremelo (volume change).

1957 Vox AC15 - class A design loud and good distorted sound. Types of amp - TUBE - better/warmer sound quality-expensive prone to overheating/damage SOLID STATE-semiconductor circuits-cheaper/reliable/lighter. 70's onwards MODELLING-microprocessor technology allows digital onboard effects to recreate the sound of different amps all in one amp LINE 6/ ZOOM 90's onwards.

1958 LINK WRAY Rumble-overdriving his tubes-poked holes in speaker to get distortion.

1964 Dave davies slashes speakers, runs amp through another to get fuzzy tone.

1966 Jim Marshall modifies circuitry to achieve distortion.Amps- pro's ; ambient sound of speaker/casing/room, warmth of tubes, feedback, natural overdrive by volume. Cons; hiss/buzz, mic placement/capture, cost, transport.Modelling \_pro's ; DI, wide range of sounds to choose from, one amp many jobs, no background noise, add effects afterwards. Cons; thin digital sound, lack of ambience, no unique sound,

(Total for Question 6 = 15 marks)

Total for section B = 35 marks

Total for paper = 75 marks