

SECTION A

Answer ALL questions in both sections .

1. The Jimi Hendrix Experiences : All Along the Watchtower https://youtu.be/TLV4_xaYynY

a. What two types of guitar can be heard before the vocals enter.

1.Acoustic (12 string)

2.Electric (clean Strat) (2)

b. What style/technique of guitar playing is employed at 2:00. (1)

Slide guitar, Bottleneck.

c. How is this section (2:00-2:30) given a psychedelic, 'spaced' feel. (1)

Wide reverb, wide panning.

d. What effect is used on the lead guitar from 2:16 (1)

Wah Wah pedal.

e. What aspect of timbre does this effect change. (2)

Frequencies, Eq, filters frequency range.

f. This track was recorded in 1968. Give three examples that confirm this.

Bleed, lack of clarity of parts due to bouncing, psychedelic feel, loose rhythms,

limited clarity in vocals, lack of compression, live feel, audible mistakes. (3)

(Total for question 1= 10 marks)

2. Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong : Summertime

<https://youtu.be/MIDOEQL7IA>

a. When recording brass instruments which performance feature must you watch out for. (2)

High Sound pressure levels, high volume.

b. How is it best to place the mic to avoid this. (2)

Off axis to avoid main air flow.

c. What is the name for the improvisatory vocal technique employed at 3:29 (1)

Scat singing, scatting.

d. This track was recorded in 1957. Why would the vocal performance have to be of a higher calibre compared to a modern day recording . (5)

**Recorded live with band, very limited overdub options,
more takes = more studio time = more money,
no melodyne or vocal effects.**

(Total for question 2 = 10 marks)

3. Grace Jones : Slave to the Rhythm

<https://youtu.be/Z0XLzIswl2s>

a. What percussion instrument enters at 1:10 (1)

Tambourine.

b. What effect is used on the backing vocals at 2:14. (2)

Tap delay, timed delay.

c. This track features a polyphonic synth. How does a polyphonic synth differ from a monophonic one. (2)

A polyphonic synth can play several notes at once as oppose to a monophonics ability to only play one at a time.

d. This track was recorded in 1985. Give five reasons to support this (5)

Drum machines, gated reverb, synth strings and brass, polished production, overdubbing, multi-tracking, electric bass, timed delay, sequencers, use of MIDI, sequenced rhythmic parts.

Total for question 3 = 10 marks)

4. Aerosmith featuring Run DMC : Walk this Way

- a. Give two characteristics of rap featured in this song. (2)

Scratching, Rapping, doubling of certain words and phrases, drum machine beat, sampling of guitar riff.

- b. Give two characteristics of rock featured in this song. (2)

Distorted guitar, riff, guitar solo, loud vocals, screams.

- c. Discuss the advantages of using a drum machine over a live drummer. (6)

One audio output as oppose to several mics, less time consuming, cheaper, reliable, programmable, different sounding kits, easy to mix, create new sounds (sorry Drummers)

(Total for question 4=10 marks)

Total for section A = 40 marks

Section B

5. Styx : Mr Roboto

<https://youtu.be/98o0AJ8cNNk>

Kids on Drugs : Mr Roboto

<https://youtu.be/KGsb7eo2Y1g>

Compare the different production and performance techniques used in the two versions. (20)

Original : 80's production, heavily synth based, vocal harmonies, recorded with live instruments

song structure (verse chorus etc), studio based.

Cover: DAW based, dubstep style, samples of original remixed, drops, new voices added, through

arrangement, LFO's , wobble effects, synth drums, samples.

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

6. Prince and the Revolution : Purple Rain

The guitar features a deep chorus effect. Outline the workings and differences of the three main modulation effects : Chorus, Phaser and Flanger . (15)

Flanger

A flanger takes the source signal, duplicates it, then adds a small amounts of delay to one copy, all while altering delay time as you play. The result is something that sounds like a jet engine flying overhead. Compared to a phaser, flangers are far more aggressive and overt. Their effect alters a much larger portion of your tone.

Phaser

Similar to flangers, phasers also duplicate the signal, alter it by phase shifting one copy, and then fuse both signals back together. The main difference here is that phasers create a Doppler effect, which is the full extent of their capabilities. The reason why so many people confuse phasers with flangers is because a phaser also has a sweeping function at its core. However, the sweeping of phasers and that of a flanger is not the same. Where flangers achieve their sweeps by altering the timing of delay, phaser pedals use filters that block out varying portions of the frequency range.

Chorus

The idea behind this effect is to give you an impression that several guitars are playing at the same time, when in fact only one instrument is used. The Main reason why some guitar players have trouble discerning choruses from flangers is because both effects multiply the source signal. Chorus alters the copies of the source signal differently from a flanger. Both add some delay, but chorus does it consistently. On top of that, a chorus detunes that copy ever so slightly as well. The main difference, however is that chorus doesn't add that sweeping effect

(Total for Question 6 = 15 marks)

Total for section B = 35 marks

Total for paper = 75 marks