



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination 2023

Music

Composing

Higher Level

Thursday 22 June Afternoon 3:15 - 4:45

100 marks

Examination Number

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Day and Month of Birth

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For example, 3rd February
is entered as 0302

Centre Stamp

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Instructions

Write your examination number and date of birth in the boxes on the front cover.

There are **two** sections in this examination paper.

Section A	Melody Composition	40 marks	3 questions
Section B	Harmony	60 marks	3 questions

- Answer as follows:
 - one question from Section **A** – Melody Composition
- and**
- one question from Section **B** – Harmony
- Write your answers in blue or black pen. You may use pencil for staff notation.
 - Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. There is space for extra work at the end of the booklet. Label any extra work clearly with the question number and part.
 - This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. Anything that you write outside of the answer areas may not be seen by the examiner.

Answer **one** question only in this section:

Question 1 Continuation of a given opening (40 marks)

or

Question 2 Setting music to a given text (40 marks)

or

Question 3 Composing to a given dance rhythm or metre or form (40 marks)

Question 1**(40 marks)****Continuation of a given opening**

- Continue the given opening to make a 16-bar melody.
- Add appropriate performing directions (phrasing and dynamics) to the melody.
- Choose a suitable instrument for your melody from the following list:

☐ clarinet☐ violin☐ oboe☐ trumpet**Roughwork**

The roughwork area contains four sets of five-line musical staves, each set consisting of five horizontal lines. These staves are provided for the student to sketch their melody and include performing directions.

Moderato



mf

1 2 3 4

Question 2

(40 marks)

Setting music to a given text

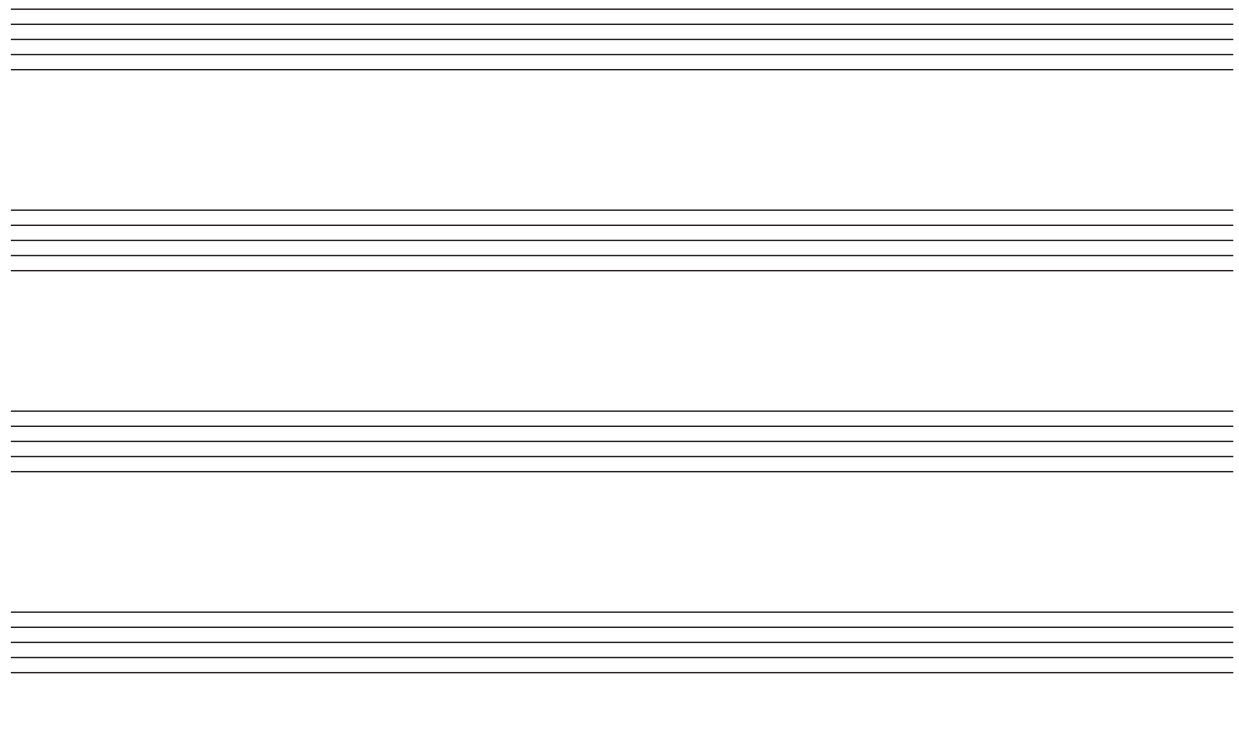
Here is an extract from the poem *The Meeting of the Waters* by Thomas Moore.

There is not in the wide world a valley so sweet
As that vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet.
Oh! the last rays of feeling and life must depart
Ere the bloom of that valley shall fade from my heart!

The opening line has been set for you.

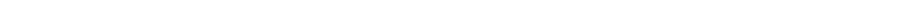
- Set the remaining words to make a melody of 16 bars.
(You may exceed this number of bars and include a modulation, if you wish.)
- Add appropriate performing directions (phrasing and dynamics) to the melody.

Roughwork



$$mf$$

There is not in the wide world a valley so sweet



Question 3

(40 marks)

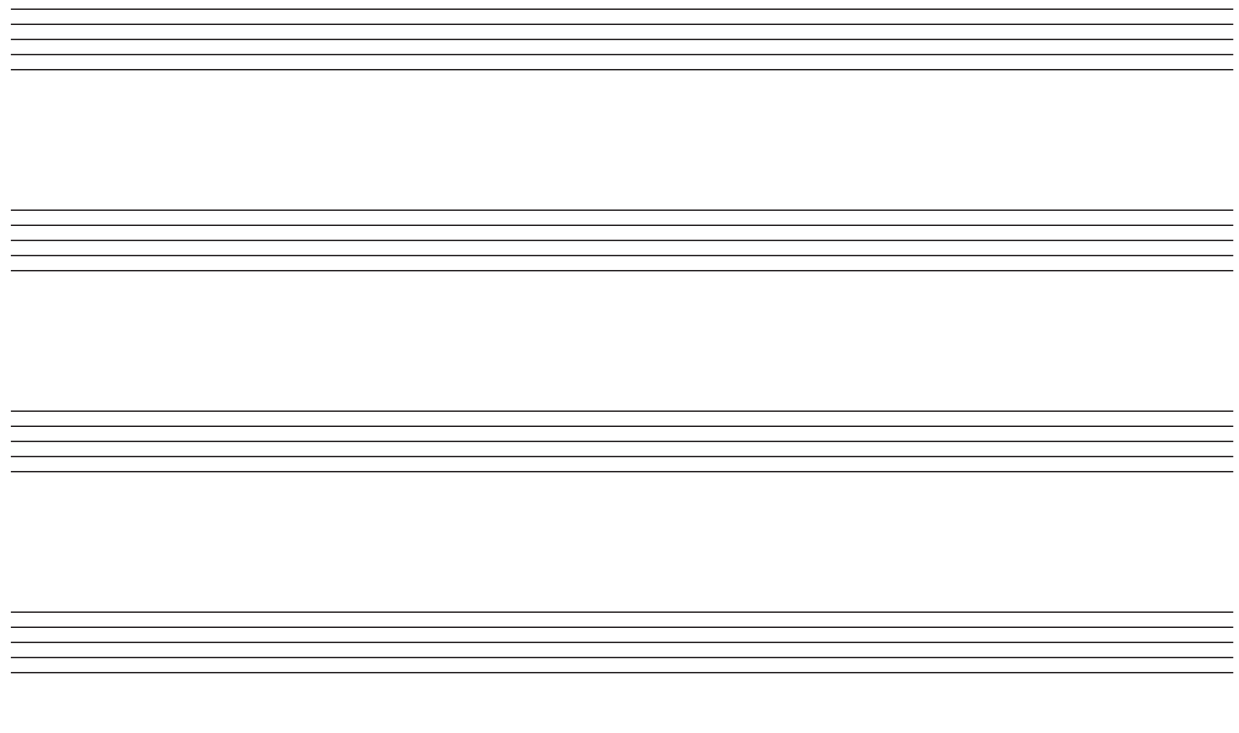
Composing to a given dance rhythm or metre or form

The opening phrase of a jig is given.

- Continue the given opening to make a 16-bar melody.
- Use the form AA¹BB¹.
- Include a modulation to the dominant at a suitable point.
- Add appropriate performing directions (phrasing and dynamics) to the melody.
- Choose a suitable instrument for your melody from the following list:

- ☐ oboe
- ☐ trumpet
- ☐ flute
- ☐ violin

Roughwork



Moderato

mf

1 2 3 4

Do not write on this page

Answer **one** question only in this section:

Question 4 Composing melody and bass notes from a set of chords (60 marks)

or

Question 5 Composing bass notes and chord indications to a given tune (60 marks)

or

Question 6 Adding a countermelody or descant and chordal support to a given tune (60 marks)

Question 4

(60 marks)

Composing melody and bass notes from a set of chords

Preparatory work: Plot the chords available in the key of E minor, either in the chord bank grid or on the staff below.

Notes of chord	B G E	C A F#	D# B G				A F# D#
Chord symbol	Em	F#°	G ⁺				D#°
Roman numeral	i	ii°	III ⁺	iv	V	VI	vii°

i ii° [III⁺] iv V VI [vii°]

- Study the following piece of music.
- Using the chords indicated, compose melody and bass notes to complete the piece in the given style.

Em Em/G Am B Em B Em

1 2 3 4

Am F#°/A B Em/G F#°/A B⁷

5 6 7

Em C B Am Em/G

8 9 10

F#°/A B B⁷ Em B

11 12 13

C B Am Em

14 15 16

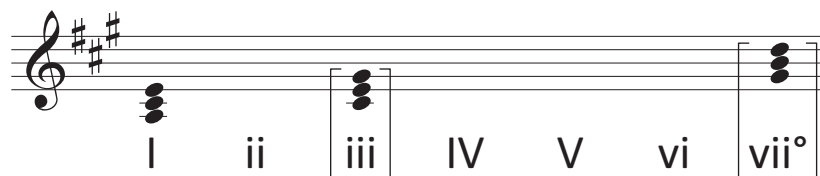
Question 5

(60 marks)

Composing bass notes and chord indications to a given tune

Preparatory work: Plot the chords available in the key of A major, either in the chord bank grid or on the staff below.

Notes of chord	E C# A		G# E C#				D B G#
Chord symbol	A		C#m				G#°
Roman numeral	I	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii°



- Study the following piece of music.
- Add suitable bass notes and chord indications in the style of the given opening.
- Do not use the same chord in the same position in adjacent boxes.
- You may use either chord symbols or Roman numerals, but not both.

Measures 5-16 of a musical score. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score is written for piano (piano).

Measures 5-16:

- Measure 5: Treble staff has notes G#4, A4, B4, C5. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 6: Treble staff has notes B4, A4, G#4, F#4. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 7: Treble staff has notes E5, D5, C5, B4. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 8: Treble staff has notes A4, G#4, F#4, E4. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 9: Treble staff has notes D5, C5, B4, A4. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 10: Treble staff has notes G#4, F#4, E4, D4. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 11: Treble staff has notes C5, B4, A4, G#4. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 12: Treble staff has notes F#4, E4, D4, C4. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 13: Treble staff has notes B3, A3, G#3, F#3. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 14: Treble staff has notes E4, D4, C4, B3. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 15: Treble staff has notes A3, G#3, F#3, E3. Bass staff is empty.
- Measure 16: Treble staff has notes D3, C3, B2, A2. Bass staff is empty.

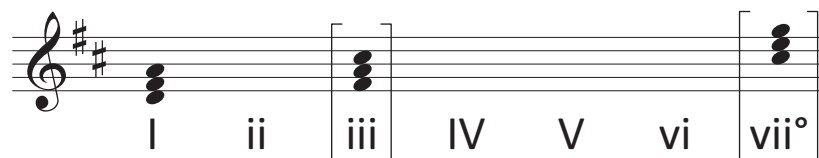
Question 6

(60 marks)

Adding a countermelody or descant and chordal support to a given tune

Preparatory work: Plot the chords available in the key of D major, either in the chord bank grid or on the staff below.

Notes of chord	A F# D		C# A F#				G E C#
Chord symbol	D		F#m				C#°
Roman numeral	I	ii	iii	IV	V	vi	vii°



- Study the following piece of music.
- Insert suitable chord indications in the boxes provided.
- Continue the descant part in the given style to complete the piece.
- Do not use the same chord in the same position in adjacent boxes.
- You may use either chord symbols or Roman numerals, but not both.

Handwriting practice sheet for musical notation, featuring four systems of staves. Each system includes a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a common time signature (C). The sheet is divided into four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains measures 5, 6, and 7. The second system contains measures 8, 9, and 10. The third system contains measures 11, 12, and 13. The fourth system contains measures 14, 15, and 16. Each measure is followed by a box for the student to write the measure number. The musical notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes) and rests.

System 1: Measures 5, 6, 7. Boxed numbers: 5, 6, 7.

System 2: Measures 8, 9, 10. Boxed numbers: 8, 9, 10.

System 3: Measures 11, 12, 13. Boxed numbers: 11, 12, 13.

System 4: Measures 14, 15, 16. Boxed numbers: 14, 15, 16.

Extra work

The 'Extra work' section is a large rectangular area defined by a black border. It contains ten sets of five horizontal lines each, arranged vertically. These lines are intended for musical notation or additional work. The sets are separated by small gaps, and each set consists of five parallel horizontal lines.

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Leaving Certificate – Higher Level

Music Composing

Thursday 22 June

Afternoon 3:15 - 4:45