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New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 1 Music RAS 2023

**91951 Shape music ideas to create
an original composition**

EXEMPLAR

Merit

TOTAL 05

The intent of my composition was to create a duet for a flute and Bb clarinet. I started by creating the melody line for section A. I then added the harmony part for the flute using appropriate intervals, so it didn't clash with the melody line. Next, I wrote section B which continues with the clarinet playing the melody before repeating section A with a change to the rhythm in the flute line. Then I passed the melody to the flute to make it a duet rather than an accompaniment. Along with this, the dynamics of the flute become louder than that of the clarinet so the melody could be heard well. It then has sections C and D before repeating the melody from section A again before passing the same melody to the flute part at a softer dynamic.

Overall, the piece has a homophonic texture with monophonic sections in each part to add variation in texture. This means there are rests in the other part. Since they are both woodwind instruments, this allows the player space to breath. I ended the piece with the flute part playing the dominant note of the key of the piece (c major) and ending on the tonic, forming a perfect cadence.

Discovery

Duet for Flute and Clarinet

$\text{♩} = 80$

Flute

Clarinet in B \flat

mf

5

Fl.

Cl. in B \flat

9

Fl.

Cl. in B \flat

13

Fl.

Cl. in B \flat

mp

17

Fl.

Cl. in B \flat

mf

mp

3

p

21

Fl.

Cl. in B \flat

mf

25

Fl.

Cl. in Bb

mp

p

pp

25 26 27 28 29

30

Fl.

Cl. in Bb

mf

mf

30 31 32 33

34

Fl.

Cl. in Bb

34 35 36 37

38

Fl.

Cl. in Bb

mp

mf

38 39 40 41

42

Fl.

Cl. in Bb

mp

42 43 44 45

Merit

Subject: Music

Standard: 91951

Total score: 5

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	M	<p>This composition, <i>Discovery</i>, developed musical ideas to create a structured composition, supported with clear visual representation (a written score) and accompanied by written evidence of compositional processes.</p> <p>This piece is a 'classical' duet for flute and clarinet. It was composed using notation software and presented as a MIDI recording with a very well-produced and accurate notated score and commentary on compositional processes.</p> <p>The writing for the flute and clarinet is appropriate and playable. The candidate selected a complex and difficult structure to work in, using mostly polyphonic textures to create a 'conversation' between the two instruments. At times this worked well, using answering phrases, occasional unison, and effective movement in thirds to create a sense of structure. Mostly the harmony between the parts worked. There was an attempt to create a theme, although this was not used effectively overall. Generally, the piece was held together by texture rather than motif or harmonic progression. While there was a clear ending, the piece seemed to lose shape as it progressed. There were many ideas in this piece, but few were effectively developed.</p> <p>To improve the grade, the candidate could have developed a more effective opening theme and used it repetitively between the flute and clarinet. Accompaniment figures could have provided contrast and some relief from constantly intertwining parts. More repetition and extension of one or two motifs would have provided a more balanced musical structure.</p>