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New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 1 Music 2024

91951 Shape music ideas to create an original
composition

EXEMPLAR

Merit

Threads

Not too fast

♩ = 150

Musical notation for measures 1-7. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked 'Not too fast' with a quarter note equal to 150 beats per minute. The first system consists of two staves. The upper staff (treble clef) features a melodic line of half notes: Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lower staff (bass clef) features a bass line of quarter notes: Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is present in the first measure.

8

Musical notation for measures 8-14. The upper staff continues the melodic line with half notes: Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lower staff continues the bass line with quarter notes: Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. The piano (*p*) dynamic marking is maintained.

15

Musical notation for measures 15-21. The upper staff has rests for measures 15-16, followed by half notes: D4, C4, Bb3, A3, G3, F3, E3. The lower staff continues the bass line with quarter notes: Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. A mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking is present in measure 17.

22

Musical notation for measures 22-28. The upper staff has half notes: D4, C4, Bb3, A3, G3, F3, E3. The lower staff continues the bass line with quarter notes: Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. A mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking is present in measure 27.

Musical score for measures 29-35. The piece is in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The right hand features a series of chords, with measures 29, 31, and 33 containing long, sustained chords. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note bass line.

Musical score for measures 36-42. The right hand has long chords in measures 36, 38, and 40, with some eighth-note activity in measure 42. The left hand continues with eighth-note patterns. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present in measure 37.

Musical score for measures 43-49. The right hand features a complex texture with sixteenth-note runs in measures 43-45 and chords in measures 46-49. The left hand plays eighth-note patterns. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measure 46 and *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measure 49.

Musical score for measures 50-54. The right hand has a prominent sixteenth-note figure in measures 50-52, followed by chords in measures 53-54. The left hand plays chords and eighth-note patterns. A dynamic marking of *p* (piano) is present in measure 53.

Musical score for measures 55-59. The right hand features sixteenth-note runs in measures 55-56 and chords in measures 57-59. The left hand plays chords and eighth-note patterns. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present in measure 58.

60

Musical score for measures 60-65. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The treble staff contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet of eighth notes in measure 65. The bass staff contains a simple accompaniment of quarter notes and rests, with a chordal texture in measure 64.

66

Musical score for measures 66-71. The system consists of two staves. The treble staff continues the melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staff has rests in measures 66-70 and then plays a few notes in measure 71. A dynamic marking *p* (piano) is present in measure 71.

72

Musical score for measures 72-78. The system consists of two staves. The treble staff features a melodic line with dotted half notes and a slur over measures 73-74. The bass staff provides a steady accompaniment of quarter notes.

79

Musical score for measures 79-85. The system consists of two staves. The treble staff has a melodic line with dotted half notes and a slur over measures 80-81. The bass staff continues with quarter notes.

86

Musical score for measures 86-91. The system consists of two staves. The treble staff has a melodic line with dotted half notes and a slur over measures 87-88. A dynamic marking *dim.* (diminuendo) is present in measure 87. The bass staff continues with quarter notes.

Musical score for piano, measures 91-94. The score is written in a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be 4/4 based on the note values. The first two measures of the treble staff feature a sustained chord with a slur over it. The bass staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes in the first three measures, followed by a quarter note and a half note in the fourth measure, and a final half note with a fermata in the fifth measure.

My intention with the creation of my piece, titled 'Threads' was to write a minimalist solo piano piece. In my left hand/Bass part I used a crotchet broken chord pattern which outlined the chords I wanted to use starting in D minor. The right hand was primarily dotted minims to help create the minimalistic feel by using a smaller palette of notes. I was inspired by the work of Philip Glass; a minimalist composer.

I decided to add octaves in the second part in the right hand to get a change or contrast.

The next bit was to try and use the broken chord based on the left hand tune.

I then returned to the original idea and changed it a bit to end the piece.

Merit

Subject: Music

Standard: 91951

Total score: 05

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	M5	<p>This piano piece was created using a DAW and is presented as a MIDI recording with an accurate, notated piano score. The piece is in a simple ABA form and the candidate has used an appropriate arpeggiated left hand accompaniment figure in both A sections that creates a good sense of overall structure. The octave melodies work well in the contrasting B section and are very pianistic. The tonality is a secure D minor. The melodic line loses direction somewhat in the middle, with a few dissonances but this is re-established with the return of the A section. The candidate has manipulated ideas to create a simple piano piece that can be easily performed by others. They have also been able to describe their creative decision making. For a higher grade this piece could have consistently demonstrated effective communication of stylistic intention and secure manipulation of musical ideas.</p>