

National Certificate of Educational Achievement

2011 Assessment Report

Music Level 1

- 90015 Aurally identify, describe and transcribe music elements from simple music**
- 90016 Identify and describe fundamental materials of music**

COMMENTARY

In general, candidates that were able to write coherent, legible, and precise explanations in their responses demonstrated a secure understanding of the standard. Candidates are encouraged to attempt all questions and cross out workings that have been revised.

Although some candidates were able to demonstrate a secure understanding of musical elements and features, others struggled to recognise the differences between form and texture.

Candidates are encouraged to produce legible responses for all questions.

STANDARD REPORTS

90015 Aurally identify, describe and transcribe music elements from simple music

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:

- understood the examination layout and what was expected
- identified chords I and V
- accurately transcribed melodic contour
- understood basic music terms/symbols and how they apply to a piece e.g. bar lines, time signature, tempo, last note.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:

- showed insufficient familiarity with *marcato*, tie and fermata markings
- did not discriminate pitch direction (up/down/same)
- did not match the time signature with the number of beats required in a bar
- did not understand the relationship between pitch and harmony
- showed a lack of knowledge of music language/symbols and did not arrive at logical conclusions
- often did not complete the full question.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:

- showed understanding of a wide range of music terms/symbols and how they are notated
- showed understanding of the relationship between pitch and harmony
- showed recognition of cadence points and chord progressions

- used strategies to identify possible chords and used the checklist to add markings to a score
- showed some familiarity with dotted rhythms
- transcribed contours and rhythms with accuracy.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:

- applied their knowledge of music conventions to confirm their responses e.g. knew an anacrusis is followed by a barline
- showed understanding of a wide range of music terms/symbols and how they relate to each other
- demonstrated familiarity with both treble and bass clefs when transcribing
- transcribed pitch and rhythm with a high degree of accuracy.

OTHER COMMENTS

A number of candidates demonstrated difficulty with rhythmic patterns, in particular dotted rhythms. For example, some candidates did not ensure the number of beats in the bar equaled the opening time signature or, other candidates did not refer to the tracking patterns above the stave.

Candidate responses to melodic dictation should always include both the note head and the tail. A dot indicating pitch or a line suggesting contour does not meet the requirements of the standard.

90016 Identify and describe fundamental materials of music

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:

- gave meanings of some musical terms, symbols, and performance directions
- identified intervals, chords, and keys
- transposed correctly
- identified some transposing instruments
- showed understanding of some musical devices.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:

- confused phrasing with articulation and form with style or genre
- did not recognise musical terms and performance directions
- confused elements with music devices
- answered using rock/jazz chords rather than Roman numerals.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:

- demonstrated confidence in identifying intervals by both quality and quantity, and keys with supporting evidence
- identified chords accurately using Roman chords
- demonstrated knowledge of most music terms, symbols, and performance markings
- showed ability in explaining the use of phrasing and dynamics.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:

- demonstrated a secure knowledge of musical terms, symbols, and performance directions, as well as understanding their functions in relation to the musical elements
- applied knowledge of phrasing, dynamics, and form and gave relevant, precise evidence to illustrate their points
- showed confidence in their knowledge of transposing instruments, including octave transposition.