

Candidate 1 — Lied

Composing music

This composition demonstrates musical ideas that have been developed satisfactorily, appropriate to the candidate's chosen style.

The piano introduction starts in B flat major and successfully explores a wide harmonic vocabulary, passing through the dominant and relative minor, before returning to a perfect cadence in B flat. The use of 7ths and inversions are effective. The syncopated bass line in bars 4, 10 and 14 shows some simple rhythmic development of the left-hand part. When the voice enters at bar 17, the piano part is a straightforward repeat of bars 1–16. Some appropriate stylistic development, such as varying the right hand broken chord pattern or developing the rhythm of the left hand, would have enhanced the composition.

The range of the vocal melody is appropriate for a soprano. The word setting is sometimes inconsistent, for example the equal stress on both syllables of 'Ganze' in bars 21–22, and 'liebchen' in bars 26–27. Within this style, there is a lack of melodic and rhythmic development in the vocal part, and the phrase lengths are variable and not always convincing. The addition of slurs in the vocal line, for example 'hab' in bar 17 and 'liebchen' in bar 26, would have demonstrated clearer understanding of word setting.

A new chord progression at bars 35–39 provides some contrast; however, there are some harmonic inconsistencies in bars 37 and 38. The piano concludes the piece with another simple repeat of bars 1–7 before the final cadence.

Overall, the use of elements is simplistic and straightforward. The candidate was awarded **5 marks**.

Review of the creative process

The review contains a limited account of the candidate's main decisions, and a limited explanation of the exploration and development of musical ideas, with reference to compositional methods used. The review could have contained more detailed information in both areas. There is satisfactory identification of strengths and areas for improvement. The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.