

Candidate 6 — Siciliana

Composing music

This very good composition is both pleasing and musical, displaying straightforward and unpretentious writing, which is stylistic. The modal melody has a good shape with subtle development. For example, bars 36–38 have been developed melodically and rhythmically in bars 44–46. The well-chosen strong harmonies complement the melody very well. The writing for harp is idiomatic, including some imaginative touches incorporating changing the direction of arpeggio, and shifting register. The bass-note/chord pattern of section B makes for effective contrast. The selection and use of the elements shows creativity. The candidate was awarded **17 marks**.

Composing review

This review contains a detailed and insightful account of the main decisions made with some relevant background information. The exploration and development of ideas is covered in detail with reference to compositional methods used. The strengths and areas for improvement are well-expressed, with a depth of perception, and are well-justified. The candidate was awarded **10 marks**.