

Candidate 5 — Riffs, Chords and Loops

Composing music

This is a very good composition, demonstrating a range of musical ideas which have been developed with some imagination, appropriate to the candidate's chosen style. The selection and use of elements shows creativity. The candidate has used the drum loop as a deciding factor in rhythm and tempo and has structured their composition around this. The bass riff over the chords of G, C, Am, Cm6 forms the chorus. Although Cm6 is not within the expected harmonic language of a National 5 candidate, it has been used effectively. The verse introduces a new, well-chosen, chord pattern. A bridge, again with another chord pattern, takes us into an improvised section based on the opening riff. The improvisation is musical and imaginative. Use of timbre is creative. The review informs us that the candidate has composed and played all of the parts. The candidate has successfully used a fade-in and fade-out to meet the time requirements of the assignment. This composition is awarded **15 marks**.

Composing review

The composing review contains a satisfactory account of the main decisions made and sufficient explanation of the exploration and development of musical ideas. There was a satisfactory identification of strengths, but the candidate could have explored this section in greater detail. It is awarded **6 marks**.