



National  
Qualifications  
2025

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**2025 Music**

**National 5**

**Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions**

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## General marking principles for National 5 Music

*Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.*

- (a) Marking should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.
- (b) If a specific candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Marks for each candidate response must **always** be assigned in line with these general marking principles and the detailed marking instructions for this assessment.
- (d) Where a candidate has provided more than one answer, for example by ticking two boxes instead of one or adding an extra wrong answer, place a cross beside the wrong answer and do not award the mark assigned to the correct answer.
- (e) Do not accept any answer that is not in the marking instructions. Use professional judgement when candidates' responses do not exactly match marking instructions but carry the same meaning, for example pluck/plucked = plucking.
- (f) Candidates are asked to tick one or two boxes in multiple choice questions. Accept a cross or any other sign which makes the candidate's intentions clear.
- (g) Accept inaccurate spelling where the candidate's intention is clear.


Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
1.	(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Swing	1	Do not accept other answers here.
	(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strathspey <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scotch snap	2	Do not accept other answers here.
	(c)	Alberti bass	1	Also accept Alberti.
	(d)	6 8	1	Also accept $\frac{12}{8}$ Accept if written as a fraction. Do not accept compound time on its own. Do not accept other answers here.
	(e)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cadenza	1	Do not accept other answers here.
	(f)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chromatic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distortion	2	Do not accept other answers here.
2.	1. 2. 3. 4.	Arco Simple Oboe Rallentando or ritardando	4	Also accept glissando. Also accept 2/4 or 4/4. Accept if written as a fraction. 2 or 4 beats are not acceptable answers. Do not accept other answers here. Also accept rall. or rit. Also accept ritenuto.
3.	(a)	F or F Major or F maj	1	Do not accept other answers here.
	(b)	<b>Moderato</b> 	1	Moderato is the expected answer here. Accept andante. Accept the tempo marking anywhere above bar 1. Do not accept if written under the stave. Do not accept English equivalents for Italian terms.
	(c)	3 	1	All notes must be correct in pitch and rhythm to gain the mark. Each note must have the majority of the note head in the correct place. Stems can go in either direction. No other answers accepted here.
	(d)	Semitone	1	Also accept 2 or 2 <sup>nd</sup> .

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance								
	(e)		1	<p>The candidate's response must have a dot in each of the middle two spaces followed by a double bar line; this must be placed once only at the end of bar 8. However, if candidates also put this at the beginning of bar 1, this should be ignored. Do not accept if only in bar 1.</p> <p>Do not award a mark if the double bar line has been written in addition to the printed bar line.</p>								
	(f)	Perfect	1	Also accept V – I or 5 – 1.								
		<p><b>Moderato</b></p>										
4.	(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modulation	1	Do not accept other answers here.								
	(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aria	1	Do not accept other answers here.								
	(c)	Mezzo-soprano	1	Do not accept other answers here.								
	(d)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canon	1	Do not accept other answers here.								
	(e)	Homophonic	1	Do not accept other answers here.								
	(f)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>I</td> <td>VI</td> <td>IV</td> <td>V</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>E m</td> <td>C</td> <td>D</td> </tr> </table> <p>Option 3</p>	I	VI	IV	V	G	E m	C	D	1	Do not accept other answers here.
I	VI	IV	V									
G	E m	C	D									

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
5.			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cross rhythms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sequence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Violin	4	Do not accept other answers here.
6.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• anacrusis</li> <li>• syllabic</li> <li>• folk group</li> </ul>	3	Also accept folk. Also accept Scottish folk group. Also accept Celtic folk group.  Do not accept other answers here.
7.	(a)	(i)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Symphony	1	Do not accept other answers here.
		(ii)	Full orchestra or orchestra or orchestral.	1	Accept any derivation of the word orchestra.  Answers which suggest a solo instrument is present with the orchestra should not be awarded a mark.  One word answers are acceptable.

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
	(b)	(i)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rapping	1 Do not accept other answers here.
		(ii)	<p>The response must include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vocals or lyrics or rhyming or words</li> </ul> <p><b>and</b></p> <p>beat or rhythm or music or accompaniment</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Accept an answer that implies both vocals <b>and</b> music, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>speaking over a beat</li> <li>there is singing over hip hop</li> <li>talking in song – in this example, song is accepted as a second bullet point response as it implies a piece of music</li> <li>lyrics with background singing – in this example background singing is accepted as a second bullet point response as background implies accompaniment.</li> </ul> <p>Do not accept answers such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the words are being sung quickly - in this example, the word ‘sung’ refers to the vocals and does not imply beat, rhythm, background music, or accompaniment.</li> <li>it’s a person speaking while singing – in this example singing is not accepted as a second bullet point response because it does not imply beat, rhythm, music or accompaniment.</li> </ul> <p>Rap or rapping should not be credited.</p> <p>Disregard additional answers.</p>

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
8.			5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award <b>1 mark</b> for each correct answer up to a maximum of 2 concepts per heading and up to a total of <b>5 marks</b>.</li> <li>• Do not penalise the candidate if a concept appears to be in the wrong context for example <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– the tempo is mf <b>or</b></li> <li>– melody/harmony – 4 beats in the bar.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To achieve full marks, candidate must comment at least 3 headings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– melody/harmony</li> <li>– rhythm/tempo</li> <li>– instruments</li> <li>– dynamics (Italian terms).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Answers can be in the form of bullet points <b>or</b> short answer or sentences <b>or</b> continuous prose and any of these are acceptable.</li> <li>• Long lists of concepts unrelated to the music <b>and/or</b> extensive lists of contradictory concepts will result in penalties being applied.</li> <li>• Accept inaccurate spelling of English or Italian terms where the candidate has made their intentions clear.</li> </ul>

Question	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<b>Melody/harmony</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• change of key</li> <li>• chromatic</li> <li>• countermelody</li> <li>• glissando</li> <li>• major</li> <li>• perfect cadence</li> <li>• repetition *</li> <li>• sequence</li> <li>• trill(s)</li> </ul>		<p>Also accept modulation.</p> <p>Also accept gliss.</p> <p>*Accept repetition once only.</p>
	<b>Rhythm/tempo</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 or 4 beats in a bar or 2/4 or 4/4 or simple time</li> <li>• accents</li> <li>• allegro</li> <li>• drum fill(s)</li> <li>• repetition *</li> <li>• syncopation or off the beat</li> </ul>		<p>*Accept repetition once only.</p>
	<b>Instruments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acoustic or electric guitar</li> <li>• bass guitar</li> <li>• drum kit</li> <li>• flute or piccolo</li> <li>• glockenspiel</li> <li>• saxophone(s)</li> <li>• timpani</li> <li>• trombone(s)</li> <li>• trumpet(s)</li> <li>• xylophone</li> </ul>		<p>Do not accept guitar on its own.</p> <p>Do not accept drums.</p> <p>Also accept glock.</p> <p>Also accept kettle drum(s).</p> <p>Also accept xylo.</p>
	<b>Dynamics (Italian terms)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mp or mf</li> <li>• f or ff</li> <li>• crescendo or cresc. or </li> <li>• sforzando or sfz</li> </ul>		<p>Accept Italian terms in full, eg forte.</p> <p>Do not accept English equivalents.</p> <p>No other answers accepted here.</p>

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]