

VCE Music Contemporary Performance 2023–2027

Aural and written examination – End of year

Examination specifications

Overall conditions

The examination will be sat at a time and date to be set annually by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). [VCAA examination rules](#) will apply.

There will be 15 minutes of reading time and 1 hour of writing time.

The examination will be assessed by a panel appointed by the VCAA.

The examination will contribute 20 per cent to the study score.

Content

The *VCE Music Study Design 2023–2027* ('Units 3 and 4: Music Contemporary Performance') is the document for the development of the examination. Outcome 3 in 'Units 3 and 4: Music Contemporary Performance' will be examined.

All of the key knowledge and key skills that underpin Outcome 3 in 'Units 3 and 4: Music Contemporary Performance', and the definitions of compositional devices and music elements found on pages 15–19 of the 'Cross-study specifications' in the study design, are examinable. Students will **not** be required to perform/play/sing in the aural and written examination.

Format

The examination will be in the form of a question and answer book. An audio recording will play for the duration of writing time.

The examination will consist of two sections.

Section A will consist of short-answer and extended-answer questions, which may include multiple parts, based on two to four previously unheard excerpts of music. The excerpts may vary in length and represent diverse styles and genres. Questions will be derived from the key knowledge and key skills in Area of Study 3 of Units 3 and 4, and will focus on analysis and/or comparison of the excerpts. Students will be required to use relevant vocabulary to analyse and/or compare the ways in which performers have interpreted a variety of works. Section A will be worth a total of 20 marks.

Section B will consist of short-answer questions, which may include multiple parts, based on previously unheard excerpts of music and related stimulus material. The excerpts may be a short phrase or a few notes for identifying music elements in isolation and/or in context. Questions will be derived from the key knowledge and key skills in Area of Study 3 of Units 3 and 4. Section B will be worth a total of 40 marks.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 60.

Answers are to be recorded in the question and answer book.

Approved materials and equipment

Pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers

Relevant references

The following resources should be referred to in relation to the VCE Music Contemporary Performance examination:

- *VCE Music Study Design 2023–2027*
- Music Contemporary Performance – Support materials
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2023–2027 accreditation period for VCE Music Contemporary Performance, examinations will be prepared according to the examination specifications above. Each examination will conform to these specifications, and will test a representative sample of the key knowledge and key skills from Outcome 3 in ‘Units 3 and 4: Music Contemporary Performance’ and the definitions of compositional devices and music elements found on pages 15–19 of the ‘Cross-study specifications’ in the study design. Possible methods of documentation when responding are included on page 14 of the ‘Cross-study specifications’.

Students should use [command/task words](#), other instructional information within questions and corresponding mark allocations to guide their responses.

A separate document containing a sample examination has been published on the VCE Music Contemporary Performance [‘Examination specifications, past examinations and examination reports’](#) page on the VCAA website.

The sample examination provides an indication of the format of the examination, and the types of questions teachers and students can expect until the current accreditation period is over.

The VCAA does not provide answers to sample examinations.