Stage 2 Music Explorations

Assessment Type 2: Exploration and Experimentation

Purpose: students develop and extend their understanding of music by:

* Applying their knowledge and understanding of musical elements to exploring and experimenting with how music is made
* exploring musical styles, influences, and/or techniques
* experimenting with styles and techniques, based on their findings and discoveries.

Assessment Description

For your exploration and experimentation, choose:

* an aspect of how music is made or
* one or more musical styles, influences, and/or techniques.

To explore how music is made, you may select sources of music and sound and/or sound production and recording processes to experiment with and explore. Sources of music and sound may include but are not limited to, acoustic, electronic or amplified instruments, voice, found sounds, sampling, or soundscapes. You may explore sound production and recording with an industry mentor, including but not limited to, the recording industry, DJ/dance music production, instrument making, or creating an audio product.

To explore musical styles, influences and/or techniques you may select one or more musical styles, influences, and/or techniques, including but not limited to, music theatre, jazz, hip hop, Indigenous music of Australia, music therapy, and/or contemporary music of a particular culture.

As part of the exploration and experimentation process, maintain a multimodal journal of your learning processes and development. This may include excerpts of music performance and/or improvisation, annotated scores, notated lead sheets, notes and reflections, plans, sketches, images or any other relevant information. This learning journal is not assessed but forms the basis of your portfolio.

**Assessment Conditions**

For your exploration and experimentation you provide evidence of your learning in a portfolio. The portfolio comprises:

* a presentation
* a commentary

**Presentation**

The presentation provides evidence of your practical music-making skills, and your musical understanding, skills and techniques in manipulating musical elements and experimenting with how music is made. The presentation comprises short performances, compositions, and/or other musical products.

* The performances should be recorded for assessment, and should be 8-10 minutes.
* Compositions should be 4-6 minutes and in digital format or as an audio recording with an annotated lead sheet.

**Commentary**

The commentary provides evidence of the processes of exploration and experimentation you use and your learning development as a result of these processes. The commentary is a description and explanation of these processes and a synthesis of your findings. The commentary is informed by your learning journal.

The commentary is presented in multimodal format, including but not limited to,

* a blog or vlog
* a web page(s)
* a movie clip
* a multimodal presentation (Power Point, Voki, Prezi).

The commentary should be equivalent to a maximum of 7 minutes or 1200 words.

The specific features being assessed are:

**Understanding Music**

UM1 Understanding of musical elements, styles, influences and techniques.

UM2 Application of musical literacy skills and expression of musical ideas.

**Exploring and Experimenting with Music**

EM1 Application of knowledge and understanding of musical elements to explore and experiment with music.

EM2 Exploration of and experimentation with musical styles, influences, techniques, and/or aspects of the music industry.

EEM3 Synthesis of findings from exploration of and experimentation with music.