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# **GCE MUSIC 6271 UNIT 6 PERFORMING MUS6**

## **MARKING CRITERIA**

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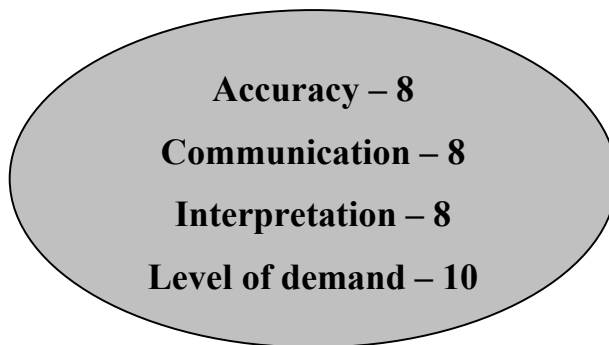
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*Dr Michael Cresswell, Director General*

## MUS6 PERFORMING MARKING CRITERIA

### Solo Performance

Maximum - 34 marks, divided as follows:



**Accuracy** refers to:

- Pitch (including intonation)
- Rhythm
- Pulse
- Dynamics

- 8 A performance with no discernible flaws.
- 7 – 6 A secure performance. At the higher mark, occasional slips will not affect the fluency of the performance.
- 5 – 3 A reasonably secure performance. At the upper end of the band, the occasional slips may cause hesitations and at the lower end, slips may be greater in number, or result in more serious stumbling. There may be some misreading of the notation, key signatures or other performance details.
- 2 – 1 A performance inhibited by frequent slips and/or consistent misreading of the notation, key signatures or other performance details.

**Communication** refers to:

- Sense of rapport
- Sense of occasion
- Sense of involvement in the music
- Projection

- 8 A committed, persuasive and well-projected performance, showing total involvement in the music. Its presentation has impact and precision.
- 7 – 6 A well-projected performance, making clear the meaning of the music and showing an awareness of audience and occasion.
- 5 – 4 A performance showing some sense of involvement in the music and with some audience awareness.
- 3 – 2 A performance which is introverted, in which the impact of the music is conveyed only occasionally.
- 1 A performance with limited conviction and/or projection, which may be an anxious experience for both performer and listener. The candidate fails to impose him/herself on the performance.

**Interpretation** refers to:

- Appropriateness of style and tempo
- Control of instrument /voice
- Phrasing/articulation
- Dynamic range
- Tone quality

- 8 A mature understanding of period and style, reflected in clear attention to the composer's intentions, together with a clear personal interpretative input.
- 7 – 6 A good understanding of style in which, at the upper mark, all the performance details are sensitively and musically observed. At the lower mark, the detail is observed but with less vivid contrast or clarity.
- 5 – 3 Some understanding of style. At the upper end of this band the performance details are observed, though lacking some subtlety. At the lower end, the attention to detail may be inconsistent and weak tone may inhibit projection of other details. The technical demands of the music may cause the composer's tempo indications to be compromised.
- 2 – 1 A performance demonstrating a rudimentary sensitivity to the interpretative demands of the music. At the upper mark there may be some attempt at dynamic contrast and shaping of phrases. At the lower mark these will be barely noticeable and tone and control may be very weak.

## Level of demand

- 10 **Higher** A demanding programme requiring a high degree of technical ability, and presenting challenges in areas such as tempo, key, intricacy of rhythm and complexity of chords or textures. The music should require considerable command of the instrument or voice and varied use of performing techniques in a style appropriate to the music. As a general guidance, the programme will make demands consistently at grade 7 standard or above.
- 9 – 5 **Intermediate** A programme which makes demands in some but not in all the areas mentioned in the Higher category. As a general guideline, a programme consistently making demands at grade 6 standard will gain a mark of 7.
- 4 – 0 **Foundation** A programme whose range of technical demands is narrower. As a general guideline, a programme consistently making demands at grade 5 standard will gain a mark of 3.

**It is hoped that candidates will explore a wider repertoire than may be implied by references to graded examinations.**

## Viva Voce

Maximum - 6 marks

*The candidate will be asked to comment on the following:*

- Understanding of the style of the music
- Understanding of the capabilities of the instrument
- Interpretative input into the music

- 6 – 5 The candidate is very well-informed and answers in an articulate and well-considered manner. At the upper end of the band, answers will be particularly perceptive and detailed.
- 4 – 3 The candidate has some understanding of the music and answers in a coherent manner, though lacking some perceptiveness and detail. At the upper end of this band candidates are able to articulate some understanding of the stylistic, technical and interpretative features of the music.
- 2 – 1 The candidate's understanding of the music and its technical demands is superficial. At the upper end of the band, any detailed knowledge will be confined to difficulties the candidate has encountered in the performance.