

## Applying Extra Time in Music Examinations

If a candidate is entitled to extra time in examinations, this should be applied to the following Units and Components of the WJEC / Eduqas Music qualifications:

WJEC	GCSE Music Unit 3	3660-U30-1
WJEC	AS Music Unit 3	2660-U30-1
WJEC	A Level Music Unit 6	1660-U80-1
Eduqas	GCSE Music Component 3	C660-U30-1
Eduqas	AS Music Component 3	B660-U30-1
Eduqas	A Level Music Component 3	A660-U30-1

**Candidates can be awarded different entitlements, but the most common is 25% extra time.**

**Overall timings of Music examinations are approximate, due to the length of the extracts used.**

**Candidates with extra time are not automatically entitled to hear additional repeats of the extracts in the examination.**

**Examination audio mp3 files must be played out loud in the examination room. Candidates must not have access to the controls.**

### GCSE Music

For **GCSE Music only**, since Summer 2022 we have made available a downloadable mp3 file which incorporates the additional time, for candidates entitled to 25% extra time. This is available for the Examinations Officer to download one working day before the timetabled examination. There is further guidance which details the security requirements for storing and using these files.

All 8 questions in the GCSE exam require audio extracts of music which are played, and repeated, with timed silences on the audio files.

It is **not recommended** to give GCSE candidates the extra time in one “chunk” at the end of the exam as they will not be able to hear the music to which the questions refer during this time.

In the additional time mp3 files 25% extra time is incorporated into the silences throughout the exam.

For different percentage entitlements centres will have to calculate the additional time and apply this with a stopwatch following the instructions given.

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## AS and A Level Music

From Summer 2024, we will be producing mp3 files for AS and A Level with 25% extra time distributed between the extracts.

Not all questions in the GCE examinations require the candidate to respond to audio extracts.

**Centres are advised to consult with individual candidates regarding how extra time should be applied.** There are 2 possibilities:

1. The extra time can be distributed throughout the examination as is recommended at GCSE. This can be useful for candidates who need extra time to process and respond to all types of question. These candidates should use the mp3 files with the additional time built in.
2. The extra time can be given in one “chunk” at the end of the exam – this may be useful for A Level candidates who need extra time to complete longer answers, as the final question is an essay. For these candidates, please use the standard audio files, but refer to the timing sheet on the Portal to see how much extra time to add. The extra time required should be calculated by adding the total extra time for each of the Areas of Study the candidate will respond to in the exam.

## How to calculate and apply the extra time

Please follow these instructions for extra time other than 25%.

- **The extra time candidate(s) will need to be roomed separately**
- Download the timing sheet from “Today’s Papers” on Portal a week before the exam.
- Calculate the additional time which will need to be added onto every silence and go through this with your invigilator. See the examples below for how this works. The process is the same for GCSE and A Level.
- Additional time should be calculated on the total length of the announcements, the extracts **and** the silences as candidates are allowed to write during all of this time.
- Choose a confident invigilator who is happy to use a stopwatch and pause the audio for the required time in every silence.
- It is essential that they use the **PAUSE** facility, and do not **STOP** the audio otherwise it will re-start from the beginning.

**On the next page there are two examples of how to calculate the extra time.**

- If you require any further guidance please contact the Music team by email.
- If you wish to use a past paper for a mock examination, please email the Music team to request the timing sheet. The papers, mark schemes and standard audio are available on Portal, along with 25% extra audio for GCSE papers set since 2022.

[Music@wjec.co.uk](mailto:Music@wjec.co.uk) or [Music@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:Music@eduqas.co.uk)

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## Example 1

**GCSE MUSIC 2017 CD ONE** This sheet refers to the old specification. The new specification sheet will operate in the same way, but the timings are different.

1.

WJEC GCSE Music Examination 2017, Appraising test CD1.

This appraising text is continuous and consists of eight questions, namely seven questions on the areas of study and one evaluative question.

There will be an appropriate silence between each playing and after the final playing of each extract. The entire examination is recorded on two CDs. You now have one minute to read through the questions. (1 minute silence) You would need to add 25% of this minute (ie 15 seconds) onto the silence.

Question 1: Announcement (26 seconds) (30 second silence) Here you would need to add 25% of the time of the announcement and the silence, ie. 25% of 56 seconds

First extract (1 minute 8 seconds) (10 second silence) This time it would be 25% of 1 minute 18 seconds to add onto the silence.

Second extract (1 minute 6 seconds) (10 second silence) Etc always include the time of the announcement and extract and silence when calculating the extra.

## Example 2

**EDUQAS A LEVEL MUSIC 2021 COMPONENT 3 – A660U30-1 Timing Sheet.**

You will need an unmarked copy of the set work scores you have studied for this component. No other scores may be taken into the examination.

In section 1 answer either area of study B or area of study C or area of study D. In section 2, answer either area of study E or area of study F. In section 3 answer question 11, either question 12 or question 13 and answer question 14.

Section 1

Area of Study B: Rock and Pop

Question 1

Announcement (21 seconds) (30 seconds silence) (total 51 seconds. Add 25% = 12.75 seconds into the silence)

First playing (1 minute 40 seconds) (45 seconds silence) (total 145 seconds. Add 25% = 36.25 seconds into the silence)

Second playing (1 minute 40 seconds) (45 seconds silence) (total 145 seconds. Add 25% = 36.25 seconds into the silence)

Third playing (1 minute 40 seconds) (5 minutes silence) (total 400 seconds. Add 25% = 100 seconds into the silence.)