

Assessment Specifications

Level 2 Music 2026

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General information

Domain:	Making Music and Music Studies
Standards:	91275, 91276, 91277
Assessment method:	Examination, end of year
Assessment medium:	Printed paper

[Music subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	91275
Title:	Demonstrate aural understanding through written representation
Version:	3
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to listen to pre-recorded music extracts and respond to tasks using appropriate musical notation and written evidence.

The following skills will be assessed:

- identification of chord progressions and cadences
- transcription of melodic lines from the upper or lower parts of a texture

- understanding of the use of elements and features, such as instrumentation and timbre; terms, signs, and performance markings; melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic features; and textural, structural, and compositional devices.

An audio recording of music extracts will be supplied.

Please refer to the [Explanatory Notes in AS 91275](#).

Further clarification of the elements and features applicable at Levels 1, 2, and 3 Music can be found on the Music Subject Resources page, under the heading “[Other Music resources](#)”.

Standard:	91276
Title:	Demonstrate knowledge of conventions in a range of music scores
Version:	3
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to refer to music score extracts and respond to questions using appropriate musical notation and written evidence.

Music from the following styles / genres will be represented:

- musical theatre vocal with accompaniment
- wind quintet
- piano duet

Please refer to the [Explanatory Notes in AS 91276](#).

Further clarification of the knowledge and conventions applicable at Levels 1, 2, and 3 Music can be found on the Music Subject Resources page, under the heading “[More Resources](#)”.

Standard:	91277
Title:	Demonstrate knowledge of two substantial and contrasting music works
Version:	3
Number of credits:	6

Candidates will be required to provide extended written responses, supported by specific musical evidence, to questions referring to TWO music works they have studied.

Reference to the score of at least one work is required. Manuscript paper will be provided within the examination booklet for use if necessary. However, the reproduction of extended musical quotations is not a requirement of the standard.

Please refer to the [Explanatory Notes in AS 91277](#).