St Mary's School
CAMBRIDGE

Lower Sixth Music

Sample Entrance Examination

Time allowed: (Up to) 90 minutes

Name: _____

Materials required for examination
One CD per candidate
One CD player with headphones per candidate

Instructions to Candidates
In the spaces above, write your name and your signature.
Attempt Section A (Listening), Section B (Musical Knowledge and Understanding) and Section C (Theory) of this paper in the spaces provided
Complete your answers in pencil

Information for Candidates
Your CD contains 1 track. You may listen to the track as many times as necessary during this examination, but you are reminded that the total duration of the examination is 1 hour so our recommendation is that you do not exceed 25 minutes on the listening component of Section A.
The total mark for this paper is 65. The marks for the various questions are shown in round bracket: e.g. **(2)**

Advice to Candidates
You are reminded of the importance of clear and orderly presentation in your answers

Section A:
Listening

Track 1 on your CD is an extract from a symphony. The extract that you are listening to describes the true story of an expedition in 1912, led by the British explorer Robert Scott, who tried to be the first to get to the South Pole. His team did reach the pole, only to find that a team from Norway had beaten them to it. Struggling to return to civilisation, Scott's team ran into appalling weather conditions and were overcome by exhaustion, hunger and extreme cold. They died, trapped in their tents by a blizzard, only 11 miles from safety…

a. Identify **six** features of the music that are appropriate for this story of a heroic struggle against nature in a bitterly cold landscape. You may refer to instruments, rhythm, melody, pitch, dynamics, texture or any other features that are relevant

1. ……

   ……

2. ……

   ……

3. ……

   ……

4. ……

   ……

5. ……

   ……

6. ……

   ……

(12)

b. Briefly describe what is meant by the term "symphony"

……

(1)

(Total 13 marks)

Section B:
Musical Knowledge and Understanding

a. Name the four instruments which make up a string quartet

…… **(4)**

b. Name two common orchestral percussion instruments

…… **(2)**

c. Name one composer who was active during the Renaissance period

…… **(1)**

d. Name one composer who was active during the Romantic period

…… **(1)**

e. Name one composer who was active during the Modern period

…… **(1)**

f. Explain the meaning of the term *accelerando*

…… **(1)**

g. Name the two chords that make up a perfect cadence

…… **(2)**
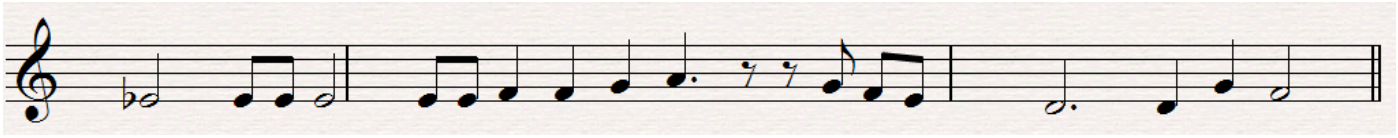
h. Chords I, IV and V are known by what other names?

…… **(3)**

(Total 15 marks)
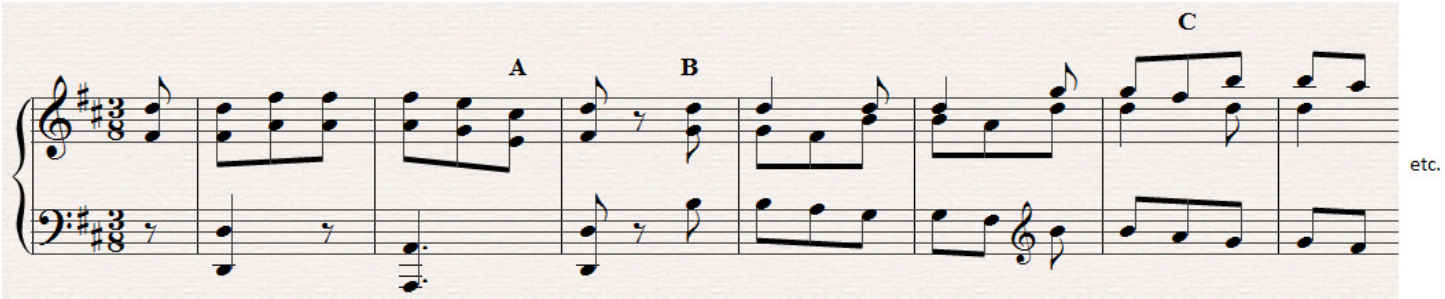
Section C:
Music Theory

a. The following extract, which begins on the first beat of the bar, requires a different time signature for each bar. Put in the three correct time signatures.



(6)

b. Describe the chords marked **A**, **B** and **C** in the extract below as I, II, IV or V. Also indicate whether the lowest note of the chord is the root (a), 3rd (b) or 5th (c). The key is D major.



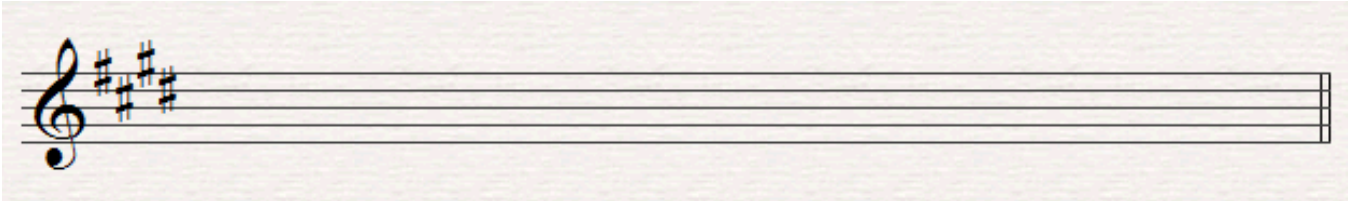
(6)

Chord **A** ……..

Chord **B** ……..

Chord **C** ……..

c. Using semibreves (whole-notes), write one octave **ascending** of the **melodic** minor scale that has this key signature. Begin on the tonic and remember to include any additional sharp, flat or natural signs.

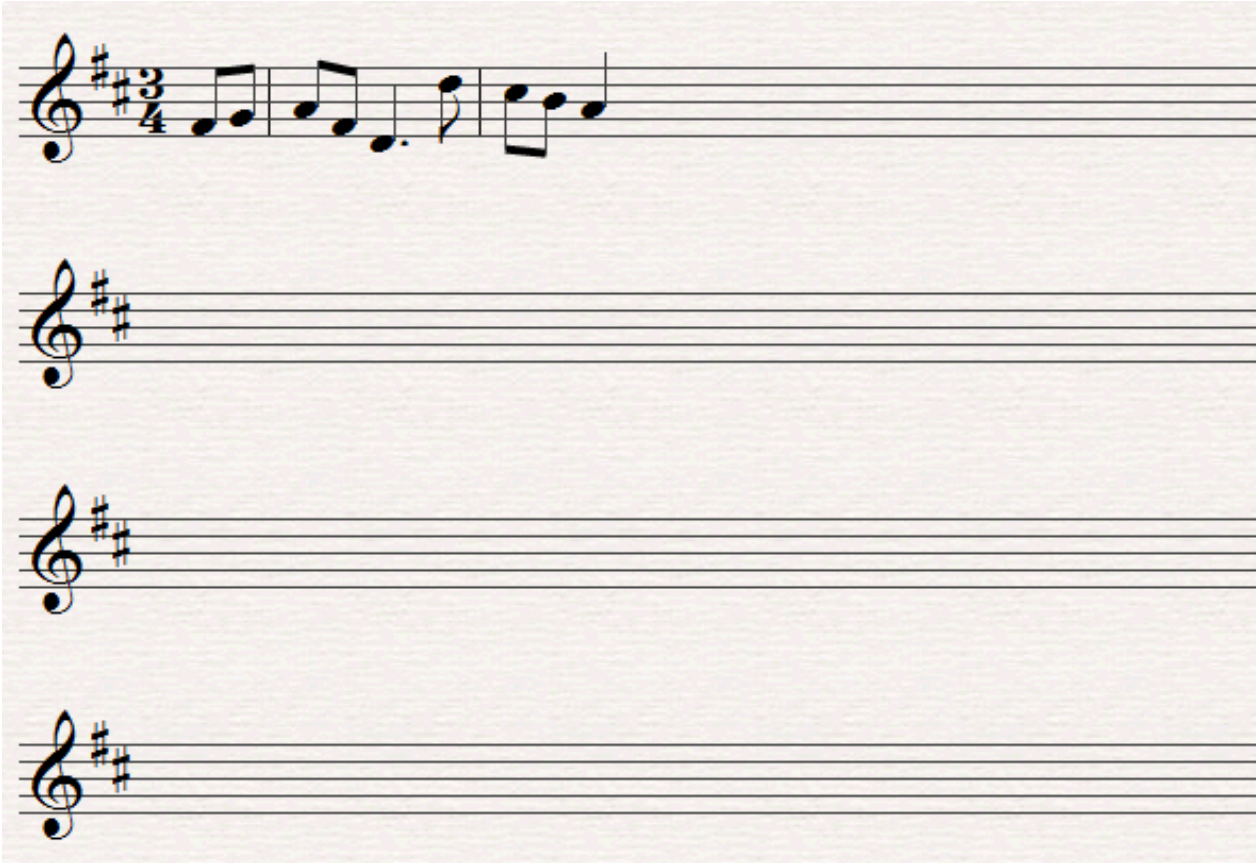


(10)

Turn over

d. Compose a complete melody for unaccompanied violin or oboe, using the given opening. Indicate the tempo and other performance directions, including any that might be particularly required for the instrument chosen. The complete melody should be eight bars long.

Instrument for which the melody is written: **.....**



(15)

(Total 37 marks)

TOTAL FOR PAPER: 65 MARKS

END