

MUSIC

50 things you should know:

Set work 1 – Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 in D major (3rd Movement)

1. Composed in the **BAROQUE** period.
2. The composition is an example of a **CONCERTO GROSSO**.
3. Solo instruments (Flute, violin and Harpsichord) are the **CONCERTINO**
4. The accompaniment instruments (a small chamber orchestra) is the **RIPIENO**
5. Bass and keyboard accompaniment is known as the **BASSO CONTINUO**
6. Harmony is **DIATONIC**
7. Dynamic changes are known as **TERRACED DYNAMICS**
8. Melody uses much ornamentation such as **trills** and **appoggiaturas**.

Set Work 2 – Beethoven:Piano Sonata No. 8 in C minor Op. 13, 'Pathetique' (1st mvt)

9. Published in 1799 – the late **CLASSICAL** period.
10. The movement is in **SONATA FORM**
11. Sonata form is made up of 3 main sections: **EXPOSITION, DEVELOPMENT, RECAPITULATION**.
12. The movement uses a very wide 5 octave range.
13. The movement starts with a **SLOW INTRODUCTION**
14. 2nd subject of the exposition modulates to the unexpected key of **E flat minor**.
15. Texture is **HOMOPHONIC**
16. There is much detailed and extreme dynamic contrast including **crescendos** and **diminuendos**.

Set work 3 – Purcell: Music for a While

17. Written in the mid **BAROQUE** period
18. This song was written as **INCIDENTAL MUSIC** to be performed as part of a play.
19. Composed for just **solo voice** and **continuo**.
20. Harmonies are realized from a **FIGURED BASS**.
21. The structure is a **GROUND BASS**, repeated 12 times.
22. There is **TERNARY FORM** as well as there is a B section in the middle that modulates.
23. **WORD PAINTING** is used regularly
24. Word setting is mainly **SYLLABIC**, but occasionally uses a **MELISMA** (wond'ring)

Set work 4 – 'Killer Queen' (from the Queen album Sheer Heart Attack)

25. Written in **1974**
26. All vocal – lead and backing – are **OVERDUBBED** and performed by Freddie Mercury
27. There is an extremely wide **vocal range** of two octaves and a third.
28. Much use of studio technology including a **PHASE SHIFTER** ('laser beam')
29. Guitars use **DISTORTION** and **WAH WAH**
30. There is a basic **VERSE AND CHORUS** form with instrumental sections added.
31. Melody is mainly moves in step but there are some much larger leaps as well
32. Key is **E flat major**, but often ambiguous and some sections start in **C minor** or **B flat major**

Set work 5 – Steven Schwartz: ‘Defying Gravity’ (from the musical Wicked)

33. Based upon the story of **The Wizard of Oz**
34. This song is the finale number in Act 1
35. The song is scored to be accompanied by a large pit orchestra.
36. The score in the anthology is a reduction known as a **SHORT SCORE**
37. There is a **LEITMOTIF** which quotes the first 7 pitches of ‘Somewhere Over the Rainbow’
38. There is much rhythmic **SYNCOPIATION**
39. There is a **VERSE CHORUS** structure with some variations
40. Word setting is almost entirely **SYLLABIC**

Set work 6 – John Williams: ‘Main Title/’Rebel Blockade Runner’ (from Star Wars:Episode IV – A New Hope)

41. Scored for a full **SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** of nearly 90 players
42. Structure dictated by visual images, but starts with a **FANFARE**, then an ABA **Ternary** structure
43. Uses **QUATAL** harmonies
44. First half in **B flat major**, second half far more **DISSONANT** and almost **ATONAL** at times.
45. Intervals of a **4th** and a **7th** feature heavily in melodies.
46. John Williams makes much use of **LEITMOTIFS**

Set work 7 – Afro Celt Sound System: ‘Release’ (from the album Volume 2: Release)

47. Album released in **1999**
48. Uses a combination of **African, Celtic** and **Western** instruments
49. Kora, Djembe, Talking Drum (African)
50. Uilleann Pipes, Fiddle, Accordion, Bodhran, Hurdy-Gurdy (Celtic)
51. Drum Kit, Synthesisers, Electric Piano, Digital Effects (western)
52. Tonality is **MODAL**
53. Texture is **LAYERED**
54. Melodies are mostly **PENTATONIC**

Set Work 8 – ‘Samba Em Preludio’, performed by Esperanza Spalding (from the album Esperanza)

55. The song is a **BOSSA NOVA**
56. Written in 1962
57. Sung by a female voice with a **LOW TESSITURA**
58. Mostly accompanied by an **ACOUSTIC BASS GUITAR**
59. Is in the key of **B minor** with frequent **CHROMATIC** notes.
60. **CHORD EXTENSIONS** (7ths, 9ths 11ths and 13ths) are used.