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Unit 8 Collaborative Performance Project - Assessment and Grading Record Sheet							
The learner can provide evidence of:				R	P	M	D
Context	Comment						
1.1 Analyse the requirements and parameters of a collaborative music performance project	Good understanding and knowledge of subject context used to make sound judgments, articulate ambitions and clarify purpose.						
Research							
2.1 Review a range of research sources to support the production of a performance project	Sufficient relevant information has been gathered, documented and used in the development of ideas.						
2.2 Interpret research to develop ideas and effectively communicate to an audience							
Practical skills							
3.1 Demonstrate the ability to contribute to the planning, organisation and development of a collaborative performance	In depth understanding and aesthetic awareness, imaginative and flexible processes, skills and knowledge applied in extensive enquiry to develop creative solutions.						
3.2 Apply practical skills, knowledge and understanding to complete a collaborative performance project within an agreed timeframe							
Evaluation and reflection							
4.1 Critically evaluate a collaborative performance project against the agreed requirements and parameters	Clearly communicated evidence of valid evaluation and realistic analysis independently used to inform and develop ideas.						

Candidate ID: 10659320 Luke Coates		Grade	
Pathway: MPP		PASS	
Centre: Bradford College	Assessor: Lewis Blofeld Second Marker: Nicolas Sykes	Dates Initial Marking: 07/06/23 Second Marking: 12/06/23	

Commentary as appropriate:

Well done, Luke, you have completed this project to a Pass standard. The work submitted meets all the assessment criteria and is of a satisfactory standard. You have created an excellent track that demonstrates your skills in music production.

Context – It is quite evident that you understand the context of where your music fits, It would have be really helpful to analyse the target audience and exploring what they like in tracks. This could have been done with analysis of similar artists and their fan base and primary research with friends and peers. This would have provided some helpful information to help inform your musical decision especially as you plan on releasing the track. In your research you have explore a lot of the surrounding context in terms of the technology, rap style and songwriting, this could have been more extensive but also more related to your own track.

Research – There is some interesting research overall, but the major issue is the lack of referencing. A lot of the work on the research page is your own thoughts, it should be research and then your thoughts on the research and how it might influence or aid the development of your track. It would have been good to show lots of techniques on this page and discuss how they might be useful and incorporated into your own work. Research provides the opportunity to learn what exists and provides a foundation for your work to evolve and develop from. Harvard referencing is used in parts but not enough throughout, with only three references on your research page this demonstrates a lack of width in your research.

Practical Skills – Your beat production page explains what you did but also why, it is the why that is valuable in this process as it explains your intentions rather than just what you did. The level of analysis could be deeper with more relation to influences and other music in this genre, this would help to contextualize your work more thoroughly. It would have also been an opportunity to provide more research, again reinforcing the development process in research and context. The mixing section has some good sections to it but doesn't always fully explain your intentions, again research on EQ would have helped you to describe how to prevent vocals sounding flat, understanding the frequencies and their importance on a track are vital skills to a producer. There is not much evidence of other effects, for instance, compression, one of the most important effects is not really mentioned, is it used? Again, a discussion on compression, would provide lots of research opportunities to add more depth, questions like what type of compressor to use (FET, VCA, Opto), how the settings can be used to create breath or sustain, how reverb can add depth and three-dimensional sound. Research in these areas would provide you the knowledge and skills to be an excellent producer. Why was the track not mastered? There is no discussion of this and its importance in the quality of the final product. The music is excellent, and your production skills have developed significantly, at points it would have been nice to hear the sample cut through in the mix to add more depth and interest. The track demonstrates commitment to developing the best production you could, it fits the context of 90s sound that you aimed for and overall, it is a well-produced mix. The vocals are good but could have used more processing, research in to producing rap vocals, i.e., vocal effect chains would have helped to provide more knowledge, for examples did you use compression, saturation, limiting? There is no evidence to suggest you did. The automation on the track is excellent and helps to keep the track interesting over a six minute period.

Evaluation and Reflection – The evaluation really lacks in terms of technical language; at this stage you should be discussing the technicalities of the music you are creating in more detail. I recommend listening/watching videos on production techniques to learn about the different descriptive words that are used to discuss music production, magazines like Attack and Musictech would also be worth reading. The evaluation is ok but there is little depth of analysis for a project that lasted four months. Some primary research into the success and quality of the track would have significantly enhanced your reflection as your work is very insular. Acquiring feedback from peers is essential to success in production as it provides you with an insight removed from your own. The evaluation throughout the process is good and has demonstrated how you have used it effectively to inform your future decisions. More depth of analysis is required to demonstrate what you have learned, what you would do differently and the strengths and weaknesses.

Summary

There is some good work here with a lot of potential, the track you have produced is excellent and demonstrates your talent with production techniques. However, there is a distinct lack of technical language and knowledge, more research would enable you to discuss your work in more depth and align it professionally. It would be worth spending a lot more time reading, listening and watching production magazines, podcasts and YouTube videos to develop your understanding of the effects, equipment, language and processes to build the fundamentals you need to work in the industry. Developing a peer network to share your work with, gain feedback and discuss ideas would be a significant aid to your work and progression to a professional level.

Second Marker Comments:

The song you have written and produced is excellent with some nice harmonic and melodic elements - the lyrics are well constructed. However, do not submit work with derogatory or explicit language for assessment as this is not appropriate – you must research PG guidance and radio friendly edits in future. There is documentation of the processes of writing, recording or mixing the songs with screenshots to demonstrate this but I would expect to hear more audio throughout this process. There is evaluation of each of the ideas but this is a little descriptive at times – you need to develop this and explain why decisions were made more. How did you develop the track that you chose to record? The main issue with your work is the lack of research and evaluation, significant amounts of your work are descriptive text, although you do state in your final evaluation that you struggled with the written side of this project. Maybe think about video or audio evaluations in the future? It is clear that the outcome has been achieved to an excellent standard, but the process is equally as important. There is little research to demonstrate further reading or any description of how the songs fit in a professional context. Overall, an excellent track Luke and I look forward to hearing how you develop lyrically and vocally next year.

Exemplification for UAL Awarding Body Grade Criteria – Level 3

This guide is to be used in conjunction with the assessment and grading criteria for UAL Awarding Body qualifications at Level 3.

	Fail Work submitted fails to meet one or more of the assessment criteria and is of a poor standard	Pass Work submitted meets all of the assessment criteria and is of a satisfactory standard	Merit Work submitted meets all assessment criteria and is of a high standard	Distinction Work submitted meets all assessment criteria and is of a very high standard
Context	Limited understanding of subject context, lacking clarity in aims and purpose.	Understanding of subject context used appropriately to make judgments, describe aims and clarify purpose.	Good understanding and knowledge of subject context used to make sound judgments, articulate ambitions and clarify purpose.	Comprehensive understanding and knowledge of subject context used to communicate complex concepts, articulate ambitions and clarify purpose.
Research	Little or no evidence presented or information does not relate sufficiently to task.	Sufficient relevant information has been gathered, documented and used in the development of ideas.	Thorough and sustained research and investigation of relevant sources, interpretation and synthesis of information used to inform, support and develop ideas.	Independently identified, thorough and sustained research and investigation of a range of relevant sources, insightful interpretation and synthesis of information used to inform, support and develop ideas.
Practical skills	Limited range of processes demonstrated, judgement and execution of techniques is poor.	Adequate range of processes, skills and knowledge demonstrated. Competent execution and application of techniques used to develop ideas.	Consistent and appropriate processes, skills and knowledge applied to extend enquiry and develop creative solutions.	In depth understanding and aesthetic awareness, imaginative and flexible processes, skills and knowledge applied in extensive enquiry to develop creative solutions.
Evaluation and reflection	Insufficient evidence of ongoing evaluation, lack of or only basic analysis and little or no justification for ideas.	Clearly communicated evidence of valid evaluation and realistic analysis independently used to inform and develop ideas.	Effective communication of analysis and interpretation, independent synthesis of information and application of reasoned decision making to inform development of ideas.	Accomplished and professional communication of perceptive analysis and interpretation, demonstrating clarity and sophistication in thinking and maturity in decision making to progress ideas.