

Student Name: Luke Ayres

Project No. and Title: 3 – Studio Practice

**Units Covered: Unit 5 Music Production in Context
Unit 6 Music Performance in Context**

Overall Grade: EXCELLENT

Assessor: Lewis Blofeld & Eric Hayes

Date: 22/02/23

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.

	Referral Work submitted fails to meet one or more of the assessment criteria and is of a poor standard	Satisfactory Work submitted meets all of the assessment criteria and is of a satisfactory standard	Good Work submitted meets all assessment criteria and is of a high standard	Excellent 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.

Comments:

Well done Luke, you have completed this project to a high standard. The work submitted meets all the assessment criteria and is of a very high standard.

Recording (assessor EH)

Overall	You writeup overall is very detailed and you show an advanced understanding of recording and production techniques in general. The discussion of the process of recording itself is lacking somewhat but the rest of your work is thorough.
Research	Your research was appropriate and well laid out. You highlight key words and evidence your sources at the end which shows good academic practice. You've gone into detail but your writeup shows your integration of the knowledge into your own practice.
Context	Your planning in regards to research is thorough but is let down by the lack of evidencing of the preparation that was involved in getting the band ready for the recordings, such as your practice sessions or the plan for how the recording session would go.
Practical Skills	You show clear understanding of the whole process of recording and it's knock on affects into the mixing process and you evaluate some of the pitfalls of how your recording went.
Evaluation	Your evaluation is detailed and shows critical evaluation of the whole process, with particular emphasis on what went well and what didn't keep this up.

Mixing (assessor LB)

Your contextual research is interesting but adds little in terms of what you can take from it. In order for research to be applicable, you need to relate the research to your project, ideas and production techniques, through the synthesis of information you can relate information that is based from factual research and enhanced with your own ideas, this is essential for the higher grades. Rewriting a source doesn't provide much depth, as you might as well copy and paste the website directly, if you are not adding anything to it. The contextual sources could have been explore in terms of what they produced and kind of techniques they have used, they techniques could then be explored in your own work as production experiments etc., this is just one way of incorporating the research and context effectively.

For your practical mix, there is some clear understanding of EQ but the contradicting information with the compressor, as a fast attack reduces the punchiness of a kick due to removing the initial transients, although the settings you have used show a slow attack time? The fundamental frequencies of a snare are not around 100Hz, also a noise gate would be more useful to reduce unwanted noise rather than cutting all the higher mid frequencies from the snare. Did you invert the phase of the under snare? This would have enhanced the sound of the combined snares. The final mix is good the bass is a little too loud and overpowers the other instruments and the vocals could use a little more volume, a limiter would have helped here. The balance overall excluding these parts is good. The guitar could have been enhanced with a better tone, although this would have been better achieved in the recording aspect. The use of backing vocals is good and well balanced in consideration of the other vocals and instruments. The end is very abrupt, a fade could have been used to ease off the ending if it was cut out during recording. The evaluation is good, there is clear identification of the strengths and weaknesses of the project on a whole but more detail in each aspect would be helpful especially on context and research.

