Exploring music in context

IB DP Music Exploring music in context full package

1. Exploring at a glance

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IB Music exploring music in context: the exploration portfolio (written work on diverse musical material plus practical exercises in creating and performing) - 30 percent at SL. The course's first submission.

Must-know: the four areas of inquiry as lenses; the personal, local and global contexts; the three roles in every encounter; the five elements as the analysis kit; diversity and breadth shown, not asserted.

2. The four lenses

The four lenses

Four areas of inquiry, not a list of set works: sociocultural and political expression; listening and performance; dramatic impact, movement and entertainment; music technology in the electronic and digital age. One piece can sit under more than one lens: the strongest explorations say why the lens fits.

Worked: the work song under expression (the music organizes collective labour); the film cue under dramatic impact (the harmony steers tension the picture cannot show); the DAW remix under technology.

3. Contexts and roles

Contexts and roles

Personal (the student's own world), local (the culture and community around), global (previously unfamiliar music): breadth means reaching beyond the personal. The roles run through every encounter: researcher analyses, creator takes it into an exercise, performer realizes it in sound.

Worked: the work song collected from a regional archive, its call-and-response texture and dry tool timbre researched, its motif set for two instruments, the response line sung.

4. The portfolio

The portfolio

Written work plus practical exercises in creating and performing: the discipline is that claims travel through the elements (an audible or notated event named before any context or effect), and the exercises grow from the same encounters the writing analyses.

Worked: the work-song entry names two audible events (call and response in texture; tools marking time in timbre), reads them as sociocultural expression, and links a two-part exercise on the call motif.

Check yourself

Check yourself

The four inquiries as lenses, each fit argued.

The three contexts; the personal left behind.

Every encounter as researcher, creator, performer.

Claims through the elements; exercises grown from the writing.