Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award

Set Task: Responding to a Music Brief

Digital template for Activity 1

Learner Name: Kaci Foster	**Candidate Number:** 0587
Centre name: Sheffield Springs Academy	**Centre Number:** 36512

Activity 1: Initial response to the music brief

You must outline:

- what you plan to do in response to the brief
- how your proposed response will address the aims of the brief
- how you will use musical elements, genres, styles and playing or producing techniques to re-interpret your chosen piece
- your consideration of the resources and skills development needed to produce the final piece of music (time, materials, space etc).

Responding to the brief.

The piece of music that I have decided to use is New Symphony, Largo by Dvorak. I chose to use this piece of music because the title of the piece has the word 'new,' and I want to create a new arrangement of the piece to tie with the theme of new beginnings. I plan to use the main melody and the accompaniment within my arrangement and create a new version whilst using an original idea.

The original piece of music is in a classical style, it has a slow and soft sound and I have decided to create a new arrangement of this in an ambient genre of music as ambient music is also slow and soft with a calming mood. I think the mix of a classical theme and an ambient genre, with looped ideas and drums will help to demonstrate to a teenage market that new versions or new beginnings can be created from an originality.

The original melody and the accompaniment are in the key of C major. The notes in C major create a soft and calming mood which lends itself well to the ambient genre. I will base my melody around the white notes around the C3 pitch. I have decided to use this range of pitch to help create a warm sound.

I plan to use instruments like new age synth for the melody and blue bottle for the accompaniment instead of the horn used in the original version. I want to make the melody much softer.

I will use 808 drum machine sound for the drum part to create a smooth sound rather than a hard sounding drum kit.

To gain more understanding about ambient music and the different types of things in it I listened to some examples of it.

When I do my project, I will begin by doing the melody then the accompaniment so that way when I put everything else into it, I have something that I can base it around. For the melody I will use is the original theme.

The section of the track will be cut up into sections to help define the track; intros, outros, with a variety of bass and synth variations will be effective, it will keep me organized and stay within my time limit. The type of instrumentation will be piano, percussion – and soft drumbeats in keeping with the theme.

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This is because it links to a teenage style and is popular in his area. The melody will be sustained throughout. I want it to have a subtlety to the beat as it fits into the ambient sound. Slowly I want to change the sound for the outro, but it will not be sudden. A gradual fade will be more suitable. Features I can use in band lab are sound effects like birds. I think exploring with these sounds will help me define what the track is about. Sounds that will support the chords layered down on the track rather than it sound random.

(Total for Activity 1 = 8 marks)

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