

## Transition Work

### Musical Theatre Listening Task

Complete the questions below, listening to 'Last Midnight' here. Give it your best shot – there are some questions that are much harder than others.



The text has line numbers to help you.

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. It's the last midnight     | 25. If that's the aim          | 48. Plant them and they     |
| 2. It's the last wish         | 26. Give me the blame          | soar                        |
| 3. It's the last midnight     | 27. Just give me the boy       | 49. Here, you want some     |
| 4. Soon it will be boom       | 28. No!                        | more?                       |
| squish!                       | 29. No?                        | 50. Listen to the roar      |
| 5. Told a little lie          | 30. You're so pure             | 51. Giants by the score!    |
| 6. Stole a little gold        | 31. But stay here and in       | 52. Well, you can blame     |
| 7. Broke a little vow         | time you'll mature             | another witch               |
| 8. Did you?                   | 32. And grow up to be them     | 53. It's the last midnight  |
| 9. Had to get your prince     | so let's fly                   | 54. It's the last verse     |
| 10. Had to get your cow       | 33. You and I far away         | 55. Now, before it's past   |
| 11. And to get your wish      | 34. I'm the hitch              | midnight                    |
| 12. Doesn't matter how        | 35. But no-one believes I'm    | 56. I'm leaving you my last |
| 13. Anyway, it doesn't        | the witch                      | curse                       |
| matter now                    | 36. They're all liars and      | 57. I'm leaving you alone   |
| 14. It's the last midnight    | thieves                        | 58. Scrubbing in the mess   |
| 15. It's the boom Splat!      | 37. Like your father           | that you made               |
| 16. Nothing but a vast        | 38. Just like you will be, too | 59. Fix it on your own      |
| midnight                      | 39. Oh, why bother?            | 60. Time for me to go I'm   |
| 17. Everybody smashed         | 40. They'll just do what       | afraid                      |
| flat!                         | they do                        | 61. Back to what I know     |
| 18. Nothing you can do        | 41. It's the last midnight     | 62. Back to long ago        |
| 19. Not exactly true          | 42. So, goodbye all            | 63. Safe inside the world   |
| 20. We could always give      | 43. Coming at you fast,        | that I'm from               |
| her the boy                   | midnight                       | 64. Ugly and spurned with   |
| 21. No, of course what        | 44. Soon you'll see the sky    | my powers returned          |
| really matters is the blame   | fall                           | 65. And I fear              |
| 22. Someone you can           | 45. Jack, you want a bean?     | 66. Midnight's here         |
| blame                         | 46. Have another bean          | 67. Time to disappear       |
| 23. Fine, if that's the thing | 47. Beans were made for        | 68. Mother here I come.     |
| you enjoy                     | making you rich!               | Arghh!                      |
| 24. Placing the blame         |                                |                             |

1. Identify the overall texture of the music. (1 mark)

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2. Identify the tonality at the beginning of the extract. (1 mark)

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3. Describe the melody in lines 1-4. (2 marks)

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4. Name the instrument that provides the boom in line 4 and elsewhere? (1 mark)

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5. Describe the new rhythmic idea that begins in the accompaniment on 'vow' in line 7. (1 mark)

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6. Name the interval between boom and splat on line 15. (1 mark)

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7. Name the percussion instrument that is added at line 18. (1 mark)

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8. Describe the melody in lines 24-26. (2 marks)

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9. Describe the harmony in line 27. (2 marks)

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10. Describe the melody in lines 30-33. (2 marks)

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11. Describe the writing for French horn in bars 34-40  
(2 marks)

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12. Name the percussion instrument added at the end  
of line 45. (1 mark)

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13. Give four differences between lines 53-56 and the  
opening. (4 marks)

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14. Describe the harmony in lines 63-4 (1 mark)

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15. How does the music set the scene of a threatening  
witch in the misty woods? (5 marks)

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## Meet Dr T. Smith! (Doctor of musical elements)



Describe how the notes sound together - creating chords - and specific features/devices.

**Features:** Major/minor/augmented/diminished?; dissonant; diatonic; chromatic; alberti bass (could also be texture); figured bass

**Harmonic devices:** pedal (tonic or dominant, or something else?); suspensions; cadences including perfect, imperfect, plagal, interrupted, tierce de Picardie and cadential 6 4; circle of fifths, drone.

# Dynamics

**Volume** - what is the volume, and does it change?

Use Italian terms if you can.

# Rhythm and metre

Describe the number of beats per bar and important rhythmic features/devices. **Rhythm:** Rubato; long notes; faster notes e.g. quavers; triplets; swung; dotted rhythms; accents; polyrhythms. **Rhythmic devices:** ostinato, syncopation, triplets  
**Metre:** Time signature/change of time sig?

# Tempo

**Speed** - what is the speed, and does it change?

Use Italian terms if you can.

Describe the 'storyline' of the piece. Ternary (ABA); da capo aria, sonata form; verse form, verse/chorus (does it include an intro/middle 8/instrumental/bridge/coda?)

# Structure

What can you say about the instruments involved?

Which instruments are used?

Can you be specific (e.g. an alto voice; a pizzicato cello)? What are their roles? Do the players use any specific techniques?

Music technology? Effects?

Describe the shape of the melody and its features/devices.

**Shape:** ascending/descending; conjunct/disjunct; pitches, repetition  
**Features:** melismatic/syllabic; pitch; scalic; chromatic movement; length of phrases; articulation e.g. staccato or slurred?; intervals; obligato; ostinato; motif; leitmotif; vocalisation; word setting; word painting

**Melodic devices:** sequence (ascending/descending?); ornamentation; repetition, imitation.

# Melody

# Instrumentation

What is the overall key/mood of the music?

Major/minor/modal/atonal?

Ambiguous or bitonal? Does it modulate and where?

How many layers of music, and how do they function? Monophonic; homophonic; polyrhythmic, melody and accompaniment; polyphonic/contrapuntal; heterophonic; imitation; fugal; layered texture; canon.

# Texture

# Harmony and tonality