

# MMus Orchestration

## Grade Descriptions and Guidelines

### Criteria

- Notational competence
- Idiomatic for instruments
- Balance and colour
- Flair and imagination
  
- **A1 90-100 Excellent**
  - Truly exceptional work of publishable quality. Stylistic orchestration in which an exceptional level of creativity is shown in both construction and originality.
- **A2 80-89 Excellent**
  - Fine work which shows real originality and flair in solving orchestration problems. Confident orchestral technique showing the relevant styles have been absorbed in a way which shows the student to be creative within parameters. Presentation is faultless.
- **A3 70-79 Excellent**
  - Showing originality and flair, solving orchestration problems with intelligence and musicality, with relevant technical questions fully understood. Idiomatic, with faultless presentation.
- **B 60-69 Very Good**
  - Commendable effort, demonstrating flair, with a capacity to deal adequately and appropriately with the given material. Relevant technical considerations are understood and there is a good feeling for instrumental or vocal sonority. Presentation very good.
- **C 50-59 Potential for a lower second class honours degree**
  - Acceptable effort with no major weaknesses. There may be insufficient attention to details and some inaccuracies, such that the presentation may fall short of what is desirable, however there is an overall feeling of musicality about the handling of the material.
- **D 40-49 Pass**
  - Satisfactory effort, but weak in the handling of material. There may be inaccuracies and presentation may be inadequate. Some feeling of musicality or originality can compensate for technical inadequacy.
- **E 30-39 Marginal Fail**
  - A less than satisfactory effort with inaccuracies and weaknesses in presentation. Technical skills are inadequate and there is little evidence of musicality or creative flair in the handling of the material.
- **F 20-29 Clear Fail**
  - A poor effort with widespread inadequacies in the handling of the material and little grasp of technical skills.
- **G 10-19 Bad Fail**
  - Little evidence of effort or understanding of the technical skills needed. Very little musicality shown.
- **H 0-9 Bad Fail**
  - No real evidence of effort or understanding of the technical skills needed. No musicality shown.