

**Summer**

**Booklet**

Preparation

Unit 349

*Planning for a career in Music – compulsory unit*

**Name:**

1. **1 Motivations for a career in music**
2. **2 My role in assessing your talent**
3. **3 Widening the picture to consider non-performing roles**
4. **4 Music industry project**
5. **5 Mind-mapping a musical identity**

***Useful websites - Sound and Music offers general advice on self-employment and life as a composer, and the Musicians Union has a section devoted to starting out as an artist and up-to-date rates for MU members. YouTube is, of course, awash with musicians sharing their tips!***

**Task 1 Motivation: Testing motivation is the first important step. Please answer these questions below:**

* What’s the last piece of music that moved you and why?
* Can you imagine doing something other than music with your life? What would it be?
* Do you like your own company?

**Task 2 My role in assessing your talent**

I will shortly be writing references to assist your application to university or apprenticeship or even maybe a job. What would I say about your musicianship/ability to play and perform? Have you improved in your chosen instrument over this first year? Should you have made much more progress than you have? Should you record yourself more often and listen critically, perhaps with a friend or family member? Do you need to improve your technical issues, hit the high notes more successfully?

Over the summer, I would like you to rehearse/practice and log **90 minutes a week** on your instrument/voice. This can be in 6x15 minutes or 3 x 30 minutes. You will need to make a recording to submit every two weeks (three recordings, please).

Rehearsal log

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| **Date and time** | **Song Rehearsed** | **Duration** | **Who was there** | **What was achieved?** | **What needs improvement?** |
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**Task 3 Consider non performing roles**

Let’s look at the wider picture of musical roles. Is it more satisfying working in a musical field without the stress of performance?

Select 10 job roles from the list below and research the key features of each role. Present half a page to each role within the industry and discuss the pros and cons for each.

***Recording industry***

1. *Recording engineer and editor*
2. *Producer*
3. *A&R*
4. *Press and promotions, plugger*
5. *Sales and distribution*
6. *Artist management: agent, manager*
7. *Tour managers*

*Publishing and PRS/MCPS*

*Audio and recording engineering is obviously a specialist field and requires a specific pathway*

*Look at this site for an overview of the typical route and qualifications needed.*

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/studio-sound-engineer>

*Venue management and administration, including back office roles (eg marketing and PR, finance) and front-of-house*

*Education work (including animateur) for orchestras and ensembles*

*Events management, including curation of festivals*

***Media***

1. *Radio/TV researchers and programmers*
2. *Writer*
3. *Presenters and producers*
4. *Music streaming companies*
5. *Web design and support*
6. ***Academic***
7. *Musicologist, ethnomusicologist*
8. *Lecturer, teacher*
9. *Music education research*

***Music therapy***

1. *Occupational therapy*
2. *Working with special needs*
3. *Early years therapy*
4. *Music and mental health*

<https://www.music-jobs.com/usa/jobtypes/job-descriptions.php> - for more examples

1. **Task 4 Music Industry project**

1. Find a recording of a relatively unknown song/artist. It could be your own song from Unit 304!

2. Develop a pitch for the band or artist(s) involved.

3. Pitch to a cynical agent

4. Consider artwork and presentation of the music.

5. Define target markets, in the role of record label and distributor.

6. Plan the UK tour…

Section 3: Creating an organisation that is

1. **Task 5 Mind mapping a musical identity**

**In the centre, write your name and title ‘Professional Musician’. In the first circle answer three questions – what is my motivation, what do I enjoy and what are my strengths? The second part suggests some potential roles and the third part breaks down the key features of those roles as you see them. The final part lists some first steps for preparing for those key features, qualifications needed or some work experience we will try to organise for next year. Here is an example of a career mind map to help you:**



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