

# Listening Notes - SAMPLE

Name of Excerpt: Sweet Child O' Mine (0:00-1:00)

Composer/Performer: Guns 'n' Roses

Identify Structure	Identify Instrument	What is it doing?
Introduction	Lead Guitar	Distorted, repeated melodic pattern with a jagged contour.
	Rhythm Guitar	Plays mostly a chordal accompaniment underneath with some broken chords and added notes.
	Bass	Plays a melodic role under lead guitar when it first enters, then works with the bass drum to establish consistent rock pattern
Always leave a line or two in case you want to add something later!	Drums	Enter in bar 9 and then highlight first beat of each bar with kick and cymbals. Forms the basis for the accompanying layer under the repeated electric guitar melodic ostinato.
Verse 1	Lead Guitar	Finishes introductory riff as vocals begin. Another rhythm guitar is introduced to provide a chordal accompaniment through broken chords – lowers dynamic level significantly
	Rhythm Guitar	Continues playing accompanying role with arpeggiated chords
	Bass	Plays a 'dotted' rhythm feel with some small quaver runs up or down from chord to chord
	Drums	Maintain rock beat with snare on beats 2 and 4 and basic fills between vocal phrases
	Vocals	Tenor vocalist sings in a harsh, forced tone. Melody moves mostly by step and 'bent' notes are evident

Try to describe what you hear in this column. Simple statements, even just single words will do to start with!

Try to fill out one of these each week. They'll help your brain focus quickly on the individual layers within the music – just what you need coming up to an exam!

There's no need to fill one of these out for an entire song – choose 30sec to a minute of the most interesting part!



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PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_



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