

# Aural Exam Question #3

**This activity reflects a typical Music 1 HSC examination question in NSW.** In the exam, you answer four separate 15 minute questions, adding up to a one hour exam. The first question is worth 6 marks, while all the others are worth 8 marks. **The question below is worth 8 marks and takes 15 minutes to complete.** Your teacher will play a recording for you, or you can find it online using the hyperlink below (click on the the title of the piece). As with all HSC preparation, it is a good idea to **print the PDF file and practice writing your response rather than typing it**, as that is what you will be doing in your actual exam. **Once you're done, give it to your teacher for marking and most importantly, feedback.**

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This question is based on "[Yesterday](#)" by *The Beatles*. It will be played for you four times to answer the question. (Full song 0:00-2:05)

Discuss the use of STRUCTURE in this excerpt.

8 marks

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Handwriting practice lines consisting of 20 sets of four horizontal lines (top, middle, baseline, and descender).



# Aural Exam Question #3

## EXPECTED RESPONSES & MARKING GUIDELINES

This question is based on "[Yesterday](#)" by *The Beatles*. It will be played for you four times to answer the question.  
(Full song 0:00-2:05)

Discuss the use of **STRUCTURE** in this excerpt.

8 marks

### Better responses will:

Provide an answer that is clearly set out, and *may* indicate overall **STRUCTURE** of piece through headings. Explore **STRUCTURE** thoroughly, commenting on other concepts when a substantial link can be found to the question. Provide examples to support statements. Use traditional or graphic notation accurately when necessary.

### Weaker responses may:

Provide a disjointed, unorganised answer. Refer to concepts other than the concept of **STRUCTURE**, without a clear link to the question. Fail to provide examples to support statements.

### Responses MAY include:

#### STRUCTURE

- Short introduction by acoustic guitar before male solo vocal enters
- Section A is 7 bars in length, in comparison to section B which is 8 bars in length
- Overall structure could be described as AABABA (A variation of ternary form)
- String quartet (violins, viola and cello) join acoustic guitar and male vocalist for first repetition of Section A
- Repetition of two-note melodic idea on 'yes-ter-day', 'far a-way', 'here to stay' etc. on different pitches and with slightly different rhythms
- Section A features shorter notes throughout melody with the exception of the last note in each phrase, whereas Section B features slower rhythmic movement and longer notes in general

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Comprehensively Explores <b>STRUCTURE</b> and refers to appropriate examples</li><li>Demonstrates a clear aural understanding through descriptions of the musical concepts</li><li>Uses musical terminology accurately, with some use of genre specific terminology</li><li>Answer may include some inaccurate observations</li></ul>	7-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Explores <b>STRUCTURE</b> and refers to mostly appropriate examples</li><li>Demonstrates an aural understanding through descriptions of the musical concepts but may make some generalisations</li><li>Uses musical terminology accurately, but may have some inaccuracies</li><li>Answer may contain inaccurate observations</li></ul>	5-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Explores <b>STRUCTURE</b> with some reference to examples</li><li>Demonstrates some aural understanding through generalisations and may provide some supporting examples</li><li>Uses some musical terminology with inaccuracies</li><li>Answer may contain inaccurate observations</li></ul>	3-4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Demonstrates limited understanding of <b>STRUCTURE</b></li><li>Uses little musical terminology</li></ul>	1-2