Listening chart guide

In your listening chart, show the structure of the composition and describe the music. You might hear an introduction, verses, one or more choruses, solo improvisations, a bridge section or a coda. If you are unable to name a section or part, identify it by letter name (such as A, B or C).

Create a new row in the table for each new section or part of the composition. Write the approximate start and end time in the left column and, in the right-hand column, name the section if possible and describe the music within it.

Consider questions such as the following when deciding how to describe the music.

**Duration**
- What is the tempo? Does it change?
- What is the metre? Has it changed?
- What rhythm patterns feature? Are the rhythms syncopated?

**Pitch**
- What is the pitch of voices or instrument/s?
- What is the contour (shape) of the melody? Does it move upwards, downwards, by leaps, steps; are notes repeated?
- Is the tonality major, minor, modal? Does the key change?

**Dynamics and expressive techniques**
- How loud or soft is the music? Does the dynamic level change?
- What techniques are used by the musicians to add to the expressive quality of the music? For example, are notes played legato or staccato, or accented; does the music slow down or pause; is the melody line ornamented?

**Tone colour**
- What instruments are playing?
- Does the soloist use techniques to modify the tone colour?
- Are the sounds acoustic, electric or electronic?

**Texture**
- How are the instruments combined? What layers of sound can you hear and what role does each serve (for example, melody, harmony, bass line)?

**Structure**
- How is the music organised?
- What musical ideas or motifs feature?
- Is there repetition and contrast within this section?
- Are there riffs or ostinatos?