

YOU MUST HAND IN YOUR WORK BY _____ TO _____



HOW LONG
should this assignment take?

Every person works at his/her own pace. As a guide, spend 2 hours reading and making notes, another 3 hours to write your answers and a further hour to discuss them with your MOLP tutor.



HOW
will I be assessed?

Your tutor will assess your work. He/she will give you feedback on how you have done. If you have not completed the work, you will be given the chance to do further work to pass this assignment.



WHAT
do I do now?

Read the TASKS section below to get an overview of this project. Then read the NOTES AND GUIDANCE section for help. Carry out the TASKS.

TASKS

1 Tick the boxes below to show what music technology experience you have already

- I have a computer
- I own sequencing software
- I know what MIDI stands for
- I have access to a computer based studio
- I record audio with my computer

2 If you have your own equipment, list it here

3 Write a definition of sequencing in the box below

4 In the table below, describe two important computer components, and compare them to hardware equivalents in a typical recording studio

Component	What it does	Comparison to typical studio equipment

5 Complete a specification for a music PC in the table below. You can find out what sort of components music PC manufacturers use by looking at their websites and reviews of their computers.

Component	Manufacturer	Model	Price	Reason
e.g. Processor	Intel	Pentium IV 3GHz	£127	Intel Processors are used in most music PCs
Processor				
Motherboard				
Memory				
Graphics				
Card				
Hard Drive				
CD Drive				
Sound Card				

6 Sequencers have different features. This task is to choose a sequencer that meets your needs.

What would you need a sequencer to do?

Which sequencer would you choose?

Explain why you would choose this sequencer.

7 Explain the steps involved in making an audio recording on a sequencer. Your answer can either be specific to a certain sequencer, or more general.

8 Explain what automation is and why it is useful when mixing a song.

9 Label the channel strip below, detailing what each control does.

10 Answer the following questions, circling whether each is true or false.

Sequencers and audio editors are the same True False

Native Instruments Battery is an effect plug-in True False

Any software synth will work on any sequencer True False

Samplers enable playing of audio recordings with a keyboard True False

11 For the following questions you will need access to a computer with a sequencer on it and an audio input. Tick off these tasks as you complete them.

- Switch on the computer and load the sequencer
- Set up a channel to record audio
- Set a recording folder, giving it an appropriate name
- Connect an audio input to the computer – e.g. a guitar, mic or keyboard
- Record 4 bars of audio
- Put a reverb plug-in on the audio channel

12 Answer the following questions, circling whether each is true or false.

It is faster to put all your files in the root directory of the hard drive True False

All audio files for a song or project should be kept together in a folder True False

External hard drives make backing up easy True False

A DVD disc holds 7.34 GB of data True False

13 In the box below, explain what advantages computer recording studios have over conventional recording studios.

