

2011 Practice Analysis Question (1st published on Facebook – VCE Music Support page)

Content	Link
<p data-bbox="92 289 1272 370">How do Tone Colour and dynamics work together to create expressiveness in this piece?</p> <p data-bbox="92 418 1272 873">The peaceful, serene character of this piece is created through: Blended, warm tone colour of the repeated piano chords unifies perfectly with the resonant, smooth tone colour of the strings. This contrasts with the piercing whine of harmonic overtone glissando on solo string instrument, which does not take away from the serenity, rather its soft dynamic and smooth contour adds to this, despite the contrast of tone colour. The overall dynamics compliment string and piano tone colour by being soft and fairly uniform. This is enhanced by swelling crescendo diminuendos which compliment the rise and fall of the melody. There are no sudden changes or dramatic variations in rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tone colour. All the elements of music work together to create a relaxed feel.</p> <p data-bbox="92 881 1272 1125">As the pitch gradually rises so does the dynamics, however, they still stay fairly uniform within this range and use the same dynamic swells, just a little louder. This matches the subtle change in tone colour to being brighter and more singing in quality caused by the move to a higher register. As these changes in dynamics and tone colour are subtle, this too matches the character and helps express the tranquil, serene character of the work.</p> <p data-bbox="92 1133 1272 1307">The character becomes more energetic and animated towards the end through a more strident, biting tone colour in the upper strings which emerge from the warm, blended tone colour wash through change in technique and rise in register matched by increased dynamic swells and overall dynamics.</p>	<p data-bbox="1272 289 2032 329">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsL78A_kgLM</p>