

CRITICAL LISTENING EVALUATION FORM

Music Category (circle one)

Folk and Traditional,
Pop, Rock, Punk and Hardcore,
Jazz, Blues, Latin, Reggae,
R&B/Soul, Rap and Hip-Hop
Classical, Country, Electronic

Other: _____

Date:

Listener Name:

Listening environment(s):

Rating: 5=excellent, 4=good, 3=average, 2=below average, 1=poor

1. Frequency Balance	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
1.1 Overall mix - colored/uncolored, balance between bass and treble						
1.2 Instruments and vocals - clarity, masking, consistency across octaves, instrument quality						
1.3 Sibilance/Plosives						
2. Sound Stage Imaging	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
2.1 Stage width – instrument panning, L/R balance						
2.2 Stage depth – ambience, EQ of “further” instruments						
2.2 Mono compatibility						
2.4 Stability of stage and images						
3. Dynamics and Distortion	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
3.1 Overall Volume - RMS/Peak						
3.2 Transients – punchy, clarity of snare/kick						
3.3 Instrument and vocal levels – Overall balance between tracks and consistency across mix, pumping, etc.						
3.4 Distortion – clipping, phase distortion, unwanted vs. creative use						
3.5 Listening fatigue						
4. Use of Effects	1	2	3	4	5	Comments

4.1 Appropriate for style of music?						
4.2 Homogeneity – do the effects sound “natural” and part of the production, or do they stand out and draw attention away from more critical parts?						
5. Performance and Production	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
5.1 Instrument and vocal tuning						
5.2 Timing/Tempo – tempo changes, playing together, etc.						
5.3 Emotion – consistent with the intent of the song, e.g. aggressive, emotive, pensive, etc.						
5.4 Texture and Density – use of additional instruments to create contrast						
6. Creativity and Originality	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
6.1 Use of a new or unusual effect						
6.2 New or unusual instrumentation						
6.3 Stylistic originality						
6.4 Other						