

# SPECIMEN ANALYSIS 4



Which features of the passage suggest instrumental, rather than vocal, performance?

.....  
.....

The runs are in fact typical of music written for lute and keyboard instruments in the late Renaissance and early Baroque. Keyboard instruments would include spinet, virginals, clavichord and organ. (The long notes in the bass clef might seem more suitable for organ, but on other keyboard instruments they may well have been embellished.)

Can you name a common instrument in the period missing from the list?

.....

The fifths in the bass clef chords and the ornamentation at the cadence are also typical of the period. The running notes and trill would be easier to execute on the instruments of the period than on the somewhat heavier modern pianoforte.

It was common from the Middle Ages to build up to a cadence (for example syllabic setting changing to melismatic setting just before the cadence). How does the present extract build up to the cadence?

.....  
.....

What evidence is there that the extract was written at a time when use of modes was giving way to use of scales? .....

.....

The four-bar phrase, ending in an imperfect cadence, suggests a folk origin (folksong or folkdance). Where, then is the tune? .....

The style can be found in much Elizabethan music of the period. However the use of the Italian term *ripresa* suggests that this excerpt was written by an Italian.

Can you suggest a possible composer? .....