

I chose a topic which I didn't know much about initially, but one which I was genuinely interested in researching and investigating further. This made writing my extended essay a very enjoyable experience, and one in which I invested a large amount of time without feeling burdened.

I spent around six months on the entire essay process. After choosing a broad topic, the first three months were spent exploring (and exhausting) every possible resource, including specialized music libraries, online databases, and university archives. This research allowed me to choose focus pieces appropriately linked to my topic, and to narrow my topic further. I then analysed these pieces, and organized my ideas into a definite essay structure. This allowed me to complete individual sections of the essay, which gradually coalesced into the completed work.

In terms of advice for future students, one thing which was very helpful to me was adding footnotes as I wrote my drafts—it saved a great deal of time at the end of the process. Also, your extended essay supervisor is there to help you so be prepared for scheduled meetings and direct their attention to areas where you need guidance.