

Part II Paper 13 Klezmer and Yiddish Song, Roots and Revival

SPECIMEN PAPER

1. Outline the historical development of klezmer music in Eastern Europe before WWI, with specific reference to the social role of musicians and the various influences upon the music itself.
2. In what ways can klezmer music be considered a European musical genre, and in what ways an American one?
3. "Today's klezmer scene, while it affirms a degree of musical continuity with the past, is in fact the result of an experience of rupture" (BARBARA KIRSHENBLATT-GIMBLETT) Discuss.
4. EITHER (a) Is klezmer rooted to place?  
OR (b) Examine the ways in which klezmer moved from the local to the global over the twentieth century.
5. How have contemporary European-based artists responded to Ruth Ellen Gruber's charge of "virtual" Jewishness?
6. Discuss the relationship of the Yiddish language to EITHER historical OR contemporary klezmer music.