Beginners Synthesis Course Test
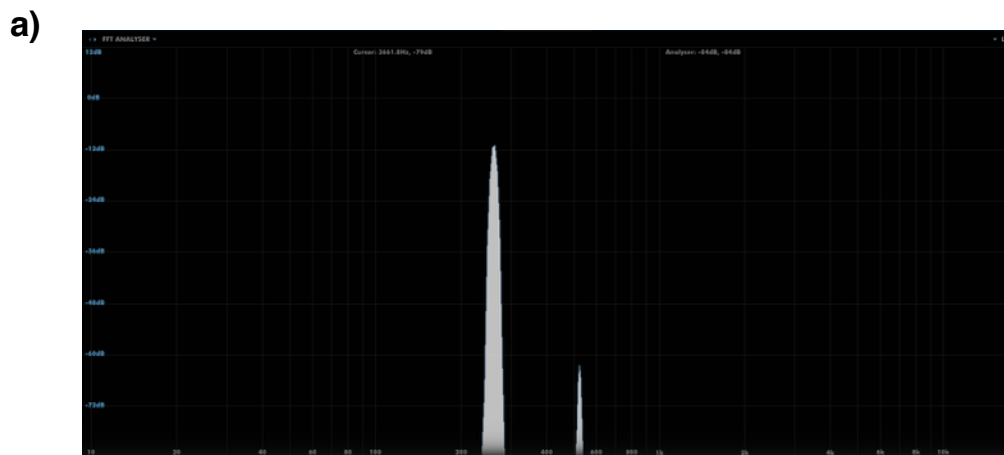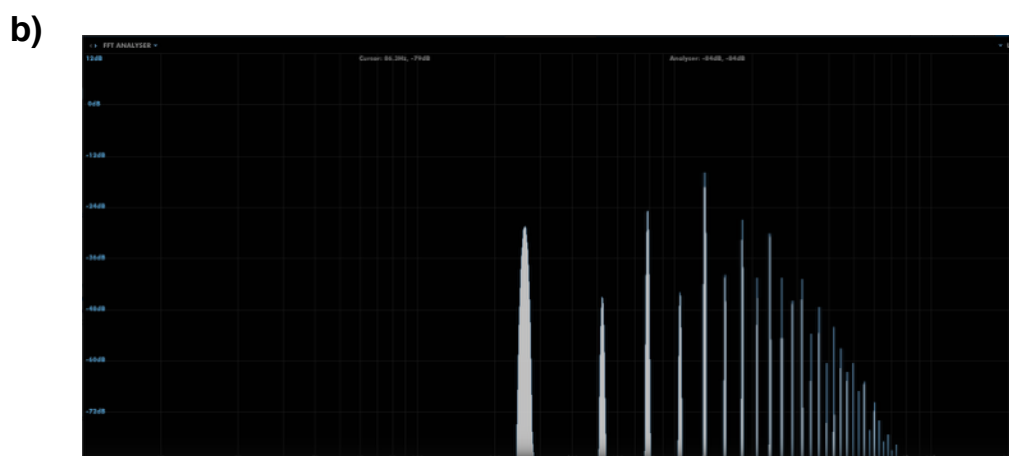
1. Match up the following waveforms with their respective frequency spectra.
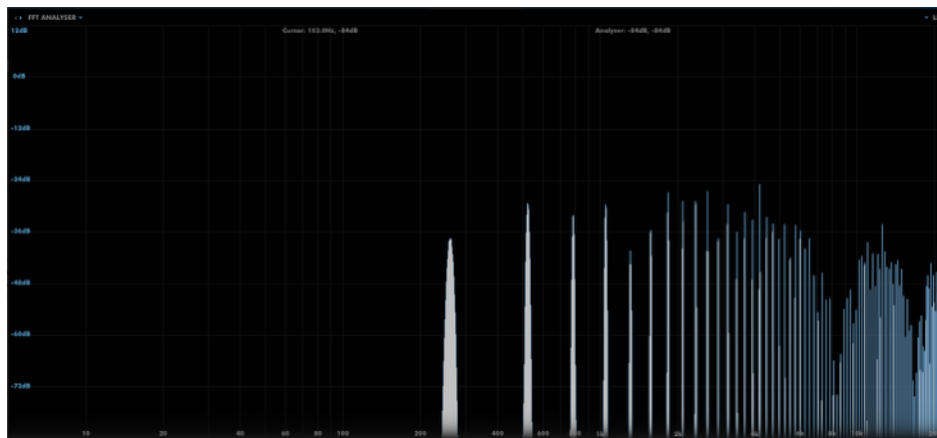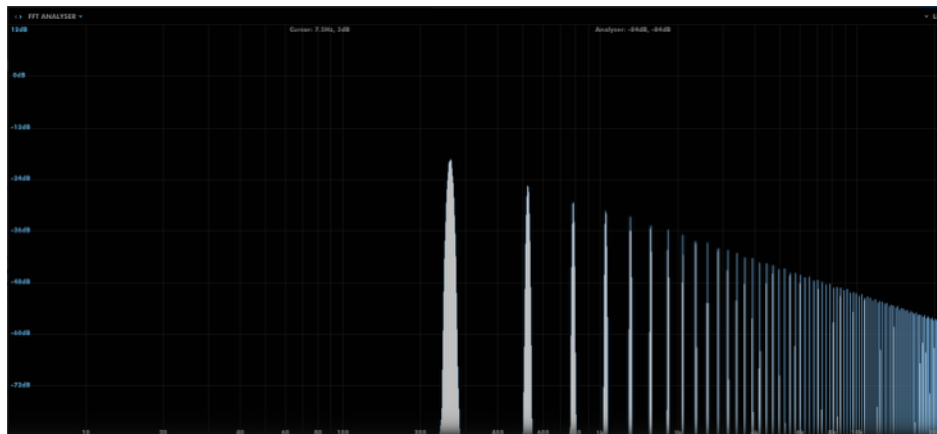
A

B

C

D

a)

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

b)

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

c)

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

d)

A ☐
B ☐
C ☐
D ☐

2. What are unison voices on a synth patch?

a. the number of notes that can be played. ☐
b. the number of waveforms per oscillator. ☐
c. the number of octaves available. ☐

3. Of the 3 standard tuning controls for an oscillator, detune is the one normally used to create intervals with other oscillators. True or false?
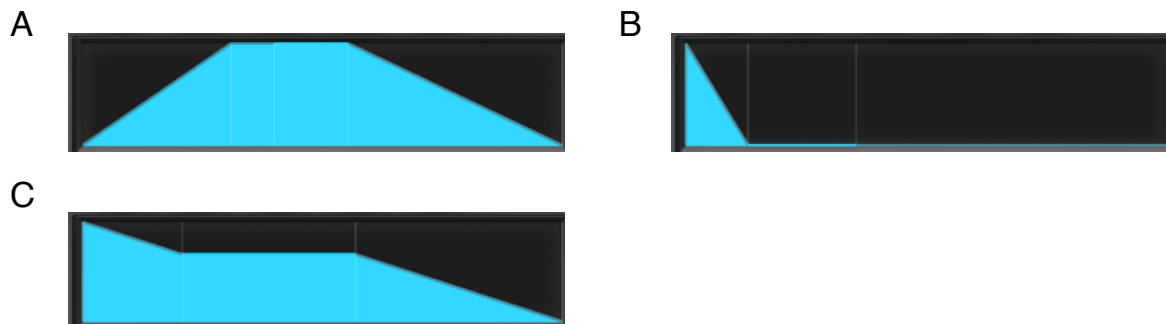
a. True ☐
b. False ☐

4. If playing repeated notes creates unwanted inconsistencies in the sound of a synth's oscillators (every note sounds different, with no modulation applied as yet), which oscillator setting is the one to adjust?

a. detune amount ☐
b. waveform type ☐
c. phase retriggering ☐

5. If wanting to filter oscillators independently on a synth, would the filters need to be configured in serial or parallel?
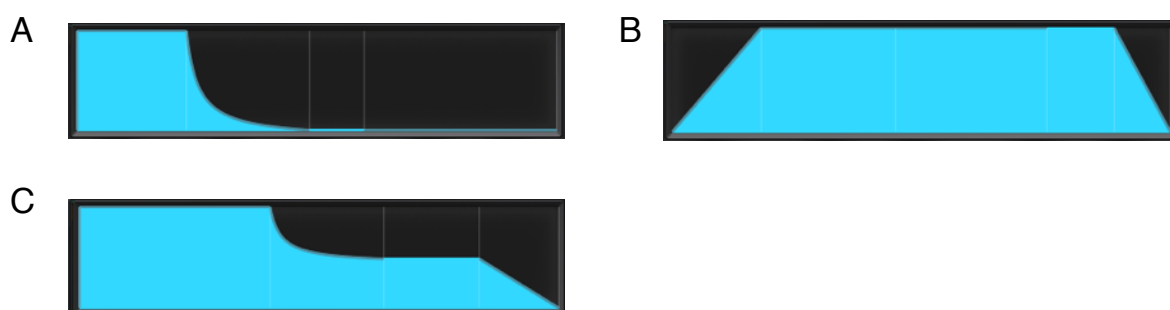
a. Serial ☐
b. Parallel ☐

6. From the following ADSR amplitude envelope shapes, recommend the best one for creating a pad preset.

A
B
C

a. A ☐
b. B ☐
c. C ☐

7. From the following ADSR filter envelope shapes, recommend the best one for creating an old school mwarp bass preset.

A
B
C

a. A ☐
b. B ☐
c. C ☐

8. A Kick Drum is typically synthesised…

a. by filtering a sawtooth waveform with a low-pass filter. ☐
b. by applying a brief pitch envelope to a sine wave. ☐
c. by detuning a couple of square waves. ☐

9. What does Legato refer to on a synth?

a. the action of the synth when overlapping notes are received. ☐
b. the time taken for the pitch to slide between notes. ☐
c. additional pressure applied to held notes. ☐

10. With reference to the following image, choose the appropriate control for carrying out the desired task.

a) dropping the pitch by 12 semitones.

a. 1 ☐
b. 2 ☐
c. 3 ☐

b) applying more unison spread.

a. 5 ☐
b. 6 ☐
c. 7 ☐

c) making the filter slide open gradually on each transient.

a. 8 ☐
b. 9 ☐
c. 10 ☐

d) increasing the vibrato amount.

a. 4 ☐
b. 8 ☐
c. 11 ☐

e) adding extra distortion.

a. 13 ☐
b. 14 ☐
c. 15 ☐