Mozart String Quintet

There is an excellent recording of the first movement of Mozart Quintet K614 at

http://www.fineartsquartet.org/rec.html#listen

as well as another recording on YouTube

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mks2_7flcps

The String Quintet No. 6 in E-flat major, K. 614, was completed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on April 12, 1791. It is Mozart's last major chamber work. Like all of Mozart's string quintets, this work is a "viola quintet" in that is scored for string quartet and an extra viola (two violins, two violas and cello). The work is in standard four movement form: I. Allegro di molto II. Andante III. Menuetto: Allegro IV. Allegro

The Erl King

For some excellent performances of The Erl King by Schubert, go to YouTube:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5B6nysheec

(This link is for the Fischer-Dieskau version which is really good; then you can go to the related videos)

The Vagabond

A young man named Noel does a good job: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKZVWKG7r94</u>. He has a great voice (and only 17!!!) and the performance is good enough though not acted very strongly. That would be my Youtube choice.

Here is another link to a Bryn Terfel version: http://noolmusic.com/music_video/bryn_terfel_-_vagabond.php

Terfel sings and vocally acts the song consummately (you can actually hear the pp of the contrasting version - virtuoso singing.) And Malcolm Martineau is a great accompanist. The only drawbacks are its 'music vid' approach which takes some dramatic licence with the images (perhaps the boy wandering through the wood is meant to represent the fact that the Vagabond has been a loner/wanderer all his life) and the literalistic interpretation of the text. Even so, I would recommend it above all the Youtube versions.

See the next page for hints on analysis.

Some Hints on Analysing the Music...

It is extremely important for students to become familiar with the set works by listening to them frequently, both with and without the score. Students can find different ways to talk about what they hear by researching what other people have written about the works, (for example, in books, in CD cover notes or articles on the internet). The best examination preparation for students is discussing what they hear and read about the set works with their teacher.

Remember, both technical elements and interpretive elements are required when analysing set works.

Technical Elements

Technical elements are the 'nuts and bolts' of music that composers use to translate their ideas and feelings into the compositions we hear in performances and see in scores. Technical elements (musical nuts and bolts) include: key and time signatures, expression and dynamic markings, musical form and structure, use of tonality (key changes, modulation), melodic or rhythmic elements that are used as motifs or themes, words of songs and ways composers represent ideas in accompaniments (e.g. galloping hooves).

Interpretive elements

Interpretive elements are ideas and feelings (interpretations) that listeners believe are suggested by the music. There are no definite right or wrong interpretations when it comes to interpreting music. There are some interpretations that composers have told us was their intention and there are others that lots of people now agree upon. Then, of course, there are personal interpretations that are special to an individual. Interpretive elements (ideas and feelings suggested by the music) include: choice of key to 'match' a mood; rhythms that are associated with feelings, ideas or actions; contrasts between keys to demonstrate changes in mood; a recurring motif or theme that we associate with an idea, action or feeling.