🎧 Beat-Making Challenge Rubric – Soundtrap

Criteria	4 – Exceeds Expectations	3 – Meets Expectations	2 – Approaching Expectations	1 – Needs Improvement
Length (1+ Minute)	Track is 1:15 or longer and holds listener interest throughout with strong development.	Track is at least 1:00 in length and maintains basic structure.	Slightly under 1:00 or lacks development.	Significantly under 1:00 or incomplete.
Track Count (10+)	12 or more tracks with clear variety and musical depth.	10 or more tracks used effectively.	7–9 tracks used or tracks show limited variety.	Fewer than 7 tracks or repetitive content.
Automation (Volume, Pan, Sweep)	All three automation types are used creatively and enhance transitions or dynamics.	All three types used correctly.	1–2 automation types used or used minimally.	No automation used or used incorrectly.
Effects (Sidechain, EQ, Reverb)	All three effects are used intentionally and elevate the mix.	All three effects are present and functional.	1–2 effects used or used in a basic way.	Effects missing or applied incorrectly.
Sample Use	Sample from a known song is used artistically and recontextualized in a creative way.	Sample is clearly present and integrated.	Sample is present but not well integrated or creatively used.	No sample used or sample does not meet requirement.
Tools: Time Stretch & Sampler	Both tools used skillfully and in ways that shape the song's style.	Both tools used correctly.	One tool used or tools used in a limited way.	Tools not used or used incorrectly.
Creativity & Exploration	Track explores new genres, loops, and musical ideas with originality and flair.	Shows creativity and some exploration of loops or styles.	Some repetition; limited exploration of tools or genres.	Little creativity or exploration shown.

Overall Musicality & Flow	Strong structure, pacing, and musical flow. Keeps the listener engaged.	Logical musical progression and transitions.	Some disorganization or abrupt changes.	Lacks flow, structure, or coherence.

Grading Scale (Aligned with NAfME Music Tech Standards):

- **4 – Advanced**

- **3 – Proficient**

- **2 – Developing**

- **1 – Beginning**

Let me know if you'd like a **student-friendly version**, **Google Doc format**, or **editable points-based version** as well!