Public Document Pack



Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee – Supplementary Agenda

Monday 28 November 2022 at 10.00 am

Conference Hall, 3rd Floor, Brent Civic Centre

Please note the change in meeting room and that this meeting is now also being webcasted online. Details on how to access the link in order to view the meeting will be made available online via the following link: HERE

Membership:

Members Substitute Members

Councillors: Councillors:

Ahmed (Chair) Bajwa, Chohan, Chappell, Ethapemi, Long, Mahmood,

Collymore Rubin

Georgiou

For further information contact: Devbai Bhanji, Governance Assistant

Tel: 020 8937 6841; Email: devbai.bhanji@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes, reports and agendas, and to be alerted when the minutes of this meeting have been published visit:

www.brent.gov.uk/committees

The press and public are welcome to attend the open parts of this meeting or as an alternative to follow proceedings online via the webcast available through the following link: HERE



Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest** in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also significant enough to affect your judgement of a public interest and either it affects a financial position or relates to a regulatory matter then after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

*Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

- (a) **Employment, etc. -** Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship -** Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts -** Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land -** Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) Licences- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies -** Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities -** Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

**Personal Interests:

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
 - To which you are appointed by the council:
 - which exercises functions of a public nature;
 - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
 - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party of trade union).
- (b) The interests a of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who is the subject of a registrable personal interest.

Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Item Page

3 Application for the Review of a Premises Licence following 1 - 266 Expedited Review by Metropolitan Police for the premises known as The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW, pursuant to the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003

Members are asked to note that part of the representations to be considered in relation to the above application will involve the disclosure of exempt information classified as exempt under Paragraph 7 of Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely: "Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime".

The Sub Committee will therefore be asked to exclude the press and public from the meeting at the relevant stage whilst these representations are considered.



Agenda Item 3

By virtue of paragraph(s) 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.



By virtue of paragraph(s) 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.



By virtue of paragraph(s) 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.



By virtue of paragraph(s) 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.







WITNESS STATEMENT									
Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B									
		URN							
Statement of:									
Age if under 18: over 18	(if over 18 insert 'over 18')	Occupation: Police	ce Offic	er					
This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.									
Witness Signature:					Date:	25/11/2	2022		

This statement is regarding the hearing for The Aura, 763-765 Harrow road, Wembley that is taking place on the 28th of November 2022.

I have been asking for some extra details from The Aura management, along with my . I asked for the following items by email on the 15th of November colleague 2022, which I include below:

'Dear Atul,

Thank you for assisting my colleagues last week after the incident on Thursday.

As you are now aware the hearing has been set for the 28th of November. Please could you assist with providing the following:

- CCTV from the 29th to 30th of October (night of the incident)
- CCTV of the previous nights (27 October and 28 October 2022)
- CCTV for 21st and 22nd October nights The Aura was open
- Any phone record or any communication that confirms SIA female staff called in sick.
- Is there an employee handbook for procedure on staff calling in sick or a confirmation email of being sick.
- Information from the ID scanner on customers entering/exiting premises.

Please could I ask for a reply by the 17th November 2022. Any questions email me back and I will be happy to discuss with you.

Kind Regards,

NW Licensing Police'

I had not reply and so I emailed The Aura again asking for these items again. It appears that there may have been an issue with the sending of the email as I had a reply on the 22nd of November 2022 which I include below:

'Hello	
Please see the replies below.	
 Sent from Yandex Mail for mobile	
Witness Signature:	
Signature Witnessed by Signature:	
	Page 1 of

Continuation of Statement of:

22.11.2022, 17:11, "	
Dear Atul,	

I emailed you on the 15th regarding a number of requests for the hearing on the 28th and I cannot find any reply from you regarding these.

Answer: I did reply saying i got the empty email from you no text inside didn't get any reply back. Thought that email was sent by Mistake. Attached screenshot.

Please continue liaising with regarding the CCTV issue but I would like you to email me directly regarding the other items, these are:

• Any phone record or any communication that confirms SIA female staff called in sick.

Answer: The Female SIA called our Head Doorman at 6pm saying she was not feeling well we did confirm this with her.

• Is there an employee handbook for procedure on staff calling in sick or a confirmation email of being sick.

Answer: There is no handbook but our staff always inform our managers about sickness & they update that on rota system.

• Information from the ID scanner on customers entering/exiting premises (this would be from the night of the incident on the 29th/30th of October)

Answer: This is attached in this email.

Hope this is all ok. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Many Thanks'

On Tuesday the 22nd of November 2022 I went with to Wembley Police Station to view cctv that had been given to us by The Aura management. When viewing the footage it showed a number of cameras showing footage from inside the premises only. I could see the dancefloor and bar areas but not the entrance or outside. One camera shows chairs and sofas near the dancefloor. From this footage I could not tell whether anyone had entered The Aura beyond the last entry times or if they were searched on any of the day's footage or myself had asked for.

The Aura has also sent through a copy from the ID scanner that was operating on the 30th of November 2022, exhibit JMC/1. The ID scanner scans in customers names, dates of birth and addresses so I have redacted these along with the photographs of the customer or there identification. It does show the times of entry into The Aura in that it shows the time that the customer's details were scanned. In the 93 page document the first 17 pages include the

Witness Signature:	
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Signature Witnessed by Signature:

Page 2 of



Continuation of Statement of:

customers who entered and what time they did. The last entry was at 0153 hours. The Aura's conditions are that no customers are allowed to enter after 0100 hours. According to the ID scanner after 0100 there were 60 entries into the scanner. From looking at the document in details there appear to be errors at the entries numbered 0006, 0010, 0016, 0042, 0043,0044, 0052, 0054 which looks to be errors or duplications. Discounting these it appears there were 52 customers allowed in after 0100 hours.

On the 24th of November 2022 I received an email from which included CCTV footage stills from the 30th of November 2022. After speaking to Brent Council I was asked to redact faces of any persons shown on this which I have done. The redacted version of this exhibit SSB/1 I exhibit as JMC/2.

Witness Signature:	ļ	 	

Signature Witnessed by Signature:

Page 3 of 3



WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9

URN 01 NW 22

Statement of:

Age if under 18: over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: Police Officer - Licensing

This statement (consisting of page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: (witness)

Date: 23/11/2022

This statement relates to the forth coming hearing of the Aura Lounge located at 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley HA0 2LW. This venue is the subject to two reviews. One instigated by Brent council and the second, an expedited review instigated by the police.

After the expedited review which was held on 03/11/2022 I e-mailed the manager of the club, xxx asking for CCTV footage. I sent this e-mail on 04/11/2022 at 13.15hours an exact cut and paste copy is below:-

From: xxx

Sent: 04 November 2022 13:15

To: xxx

Subject: The Aura 763-765 Harrow Road HA0 2LW

Good afternoon,

Further to the review on 03/11/2022 could you please supply me with CCTV from the club for the following dates and times, for all the cameras that were working. If you're able to download the footage onto a USB stick and let me know once it's ready I'll come and collect it from you.

- 1. Friday 28th until Saturday 29th of October from 16.00 to 04.00 hours
- 2. Saturday the 29th until Sunday the 30th of October from 16.00 to 04.00 hours
- 3. Friday 21st until Saturday the 22nd of October from 16.00 to 04.00 hours
- 4. Saturday 22nd until Sunday the 23rd of October from 16.00 to 04.00 hours.

If you would be good enough to confirm receipt of this e-mail, I would appreciate that.

Thanks,

On 17/11/2022 I received the following e-mail from the Aura confirming my request for this CCTV

From: The Aura Page 47

RESTRICTED (when complete)

Sent: 17 November 2022 14:27

To:

Subject: CCTV

Hello,

As per the last Email from xxx regarding CCTV.Its been 2 days we are trying to do download this as the file is over 400 Gb there is some issue at the end.We have just requested our CCTV Company to come & download this for asap they said they wil send someone either tomorrow afternoon or maximum by Saturday morning assured this will be done.

Will email as soon as we have this in the Hard Drive either we will drop this at Wembley Police Station or let me know if you want to collect.

Apologies for delay.

Many Thanks

On 21/11/2022 I attended the Aura Club where I met xxx, where he handed me a hard drive containing the CCTV. I asked Mr xxx "Is all the footage on there I have asked for?". He replied "Yes". I then asked him " Have you checked it yourself to make sure the footage is there?" Again he replied "Yes".

The following day 22/11/2022 I attended Wembley Police Station where I viewed the CCTV provided to me by Mr xxx. As you can see from the e-mail I sent on 04/11/2022 I requested CCTV footage of four (4) days from 16.00 hours to 04.00 hours each day of all working cameras. When I viewed this footage I found the following:-

- (i) None of the footage went past 03.00 hours. When I requested 04.00 hours
- (ii) The only cameras that were provided on the footage where of the bar and the dance floor. None of the cameras covering the entrance / exit or the outside seating area where on the hard drive
- (iii) I requested footage for 29th to 30th of October. Instead I was provided with footage of 30th to 31st of October

Because of this I sent the following e-mail to The Aura, xxx(Solicitor of Mr xxx) and Brent Council

From:

Sent: 22 November 2022 15:33

To:

Cc: business licence <business.licence@brent.gov.uk>; Subject: Aura CCTV - Incorrect footage supplied to Police

XXX,

Thank you for the hard drive you gave me yesterday. At the bottom of this e-mail I have supplied a copy of the e-mail I sent you on 04/11/2022. This e-mail was requesting CCTV footage of four days footage from 16.00 hours to 04.00 hours on each day. The request was also asking for all the cameras that were working. Having now viewed the CCTV I can confirm the following.

- 1. Only camera numbers 3,5,6,9,10,11,14,15 have been provided to me
- 2. There is no footage of the entrance / exit point
- 3. There is no footage of the exterior part of the club / restaurant
- 4. All of the footage finishes at 03.00 hours and not 04.00 hours that I requested.
- 5. I requested footage from 29th to 30th of October. Instead you have provided 30th to 31st of October

One of the main reasons of requesting this footage was to check that you were adhering to the conditions of your premises license. Because you have failed to provide me with the correct times and cameras I cannot view the following:-

- 6. Last order times are been adhered to
- 7. No entry / re- entry times
- 8. Your searching policy is been adhered to
- 9. You have the correct ratio of male and female SIA on duty

RESTRICTED (when complete)

MG11

Today is Tuesday the 22nd of November. I requested the footage on the 4th of November. We are due at court on 28th of November where this footage is required. When I spoke to you, you assured me that all the footage I requested was on this hard drive, which it isn't.

Can you provide me with the correct footage (all cameras and correct times) by tomorrow?

XXX

I am typing this statement on 23/11/2022 at 1600 hours. At this time I have had no response from Mr xxx or Mr xxx (his solicitor) and I am conscious that the hearing is due this coming Monday the 28th of November.

Signature:

Signature witnessed by:



RESTRICTED (when complete)

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MG11	ı	٢		Г				Г
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Witne	ess contact details	URN							
Name o	of witness:								
Home A	Address:	Postco	ode:						
E-mail	address:	Mobile	e:						
Home 7	Telephone Number:	Work	Telepho	ne Numl	oer:				
Preferre	Preferred means of contact (specify details for vulnerable/intimidated victims and witnesses only):								
Gender				e of birth					
Former	name:	Ethnic	ity Code	(16 + 1):				
DATES	OF WITNESS NON-AVAILABILITY:								
Witnes	es care								
a)	Is the witness willing to attend court?	If 'No',	, include	reason(s) on form N	1G6.			
b)	What can be done to ensure attendance?								
evidend anticipa									
d) childcar	Does the witness have any particular needs? re, transport, disability, language difficulties, visually imports.				they? (Disab or other conce		ire,		
Witnes	s Consent (for witness completion)								
a)	The Victim Personal Statement scheme (victims of	nly) has	s been e	xplained	to me	Yes 🗌	No 🗌		
b)	I have been given the Victim Personal Statemer	ıt leafle	t			Yes 🗌	No 🗌		
c)	I have been given the leaflet "Giving a witness statement to the police…" Yes \(\scale \) No \(\scale \)								
d)	I consent to police having access to my medical to this matter (obtained in accordance with local			ation	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	N/A 🗌		
e)	I consent to my medical record in relation to this disclosed to the defence	ent to my medical record in relation to this matter being Yes No N/A					N/A 🗌		
f)	I consent to the statement being disclosed for the purposes of civil, or other proceedings if applicable, e.g. child care proceedings, CICA						N/A 🗌		
g)	g) Child witness cases only. I have had the provision regarding reporting restrictions explained to me.						N/A 🗌		
	I would like CPS to apply for reporting restriction	s on m	y behalf.		Yes 🗌	No 🗌	N/A 🗌		
'I understand that the information recorded above will be passed on to the Witness Service, which offers help and support to witnesses pre-trial and at court'.									
Signatu	ure of witness:	PRINT NAME:							
Signatu	Signature of parent/guardian/appropriate adult: PRINT NAME:								
Address and telephone number (of parent etc.), if different from above:									
Statem	ent taken by:	Statio	n:						

Time and place statement taken:



From: The Aura < theaura. > Sent: 23 November 2022 16:53

To: phil graves

Cc:

Subject: Re: Aura CCTV - Incorrect footage supplied to Police

Hello Phil.

Please see reply Below to all the questions.

Atul,

Thank you for the hard drive you gave me yesterday. At the bottom of this e-mail I have supplied a copy of the e-mail I sent you on 04/11/2022. This e-mail was requesting CCTV footage of four days footage from 16.00 hours to 04.00 hours on each day. The request was also asking for all the cameras that were working. Having now viewed the CCTV I can confirm the following.

- 1. Only camera numbers 3,5,6,9,10,11,14,15 have been provided to me. **Answer**: Yes please if you can read the email you have asked me cctv from thr club & these are the only cameras we have in the club rest is outside & that enterance as you specifically mentioned club i have given all the club ones.
- 2. There is no footage of the entrance / exit point. **Answer**: We are able to provide this footage and I have requested our CCTV engineer to attend the premises and download this footage.
- 3. There is no footage of the exterior part of the club / restaurant. **Answer**: We are able to provide this footage and I have requested our CCTV engineer to attend the premises and download this footage.
- 4. All of the footage finishes at 03.00 hours and not 04.00 hours that I requested. **Answer**: This was a error by the CCTV Engineer who is working now to get the data Until 4am.
- 5. I requested footage from 29th to 30th of October. Instead you have provided 30th to 31st of October.

Answer: Aplogies just for your information we have given this data to the police CID team on the same night of the incident & also the Homicide team and thought police already have the data. I have requested my CCTV engineer to arrange for the download of this data.

One of the main reasons of requesting this footage was to check that you were adhering to the conditions of your premises license. Because you have failed to provide me with the correct times and cameras I cannot view the following:-

- 6. Last order times are been adhered to.
- 7. No entry / re- entry times.
- 8. Your searching policy is been adhered to.
- 9. You have the correct ratio of male and female SIA on duty.

Today is Tuesday the 22nd of November. I requested the footage on the 4th of November. We are due at court on 28th of November where this footage is required. When I spoke to you, you assured me that all the footage I requested was on this hard drive, which it isn't.

Answer: I did mention in previous emails that email dated 4th November you sent went into the Aura spam folder and that as soon as you called me on 10th November I answered and we spoke & since that day we are speaking either through email or phone every other day. I hope you will understand that the requested CCTV consists of very large data in Gigabytes terms and that this can be challenging to download onto a USB device.

Whatever you have asked me to do i did every single thing till now called the engineer downloaded the CCTV which was a massive file as you said for club i only did for club if it was a premises we would have done all of that.

After your email on 22/11/2022 my Manager called the engineer he assured he wil come & download all the other CCTV they wil put that in another USB or Hard Drive & will message you as soon as its ready to collect of will drop at the Wembley Police Station personally.

Just to confirm today the CCTV engineer came in today at 15.00 Hours he tried downloading all the rest of the CCTV's he couldn't acess the data fully so he took our hard drive off took with him to access in his office & replaced with his hard drive & told us he will work on it as the case of urgency.

Many Thanks



idscan

Witness List

Generated on: 30/10/2022 16:05:56

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Aura Sudbury - FLX - AGR1046463

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United Kingdom, London, E14 9TS,

London

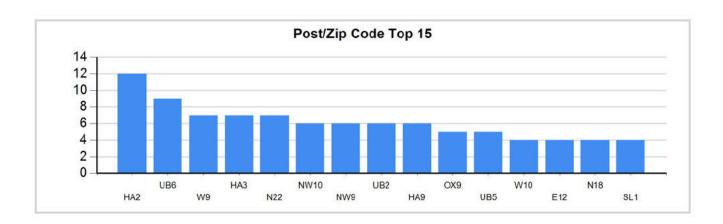
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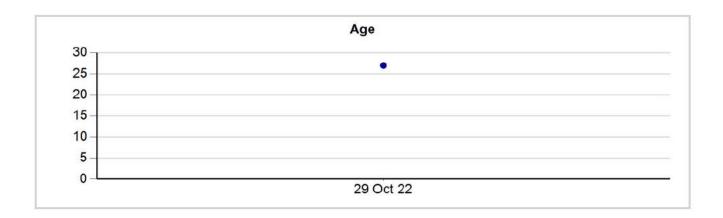
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418 Witnesses

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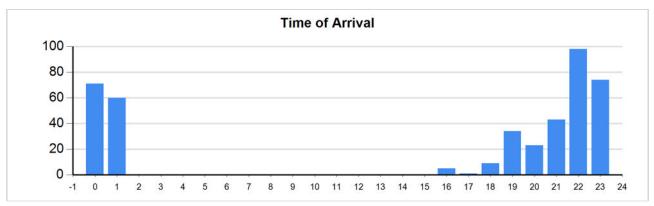
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Aura Sudbury - FLX - AGR1046463

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London

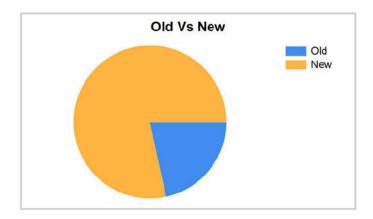
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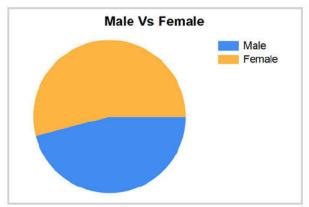
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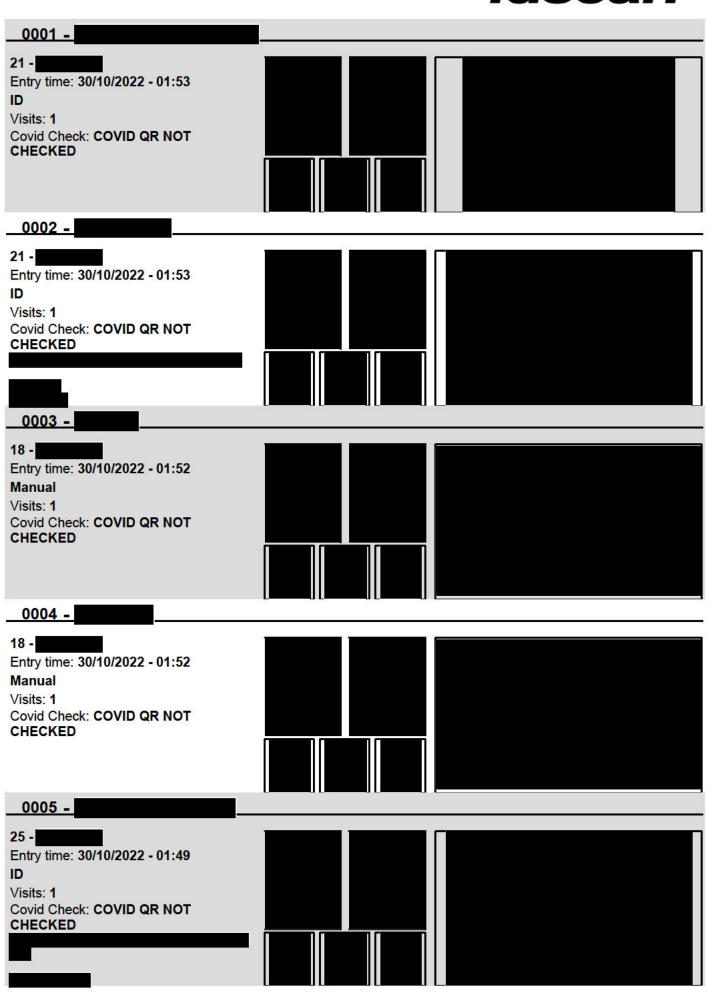
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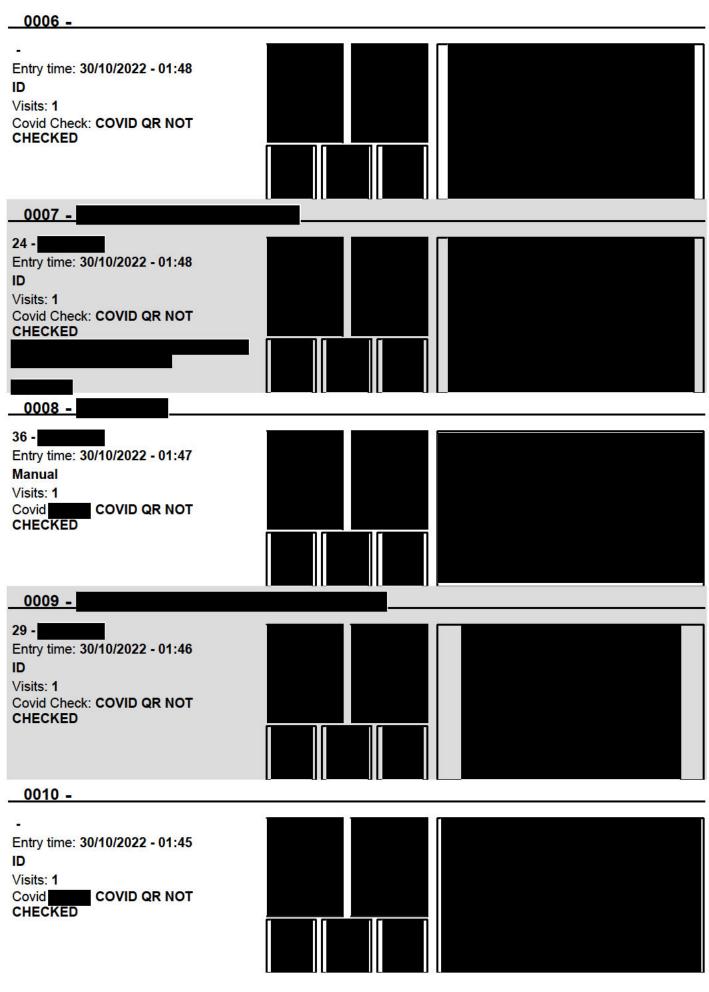




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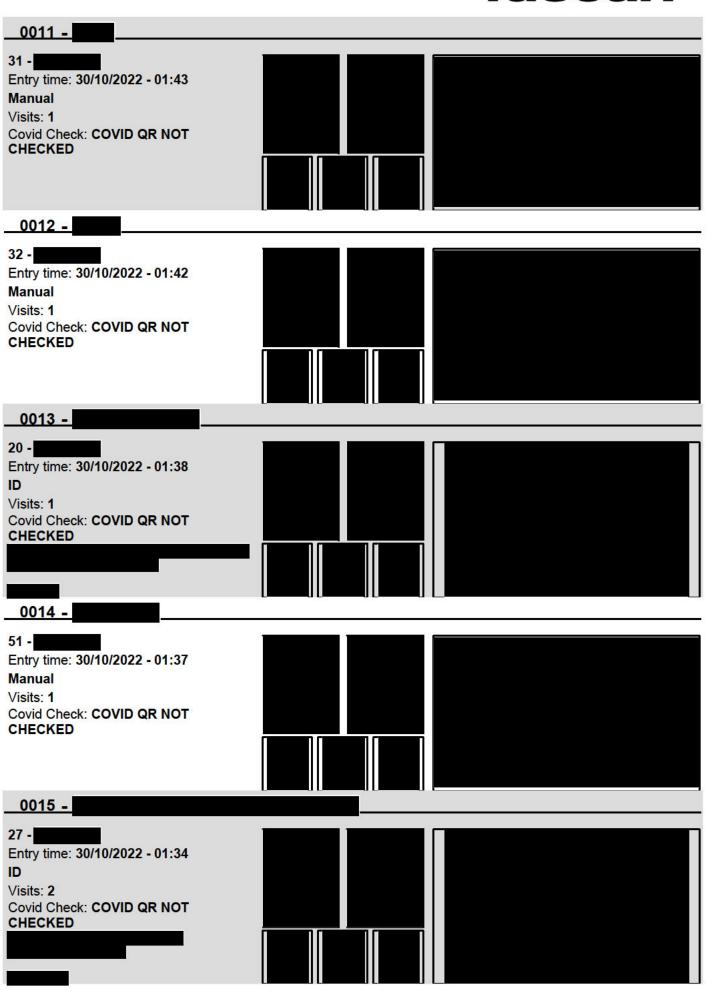


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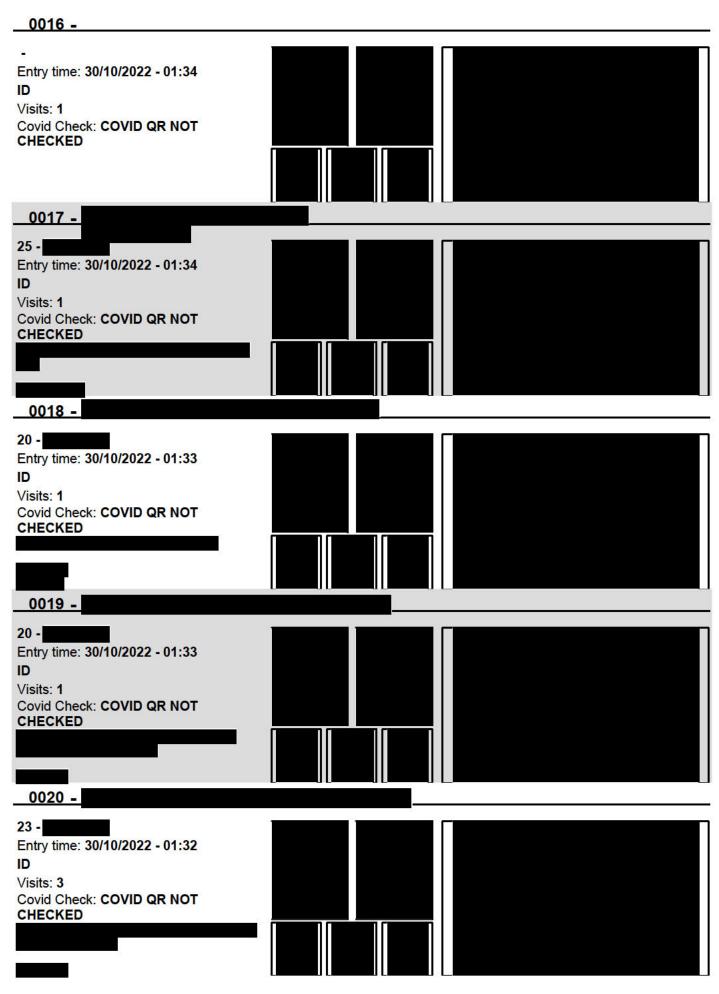




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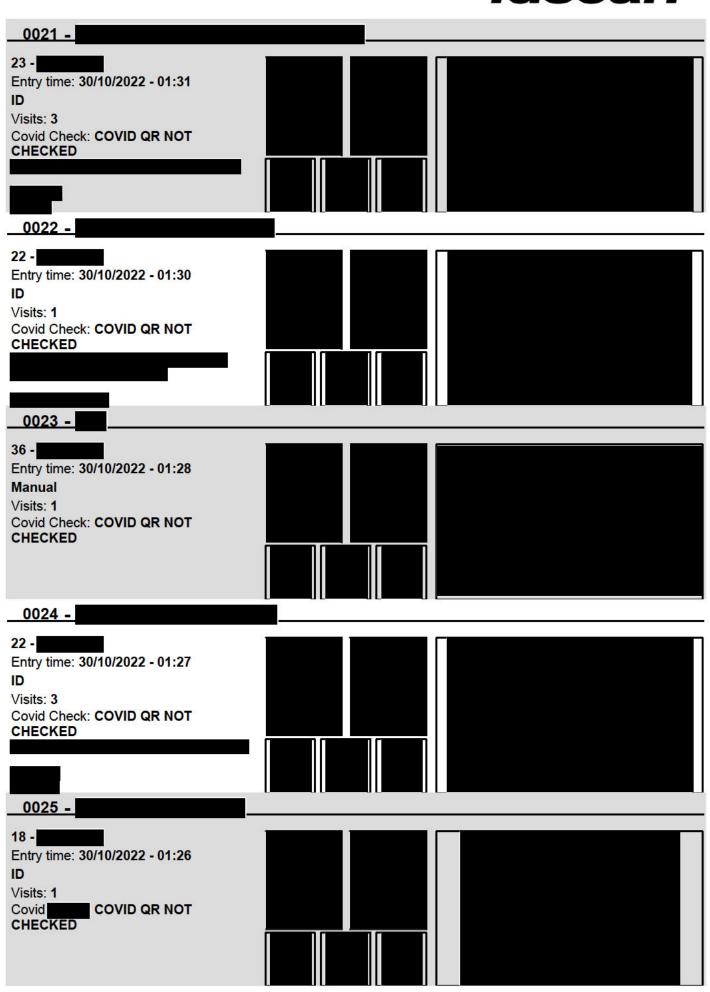




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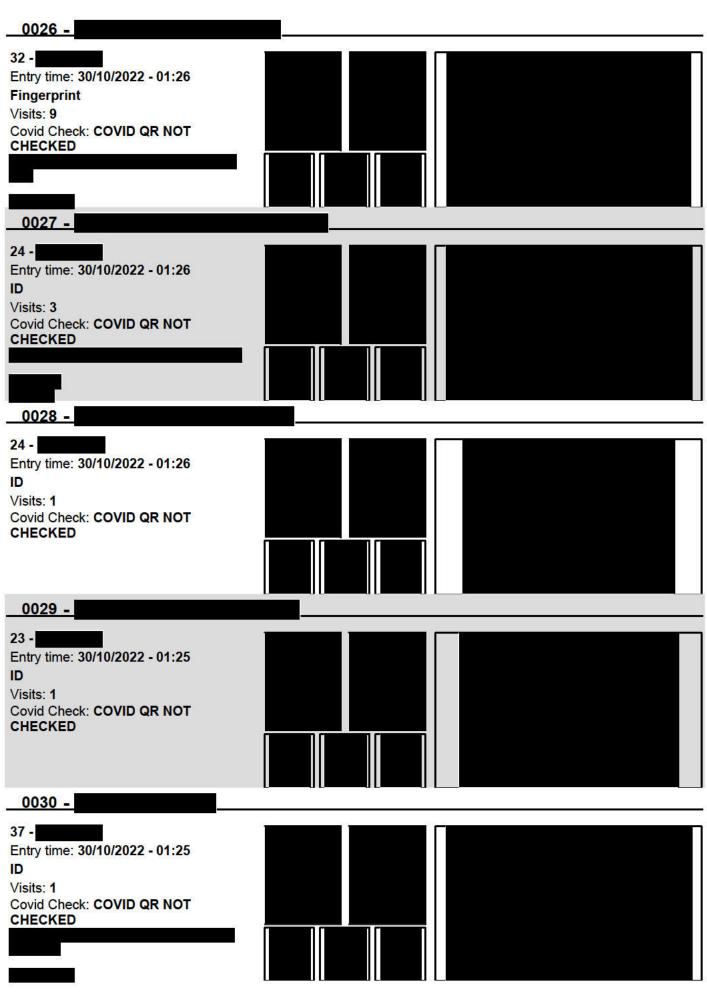




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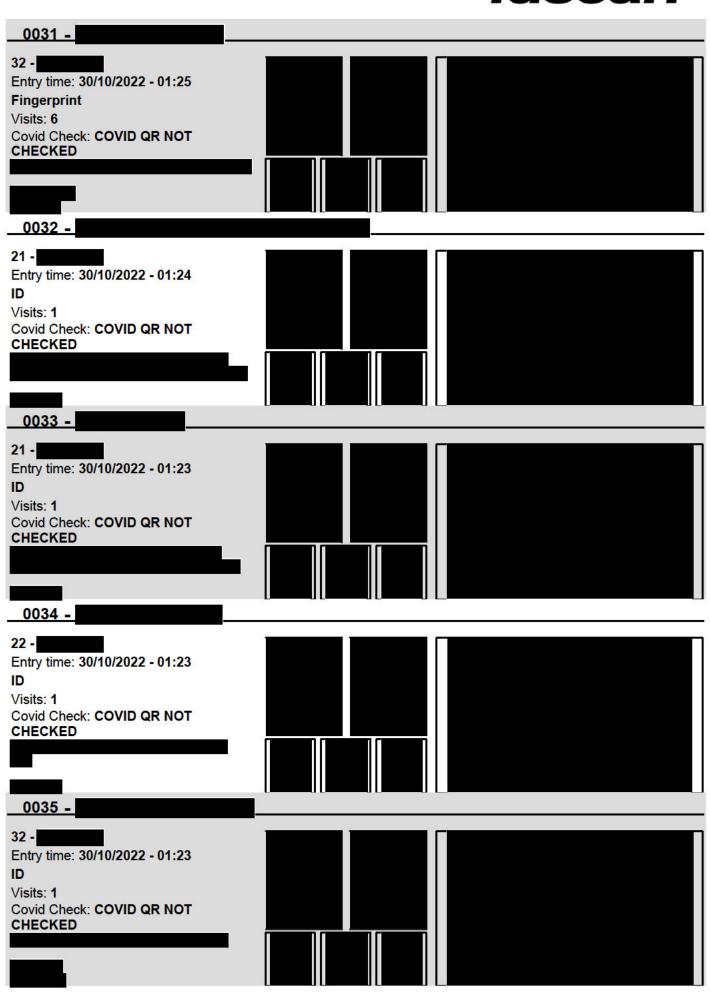




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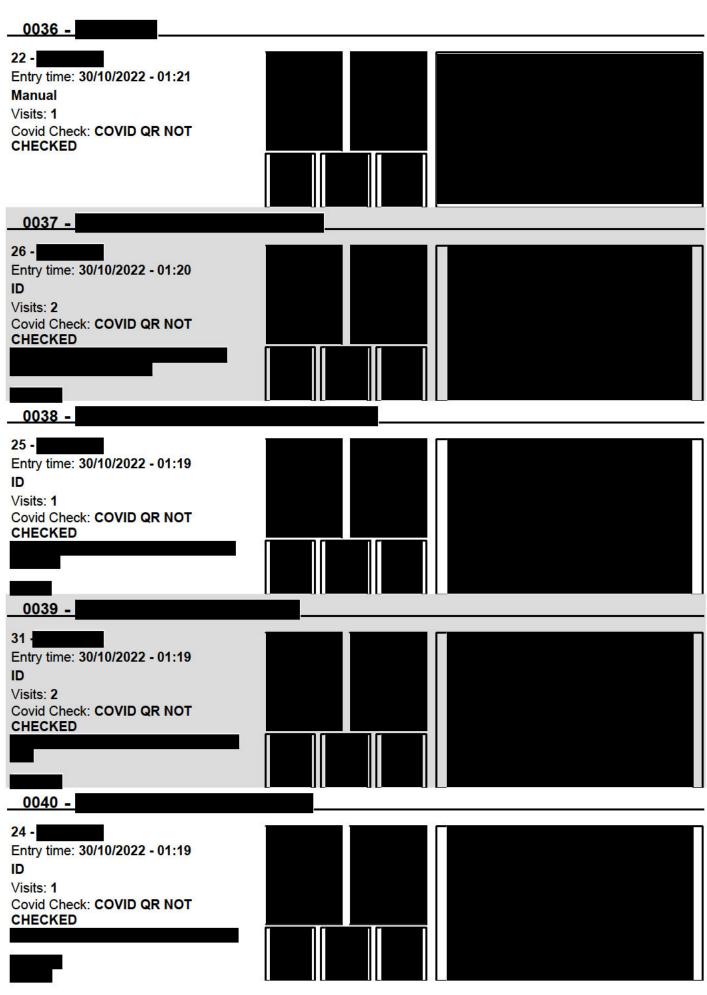




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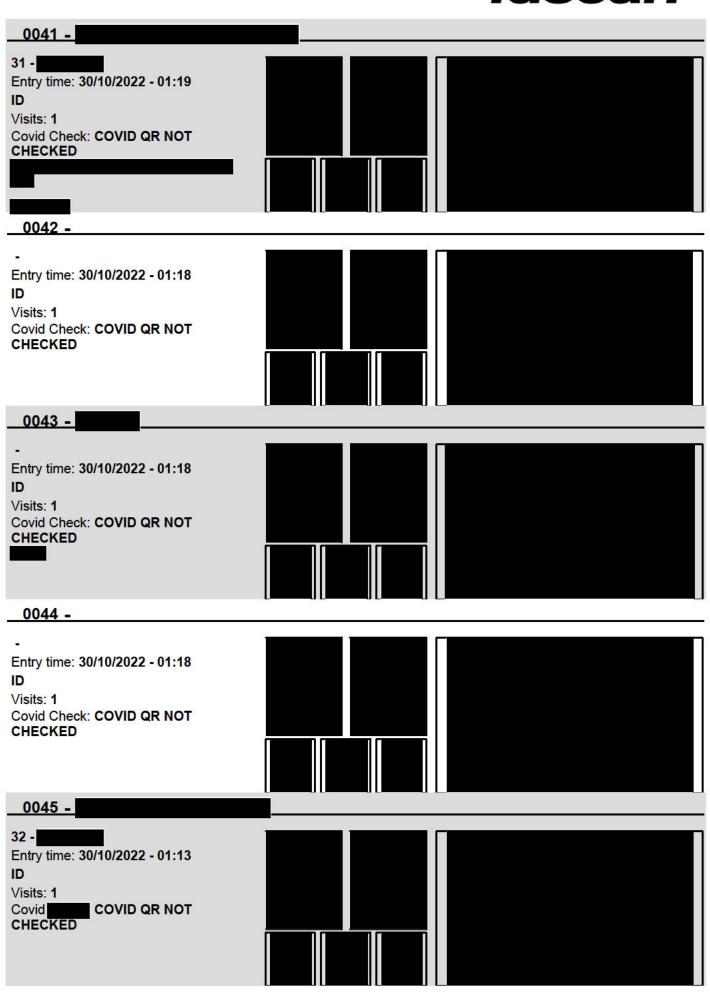




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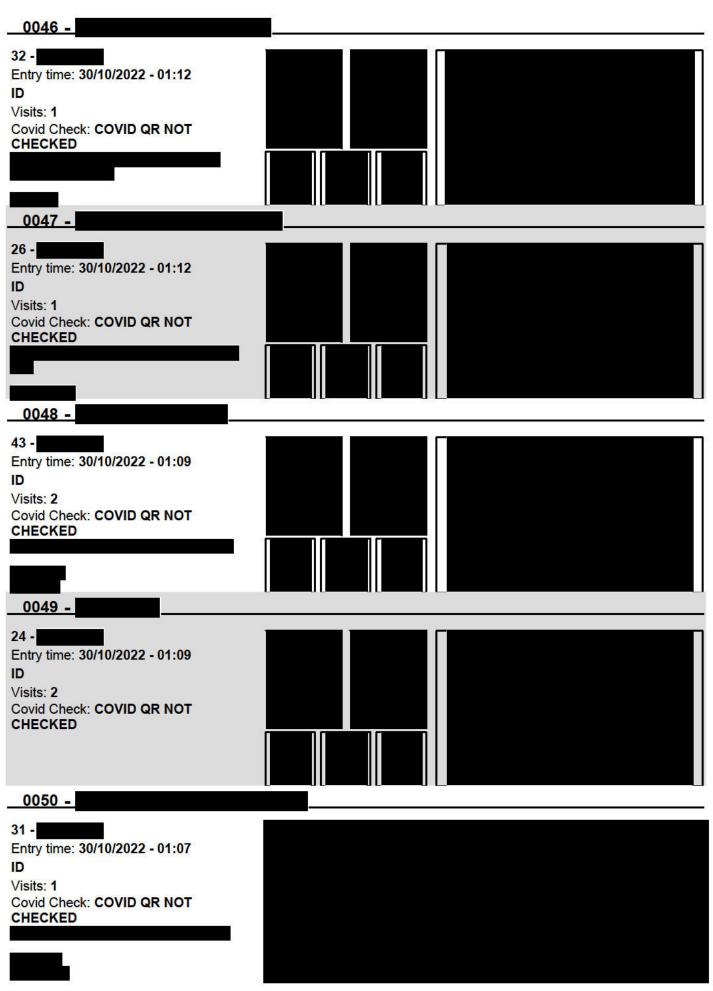




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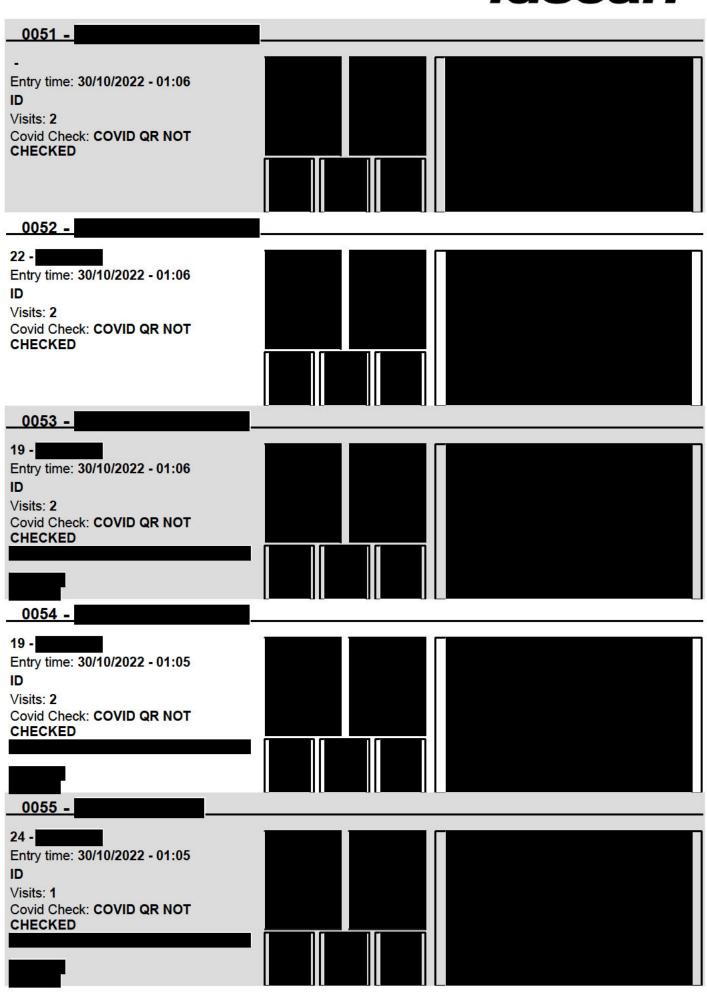


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Witness List



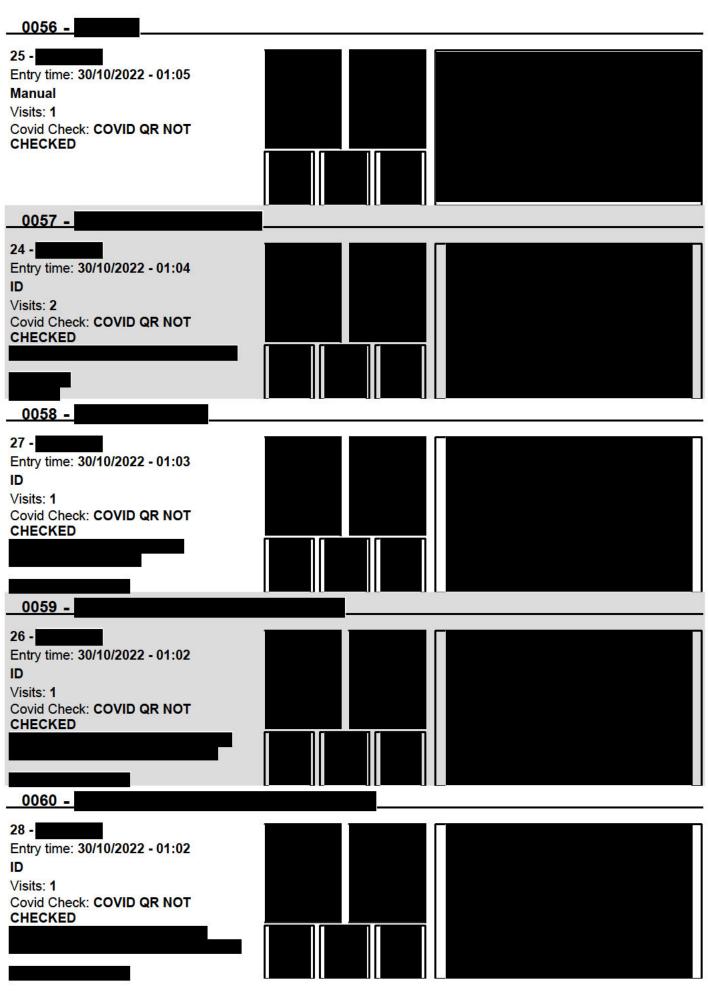


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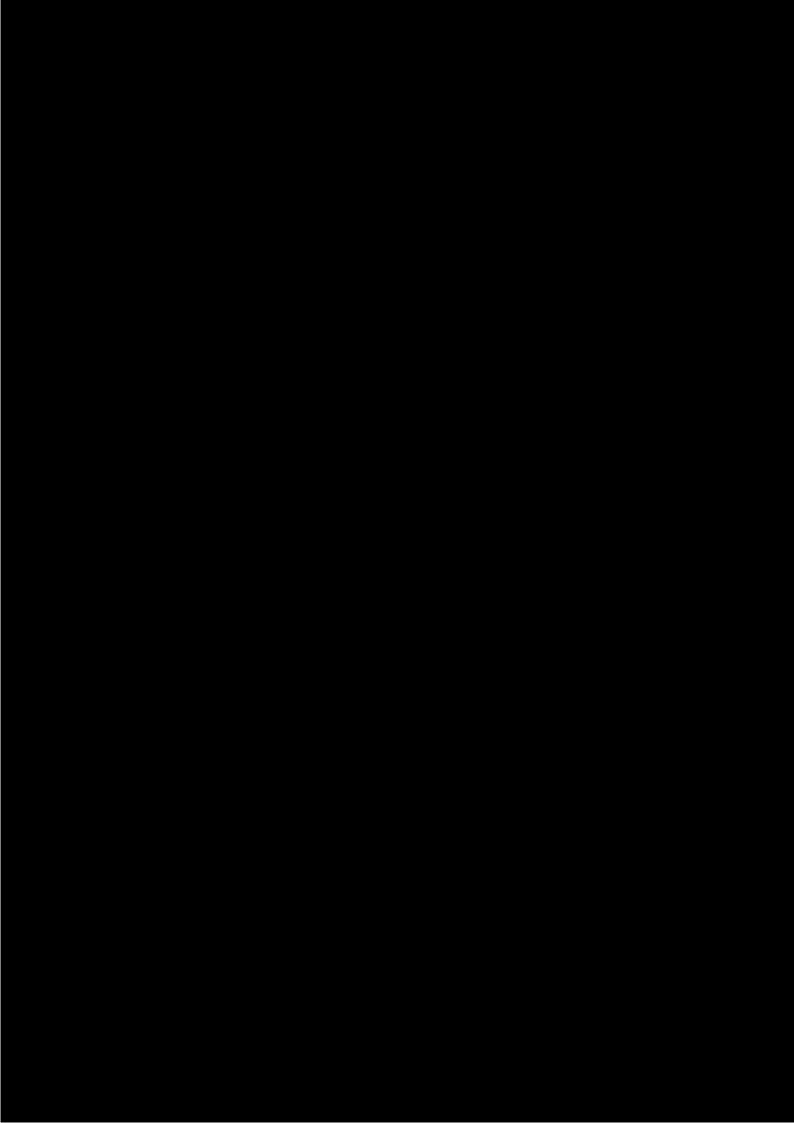
Witness List

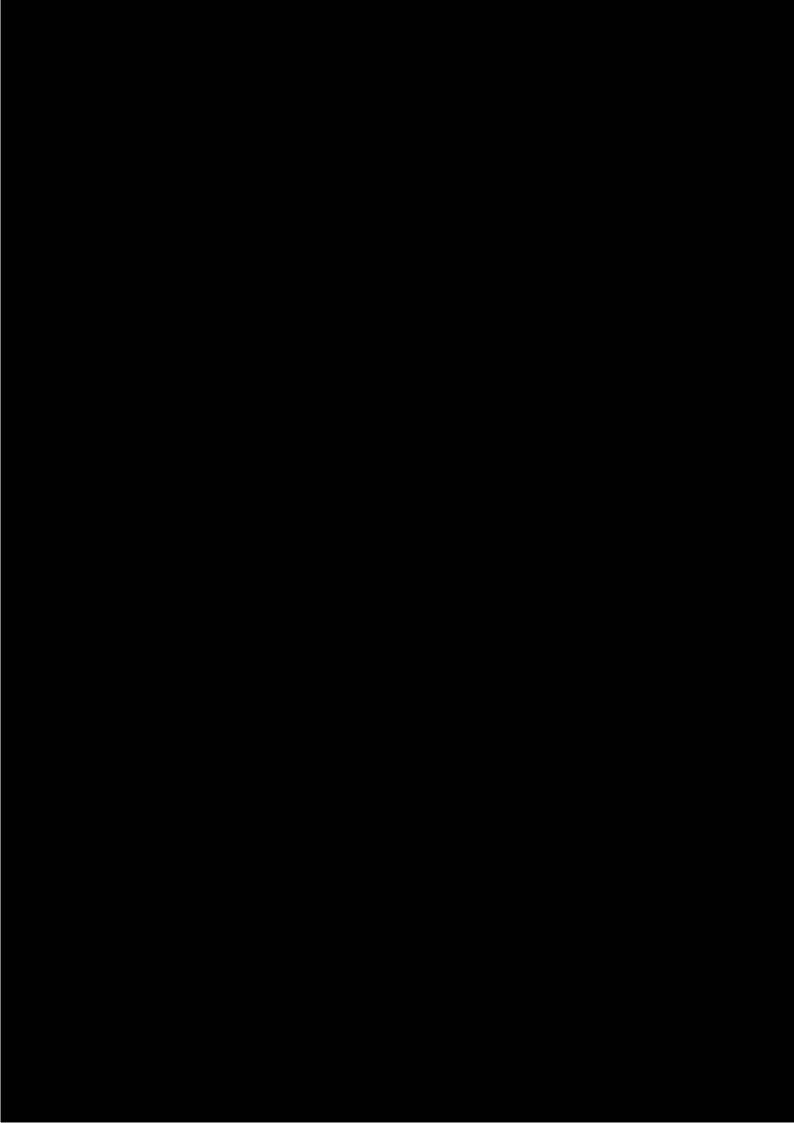


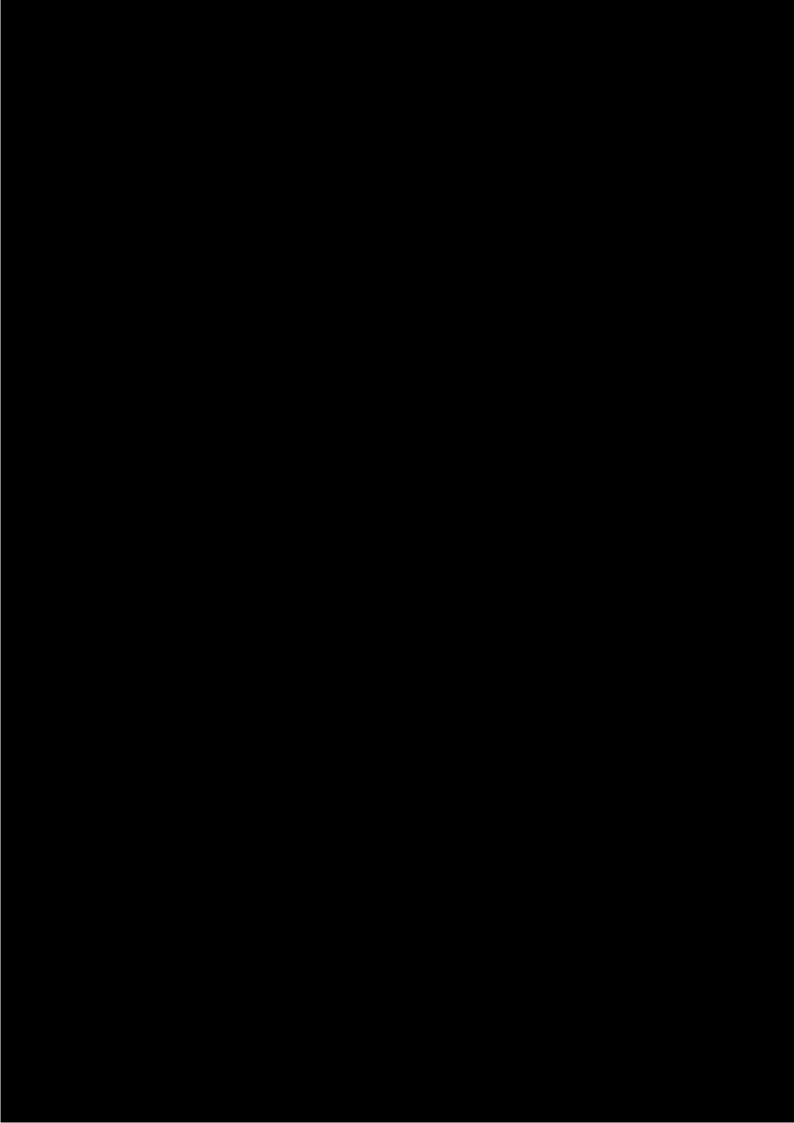


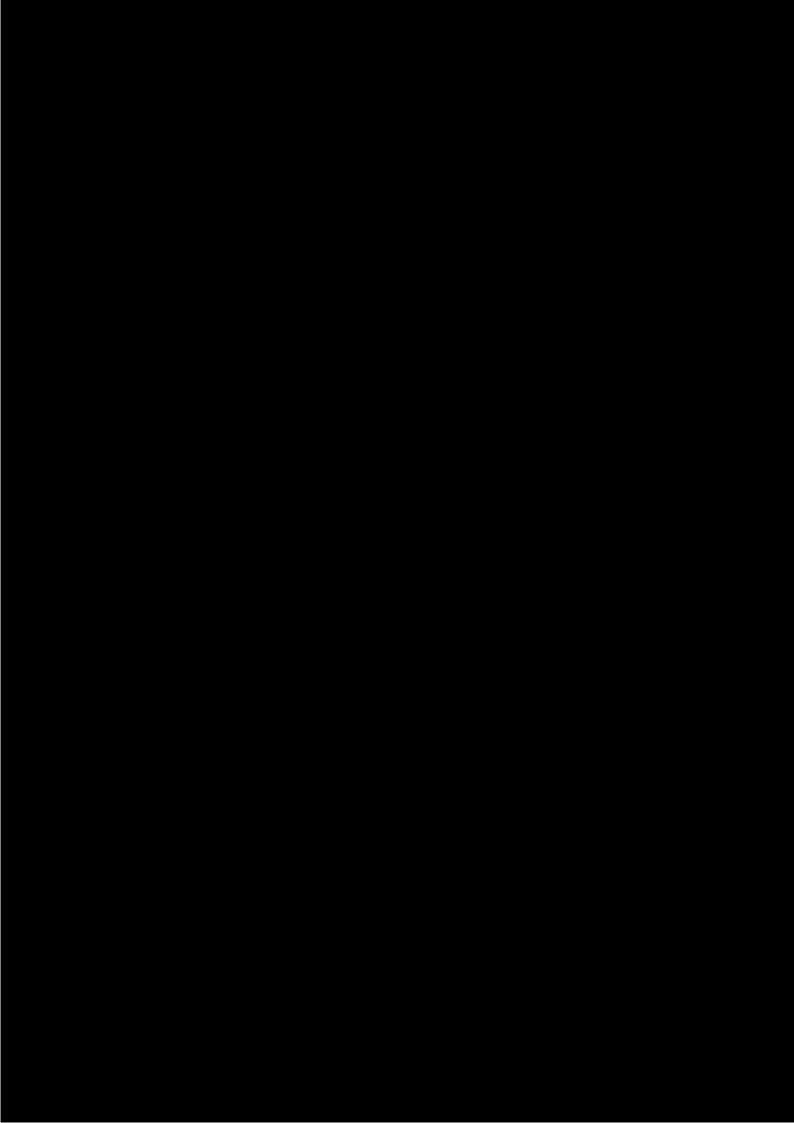
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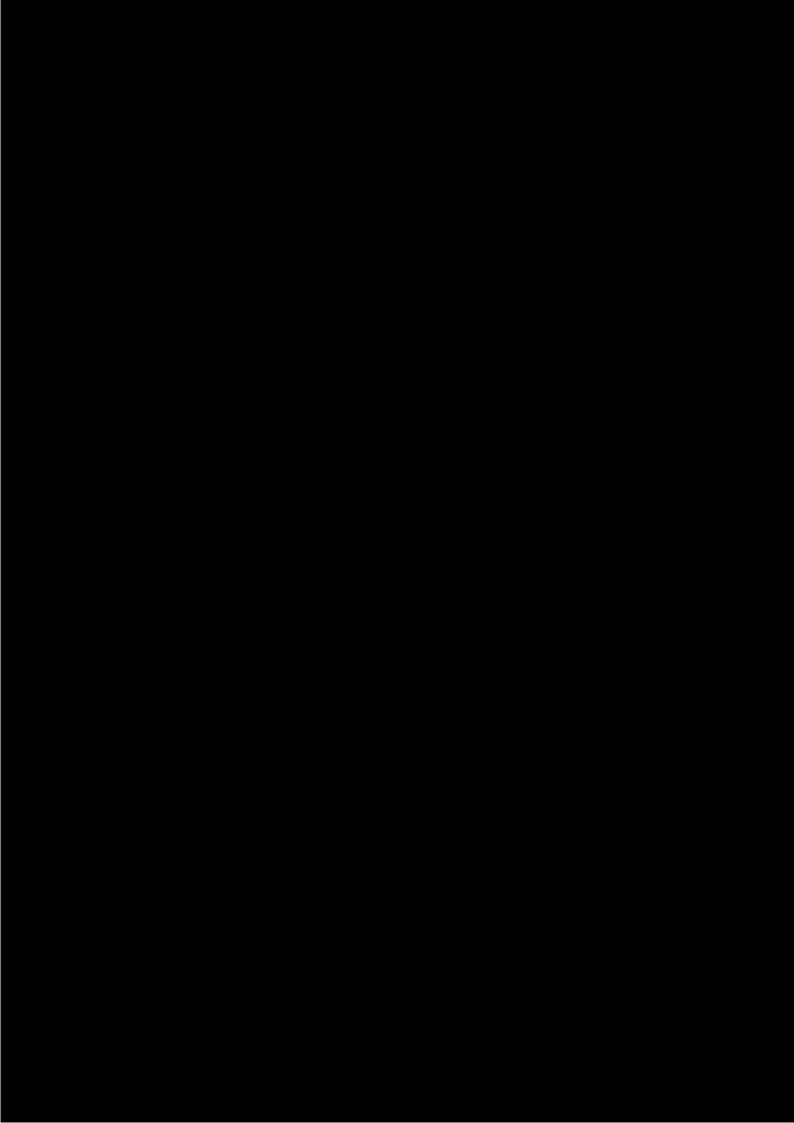
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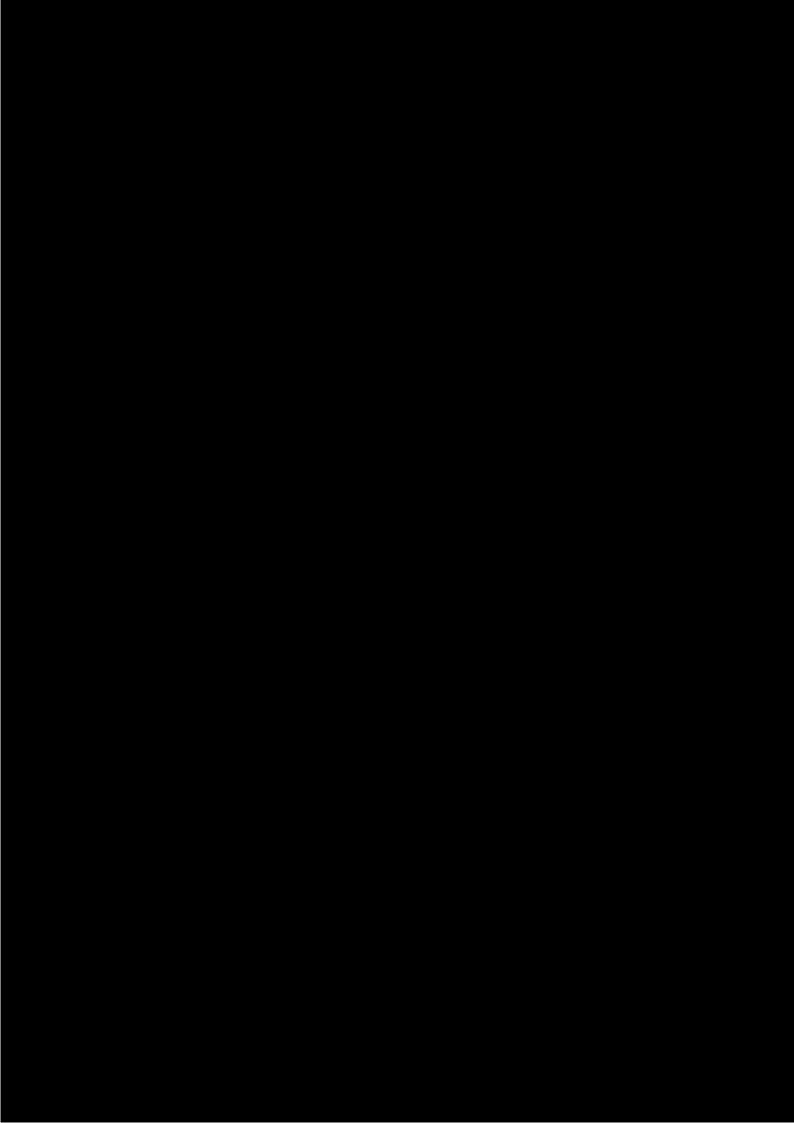


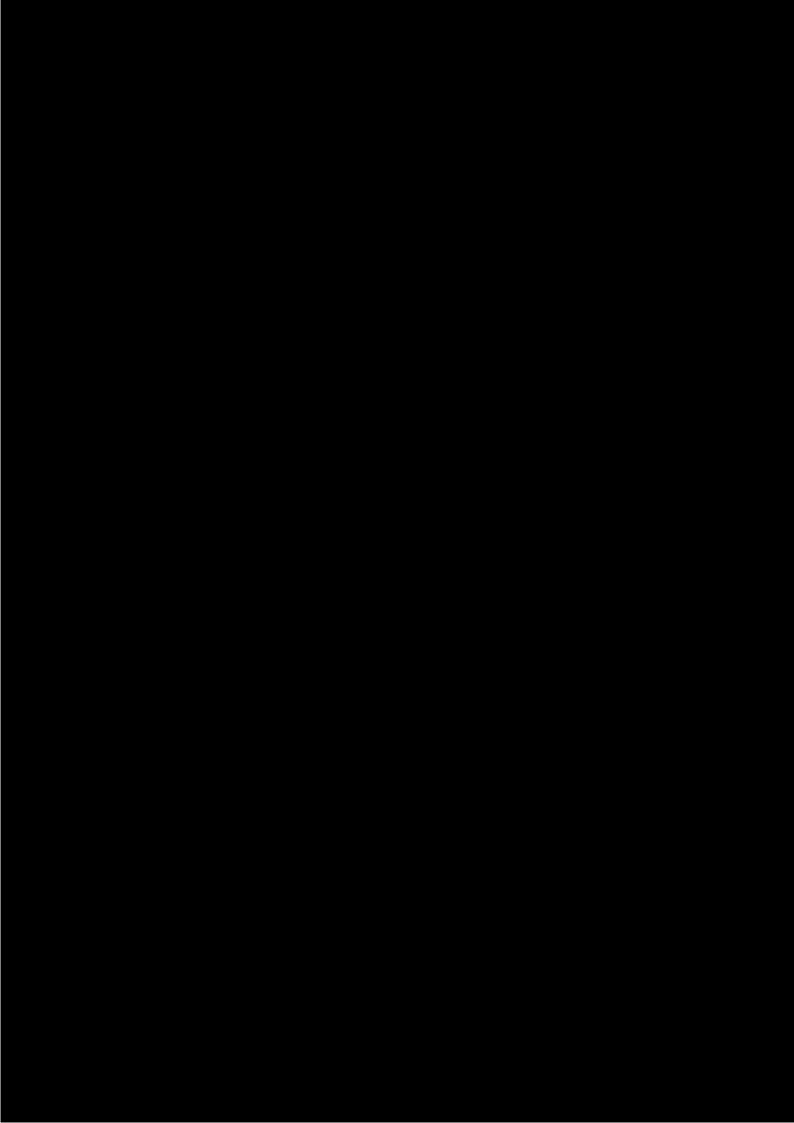


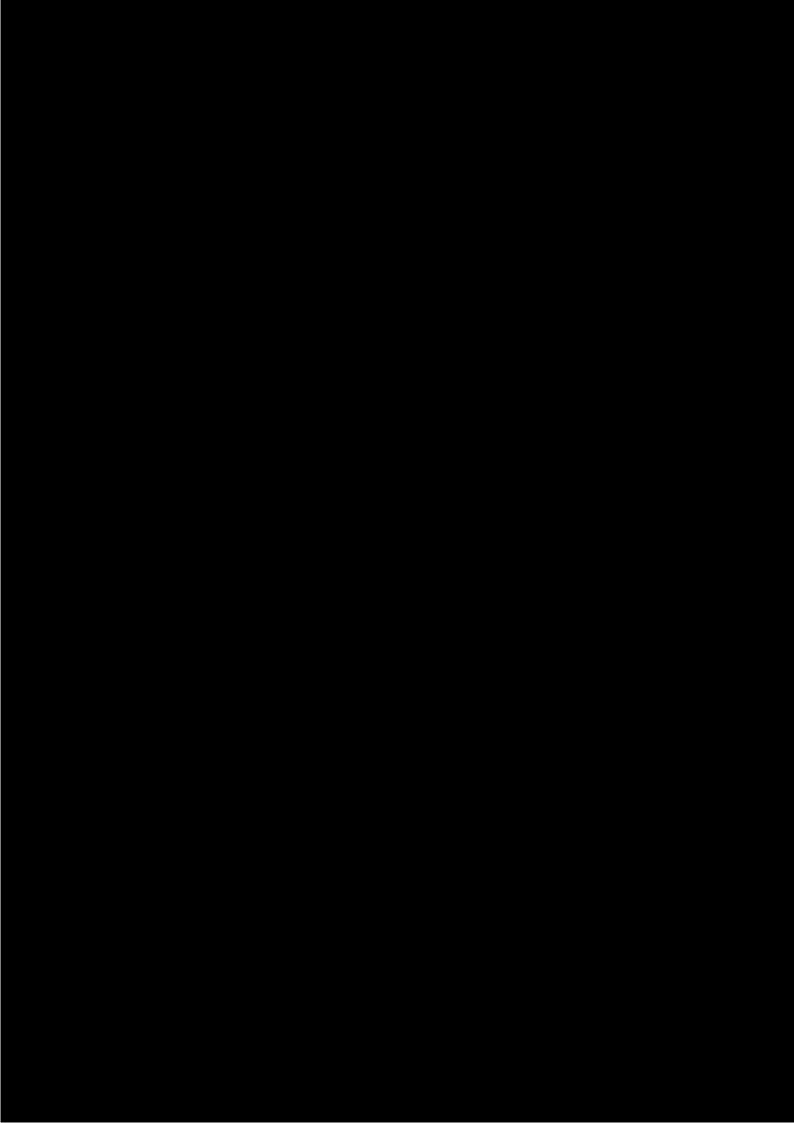


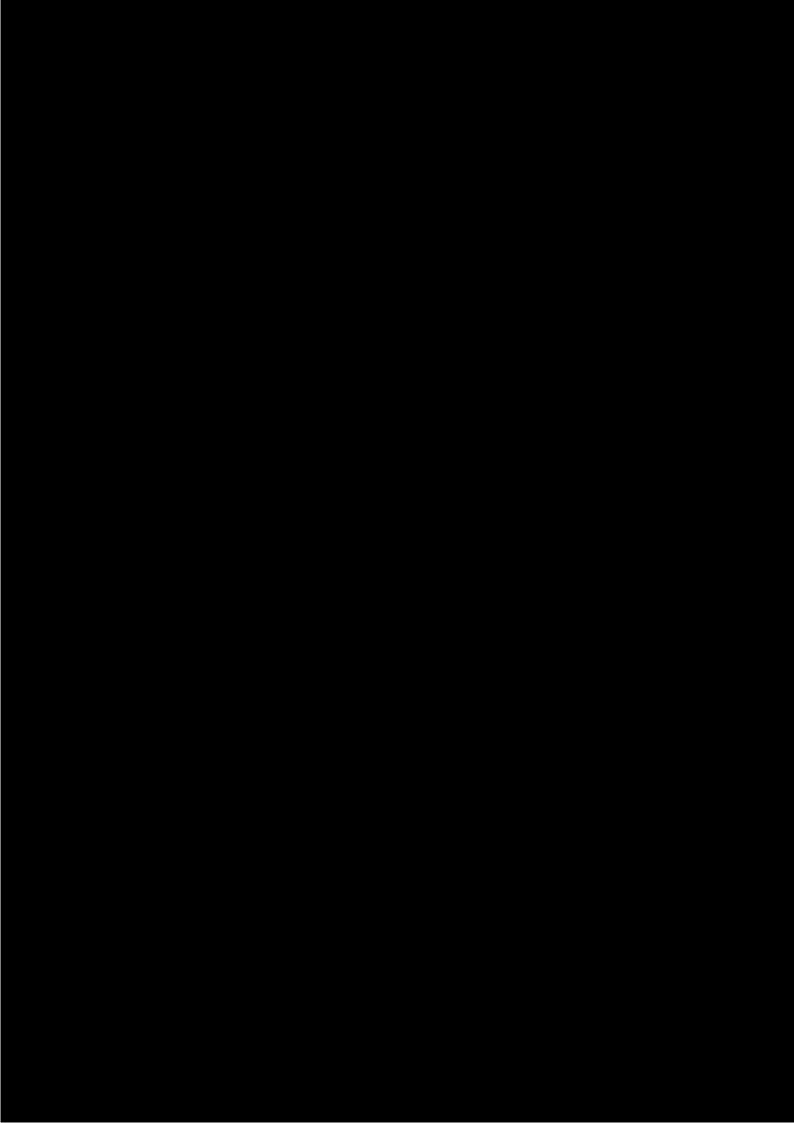


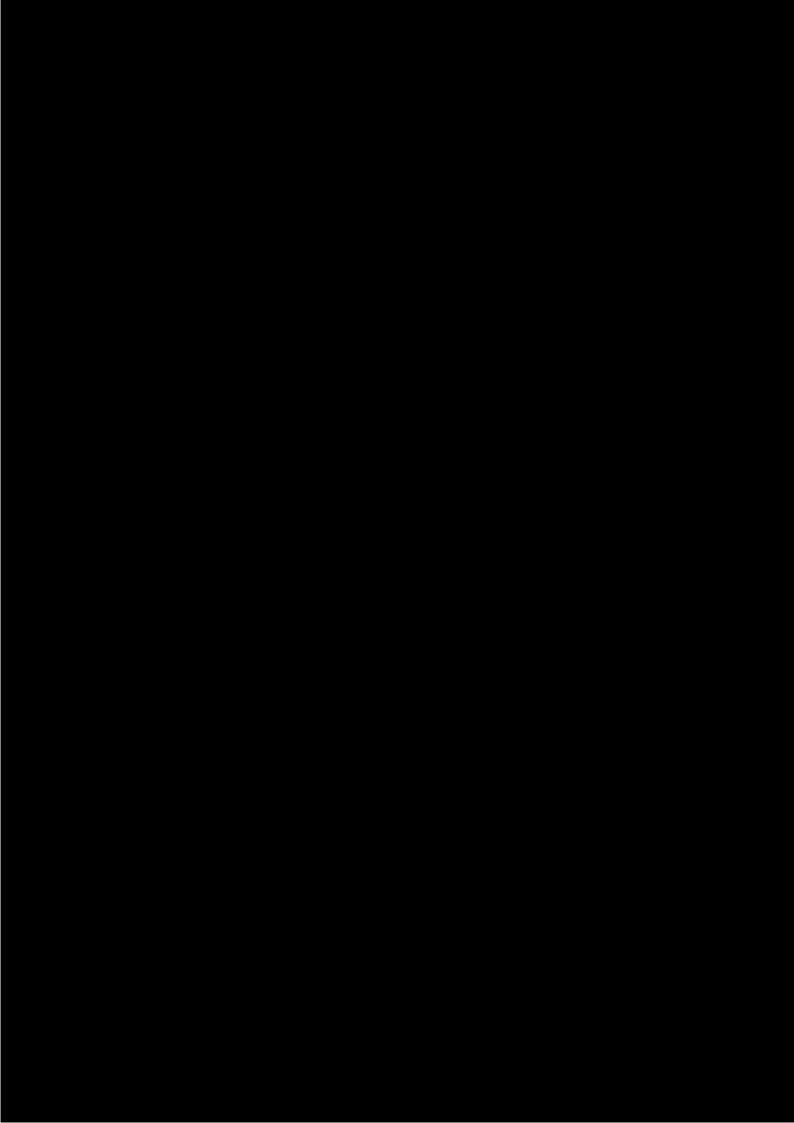


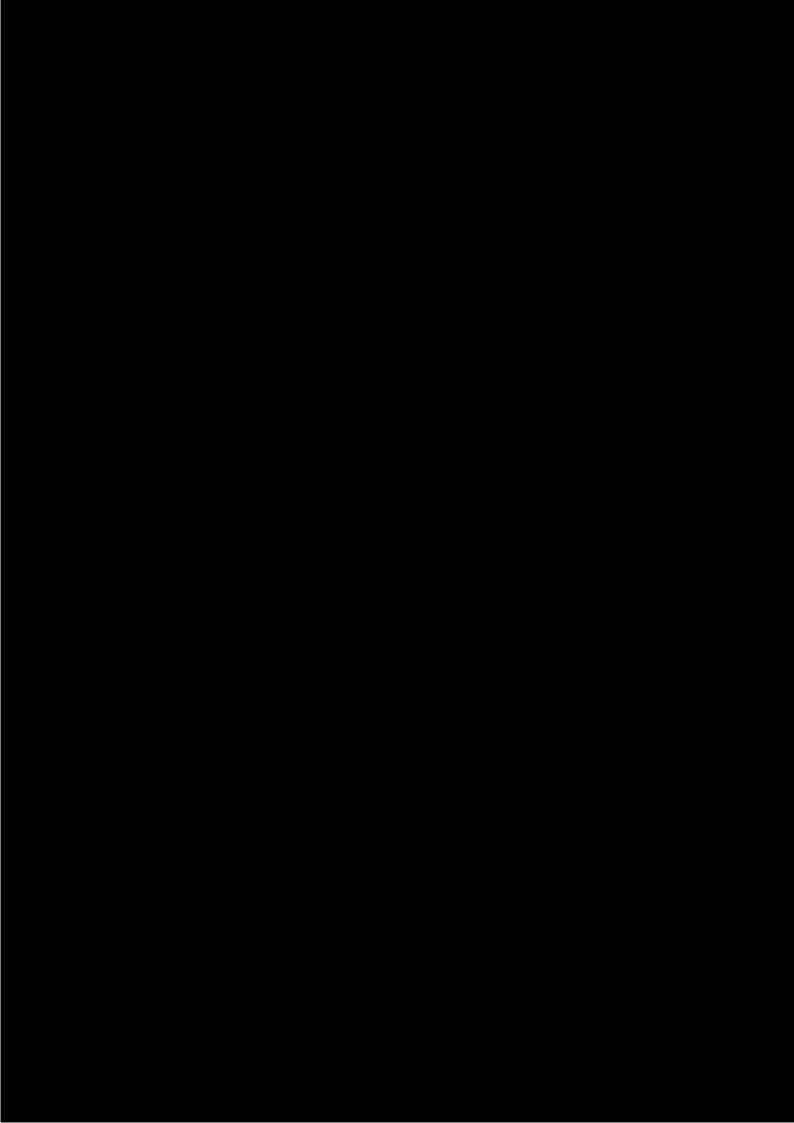


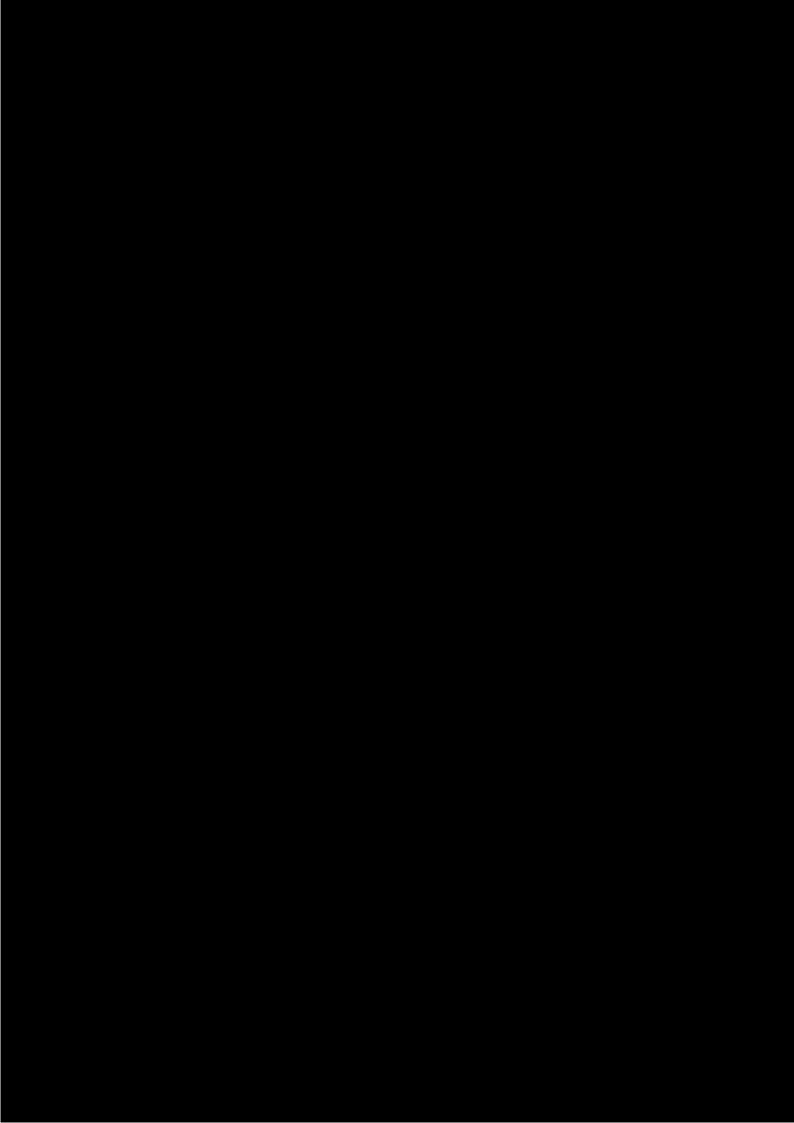


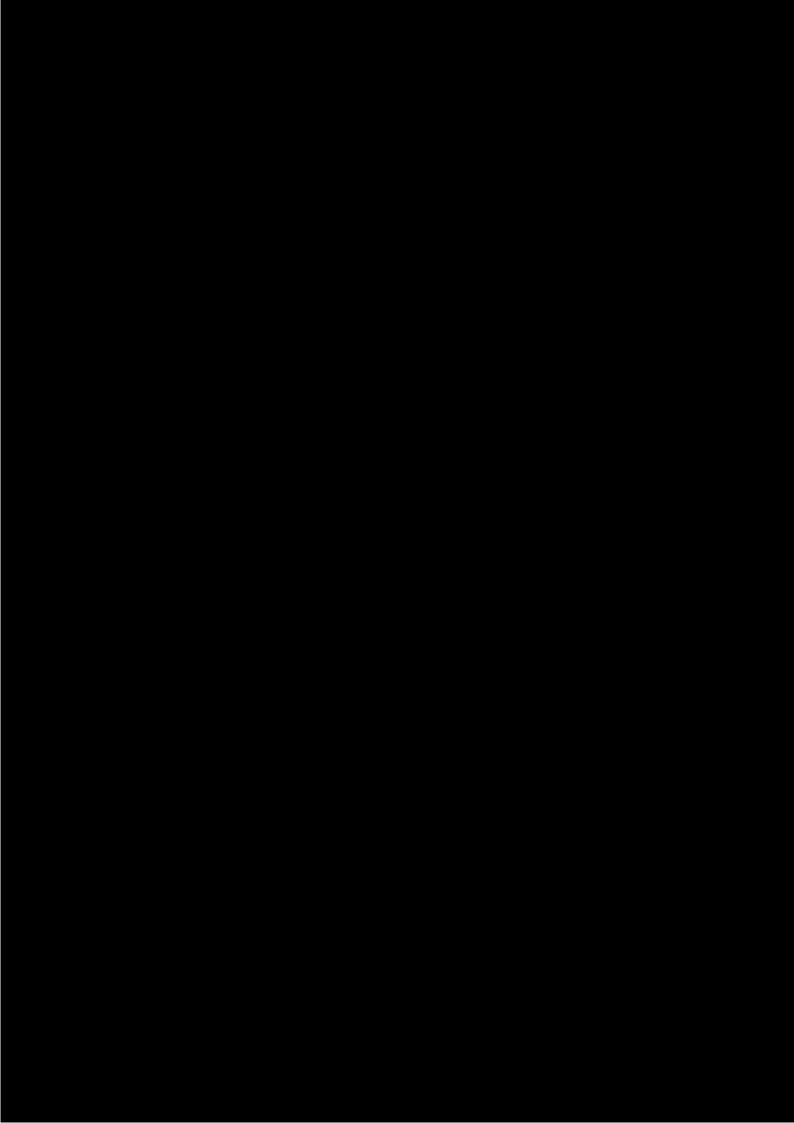


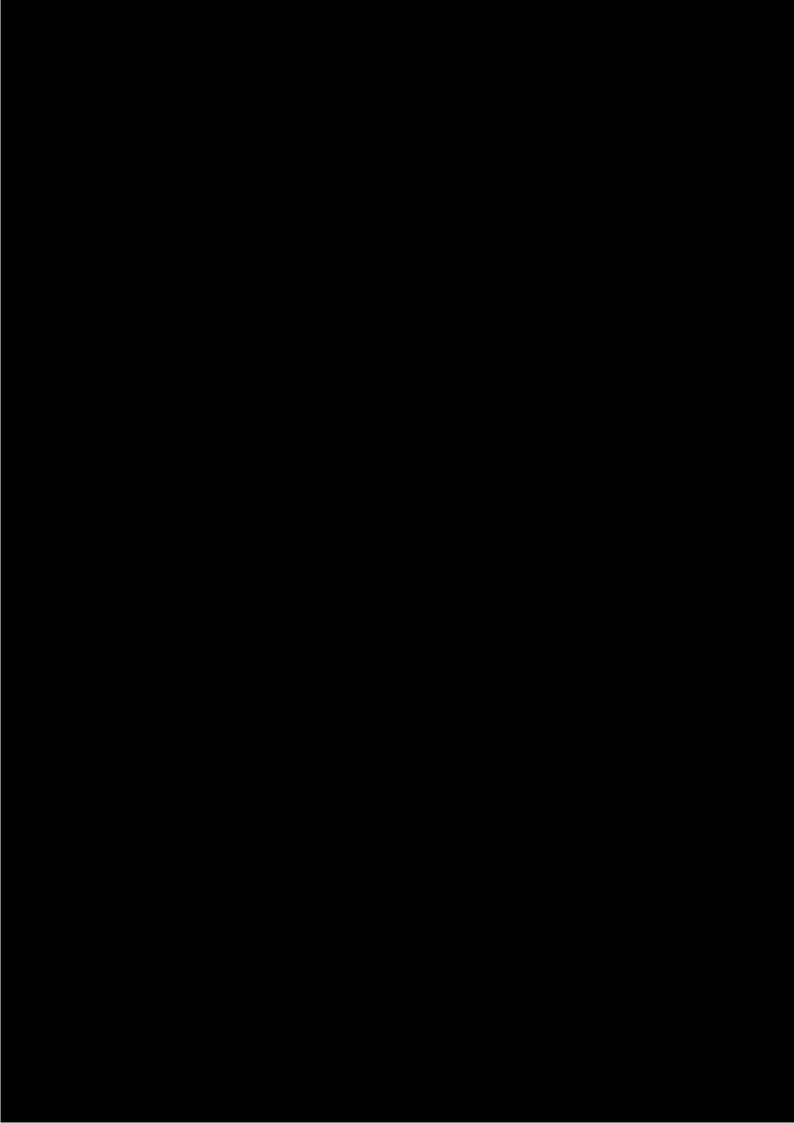


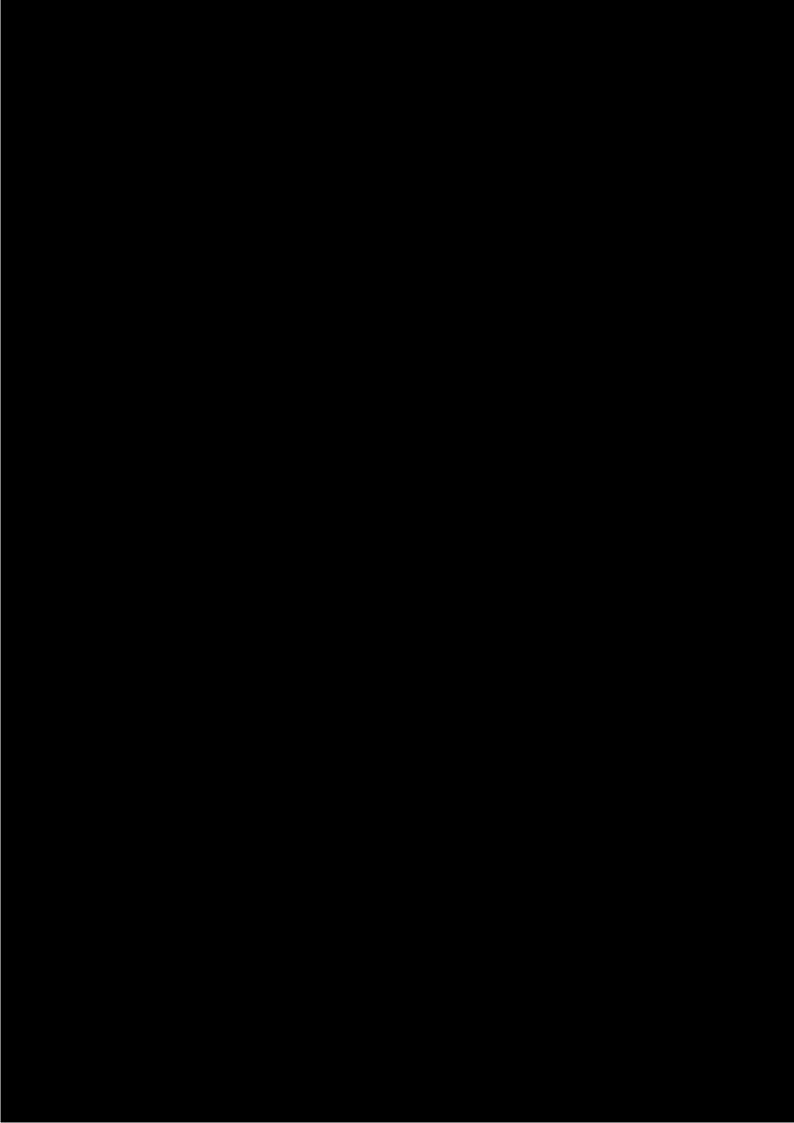


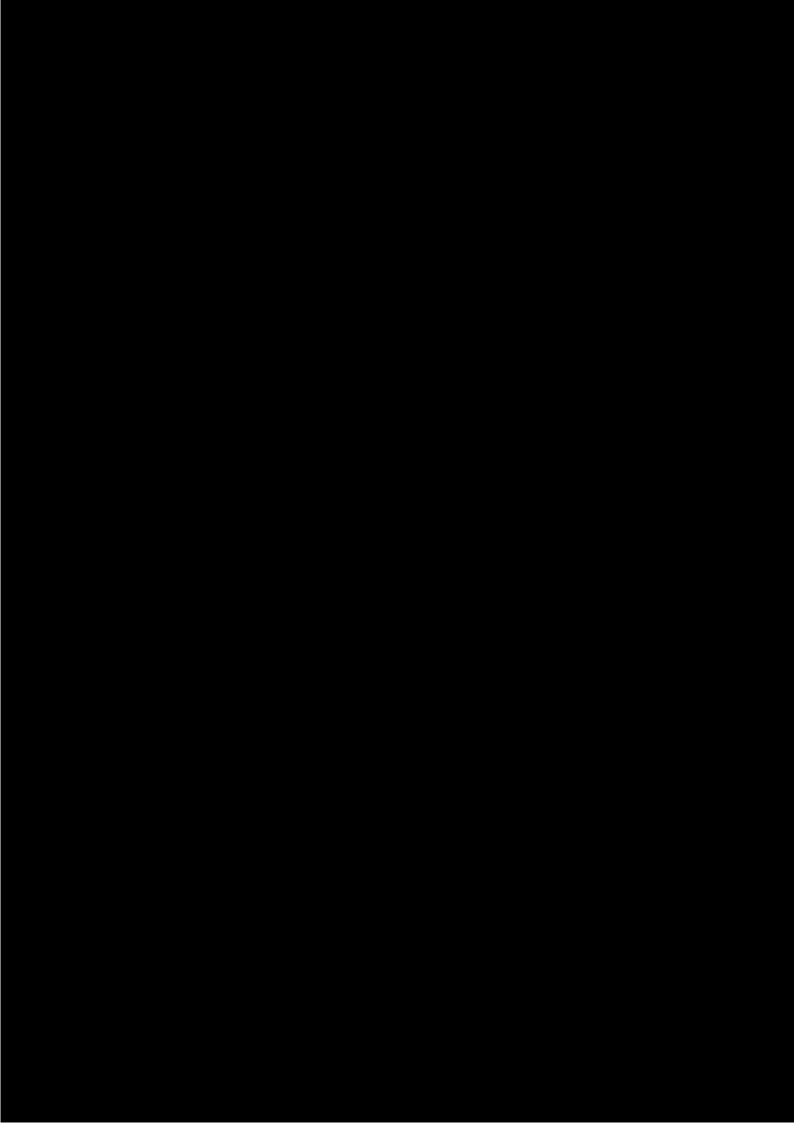


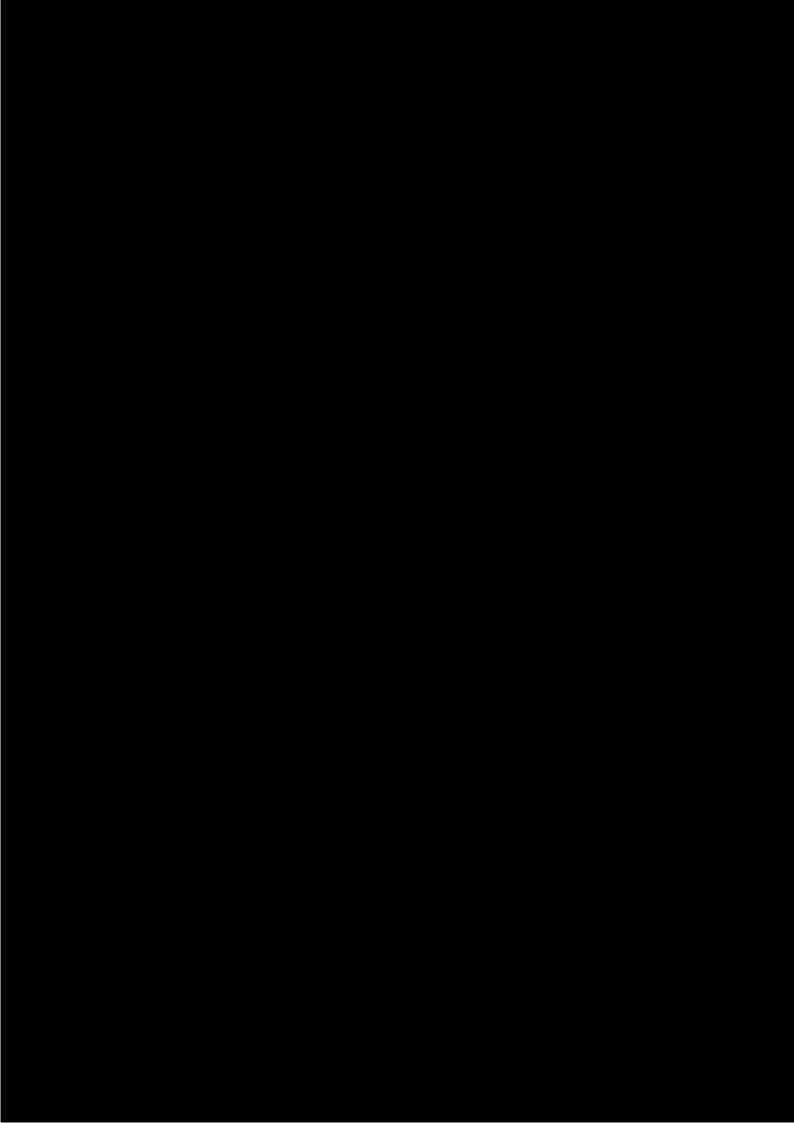


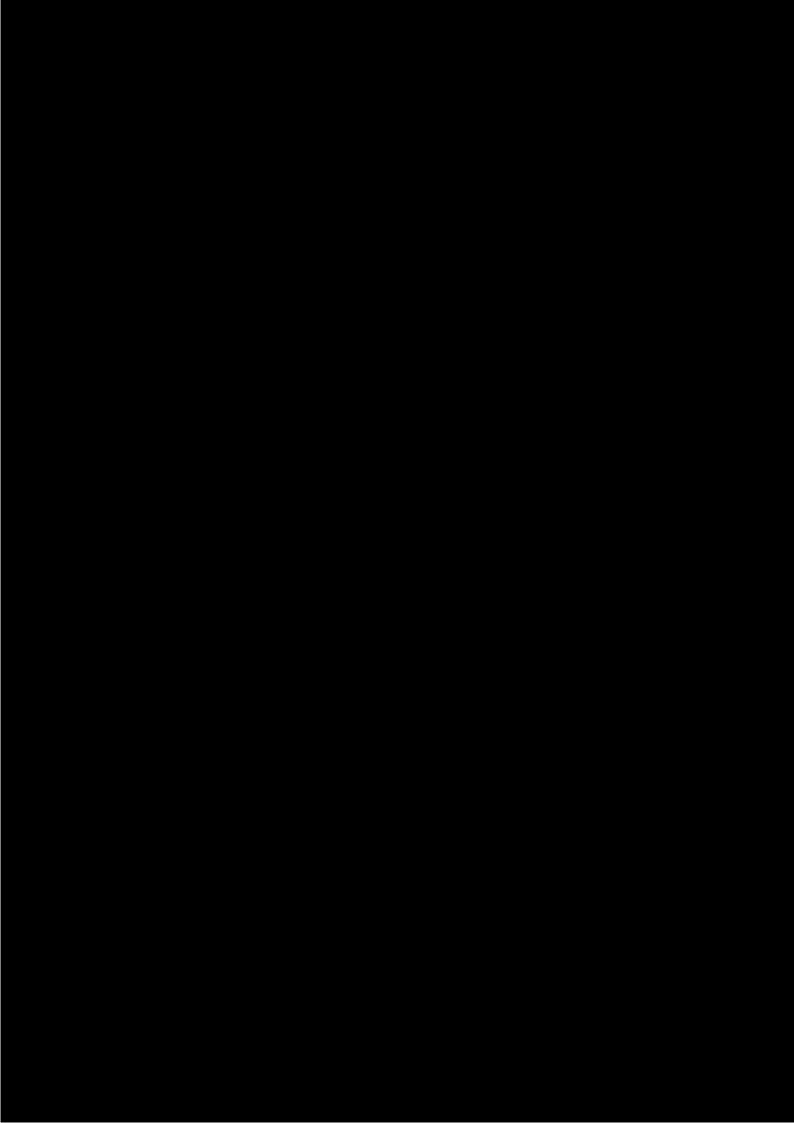


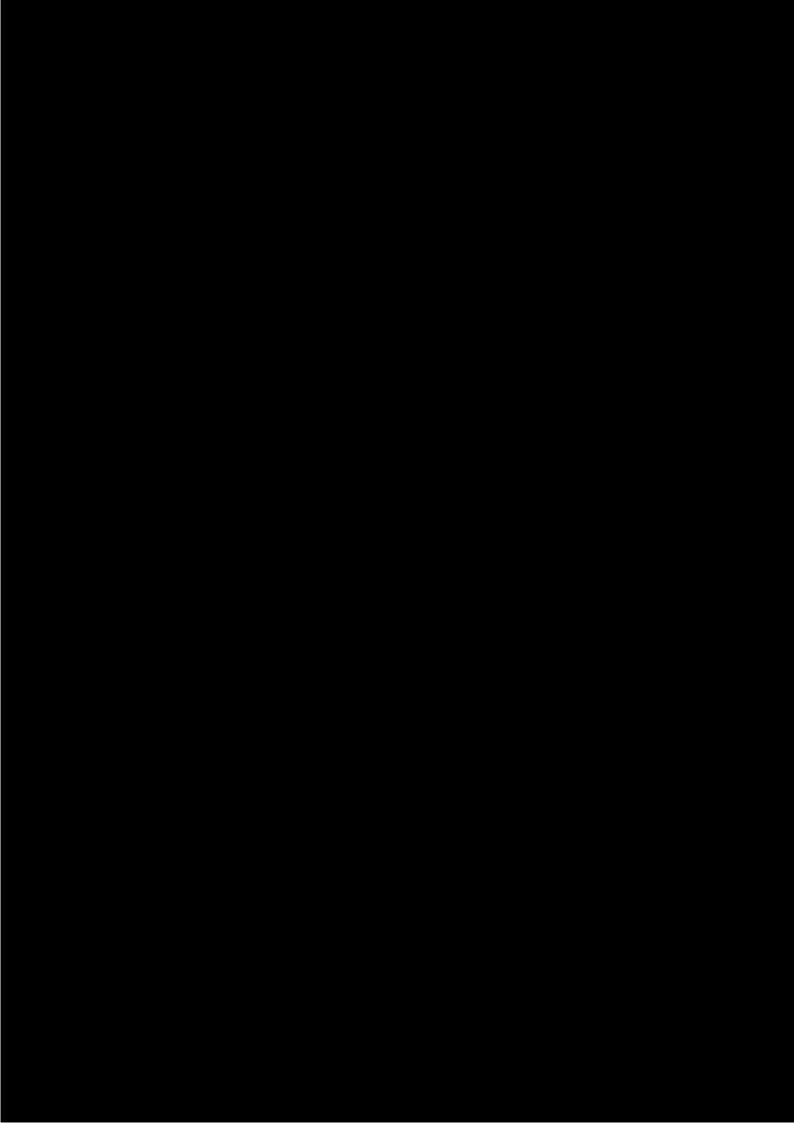


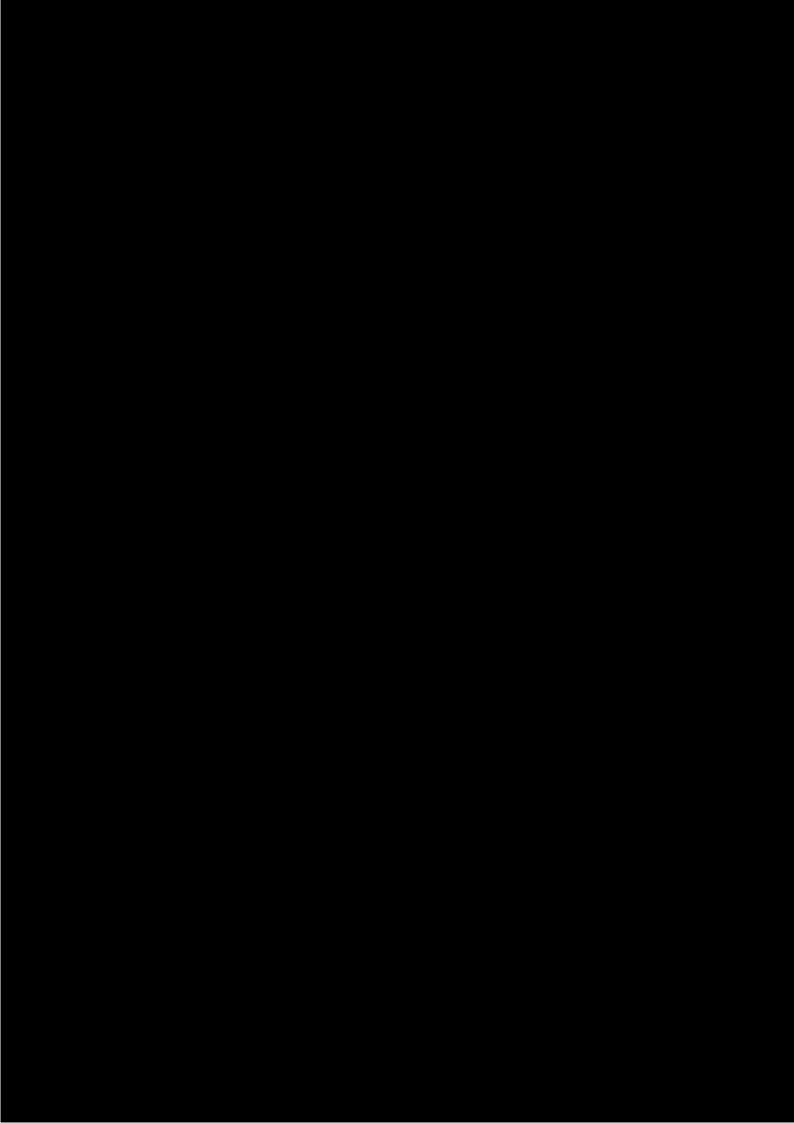


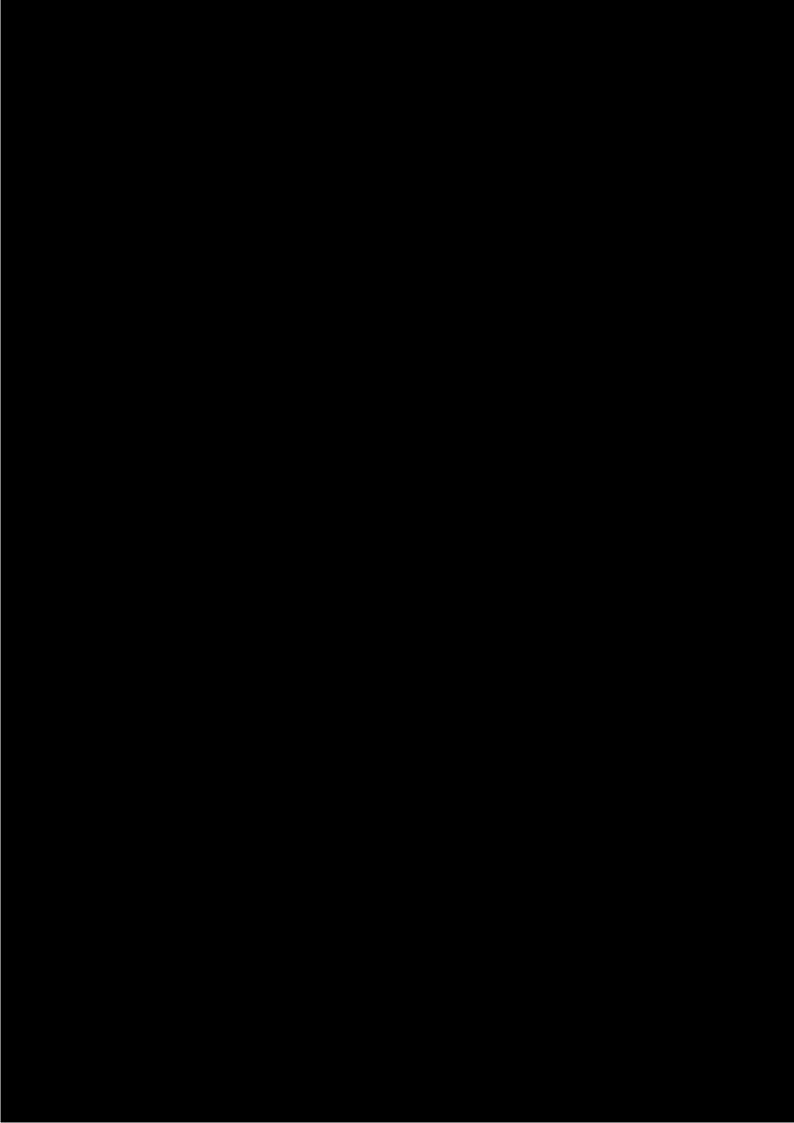


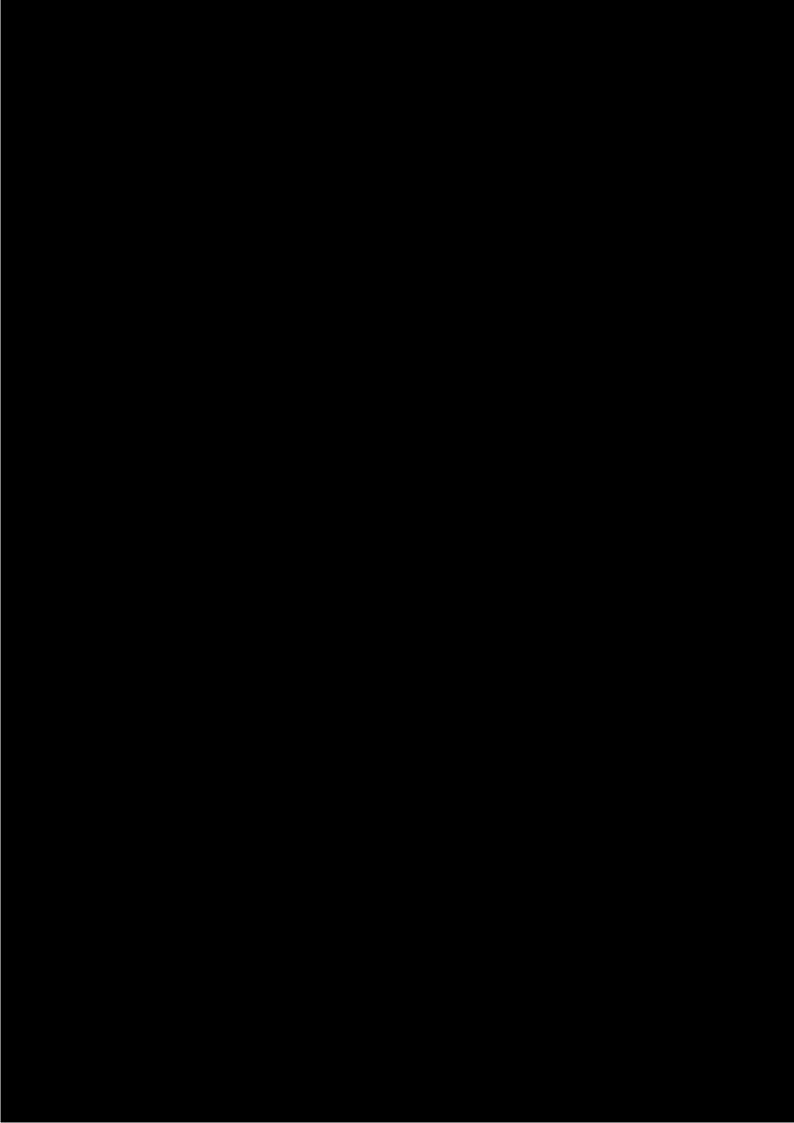


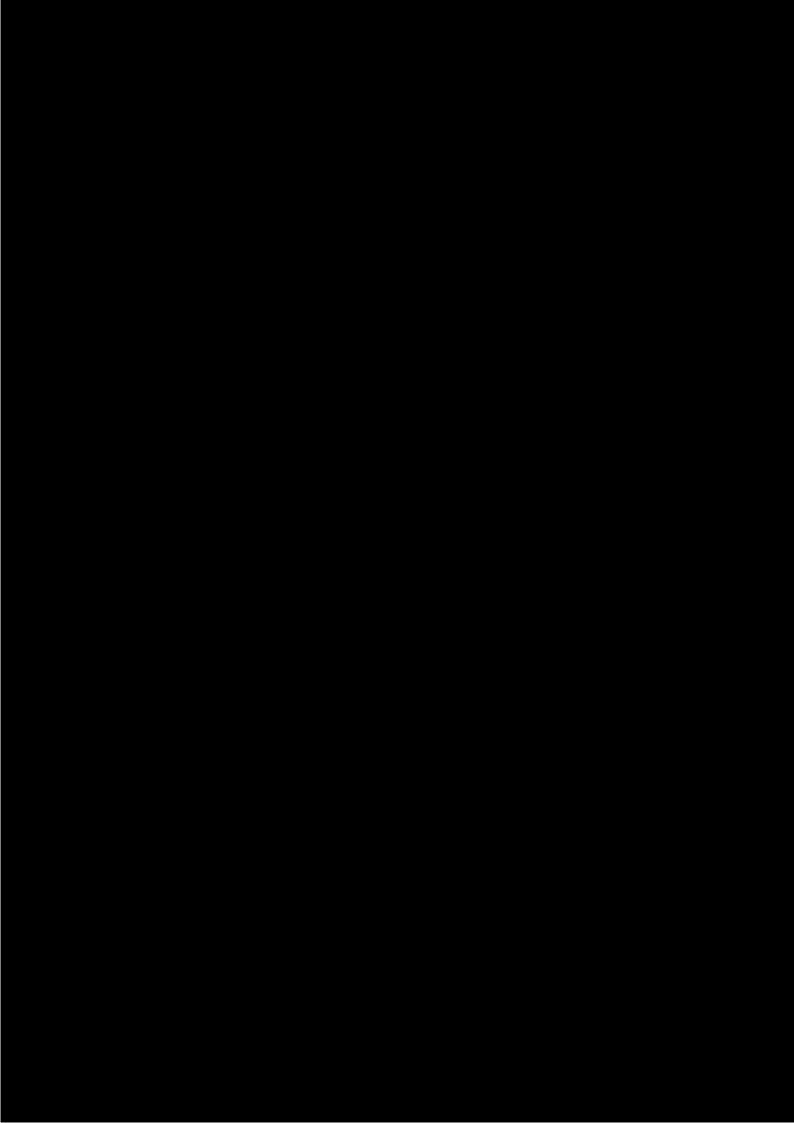


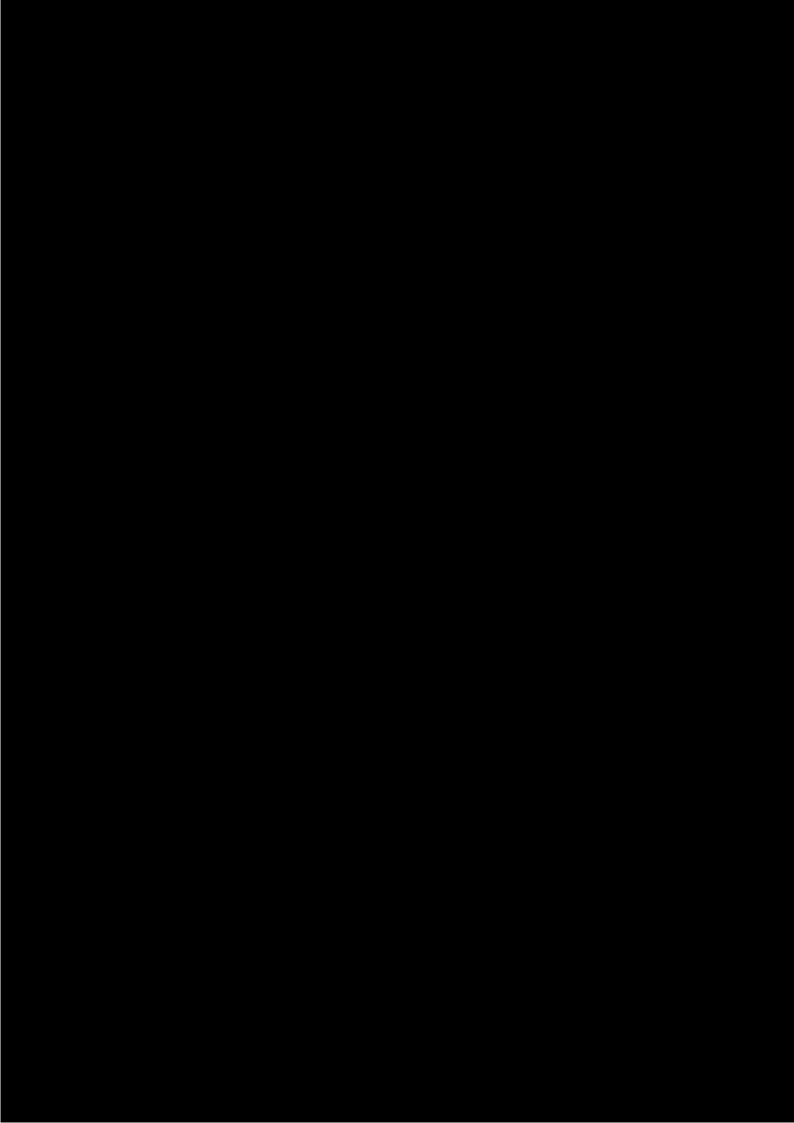


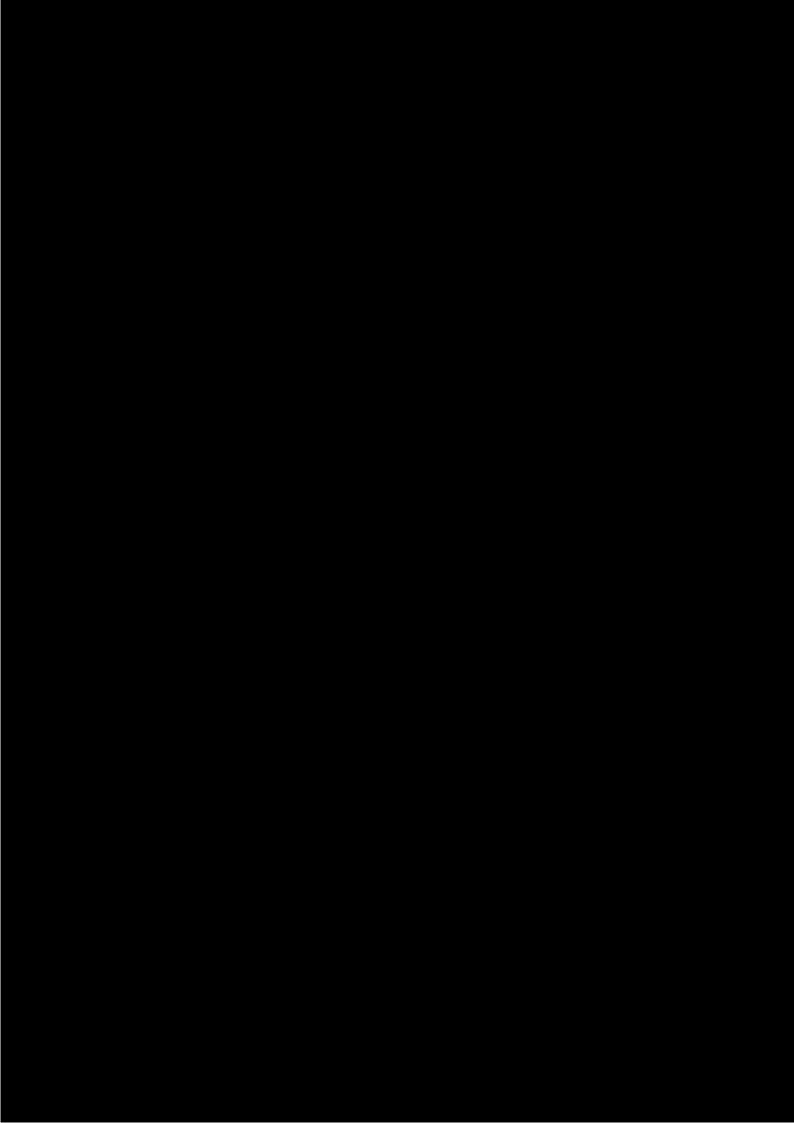


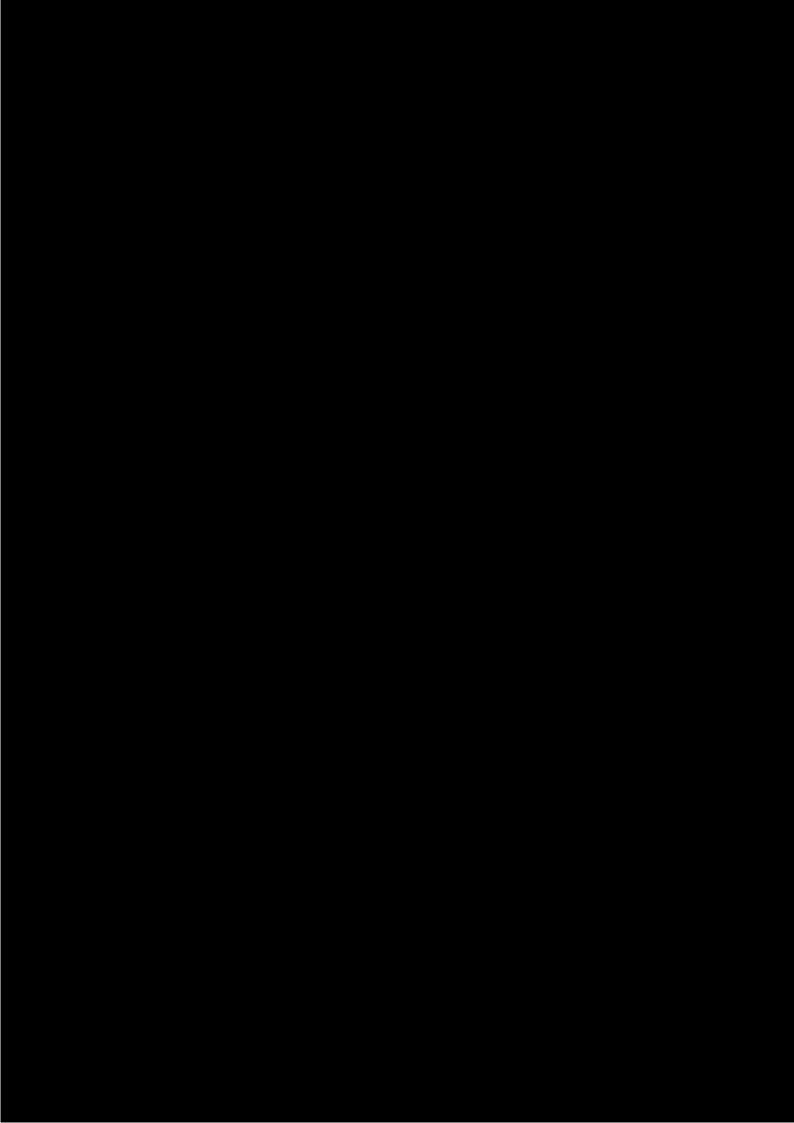


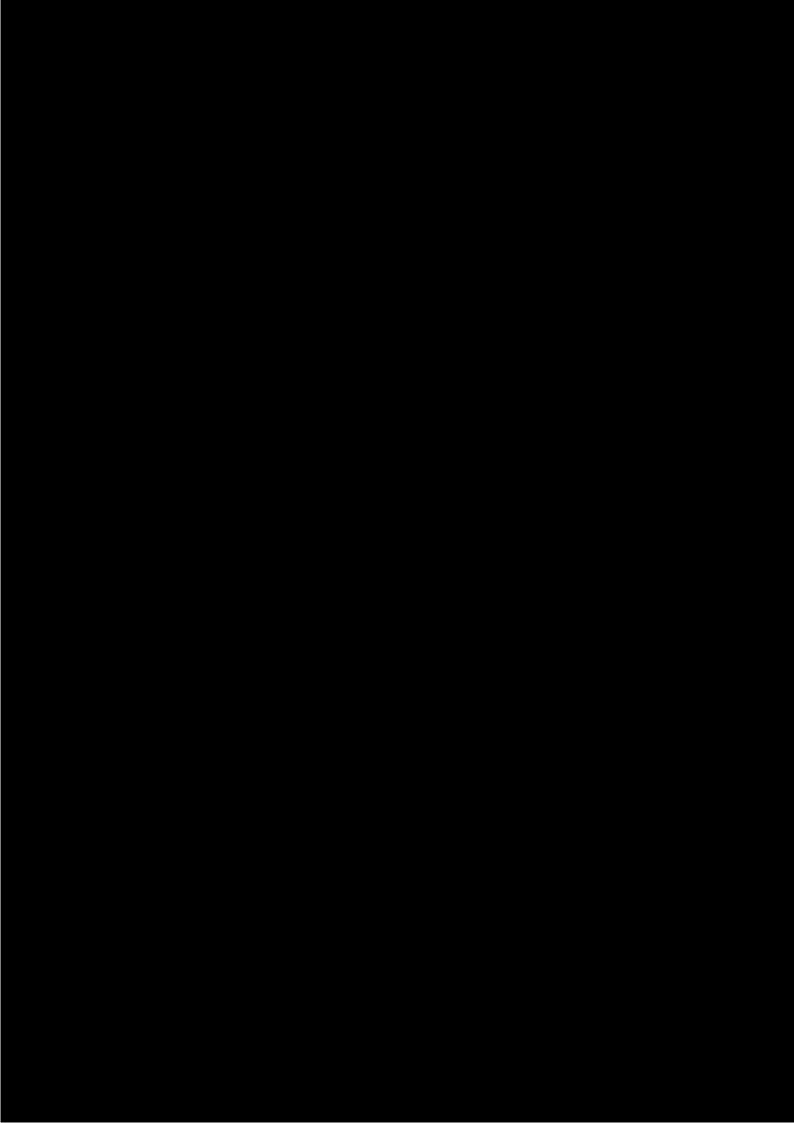


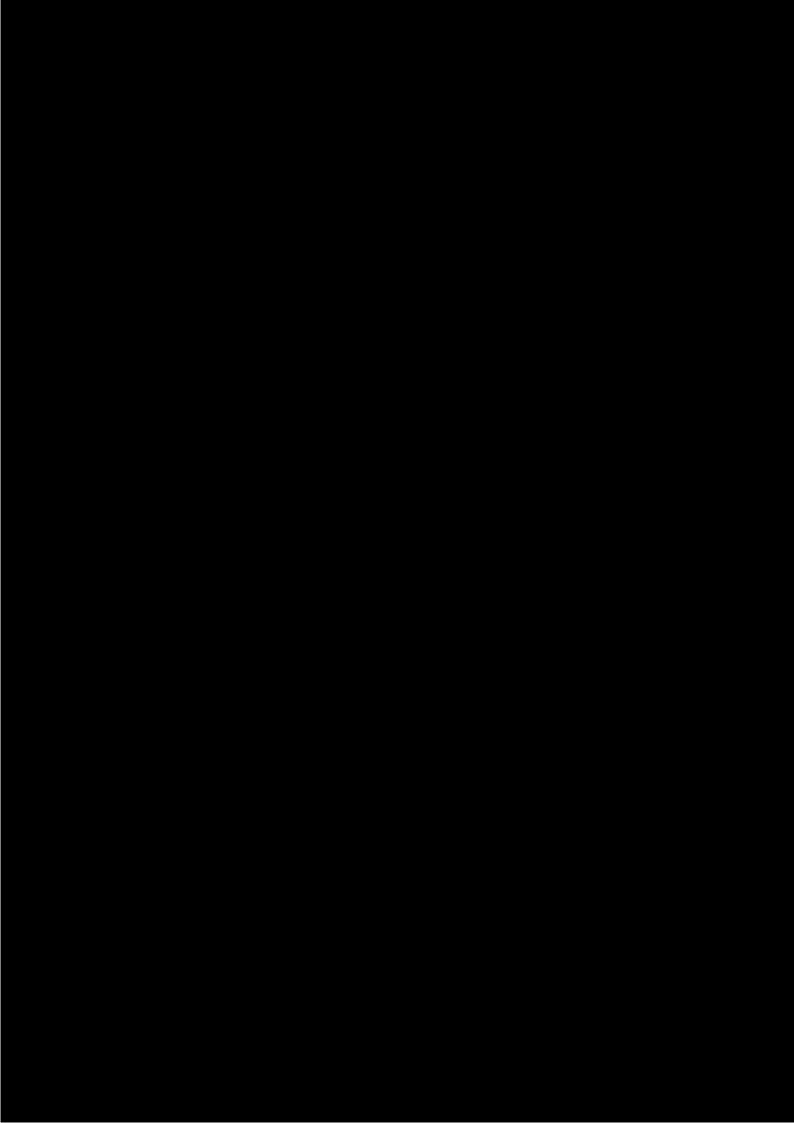


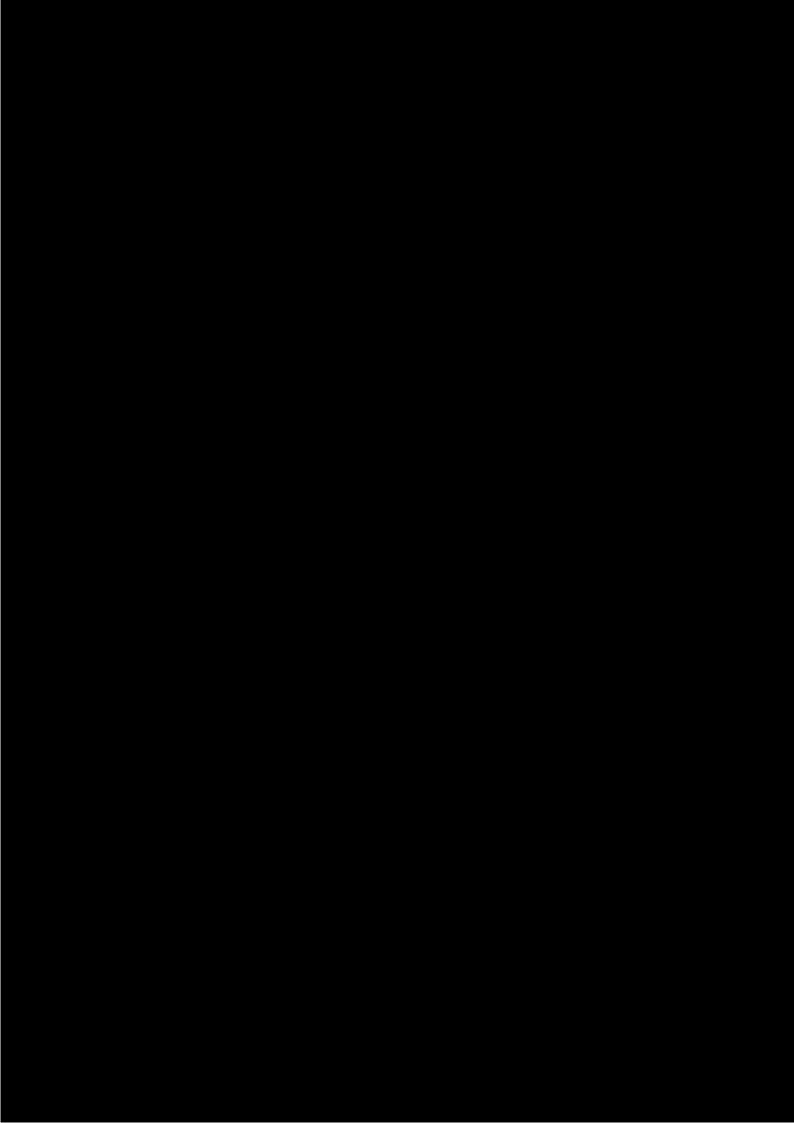


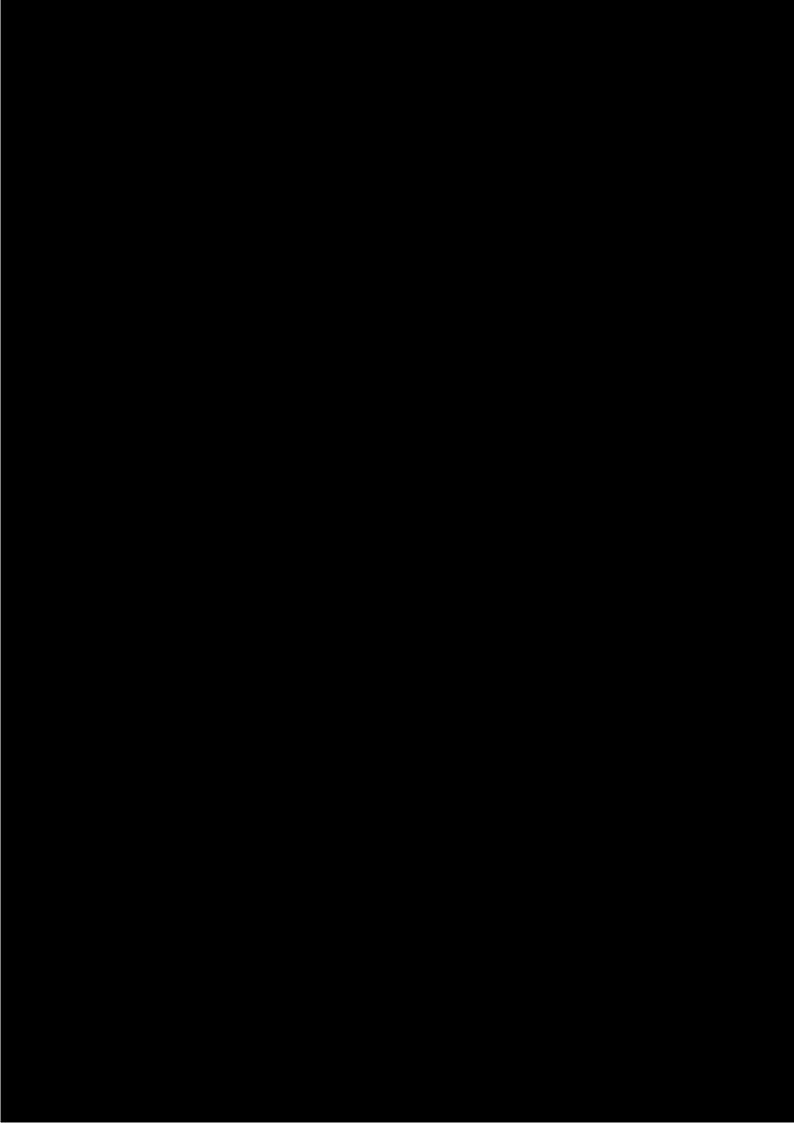


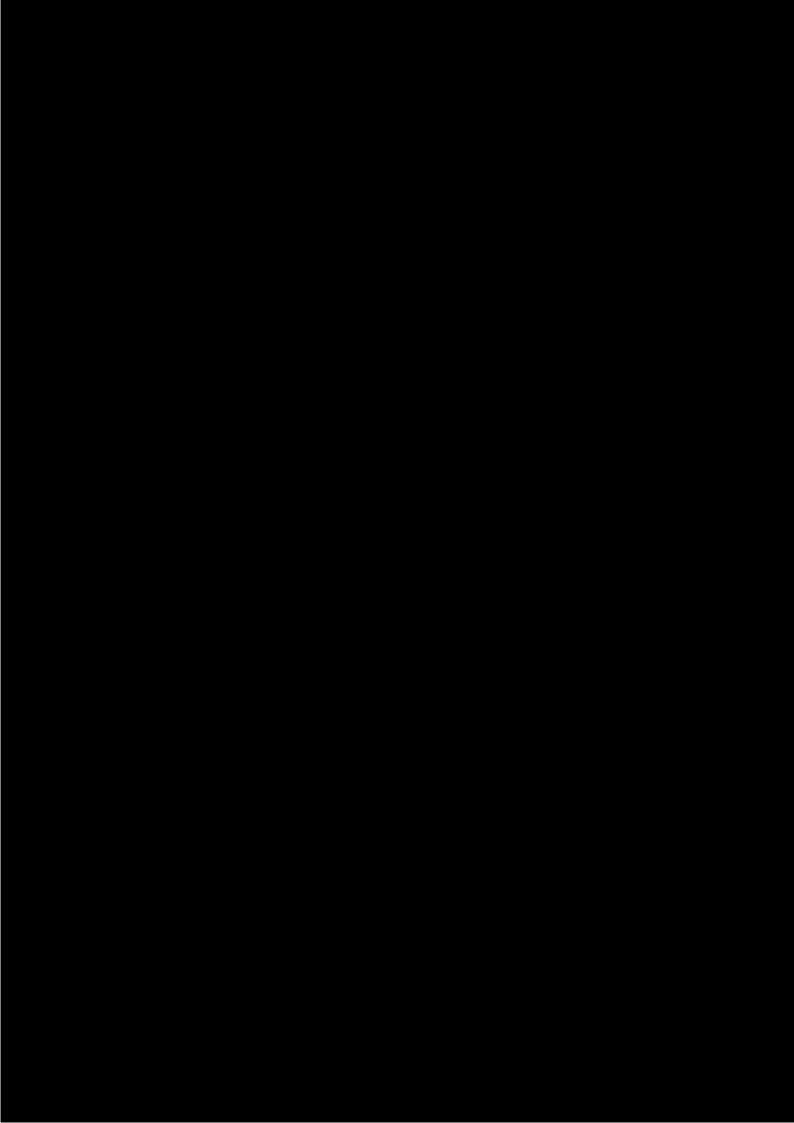


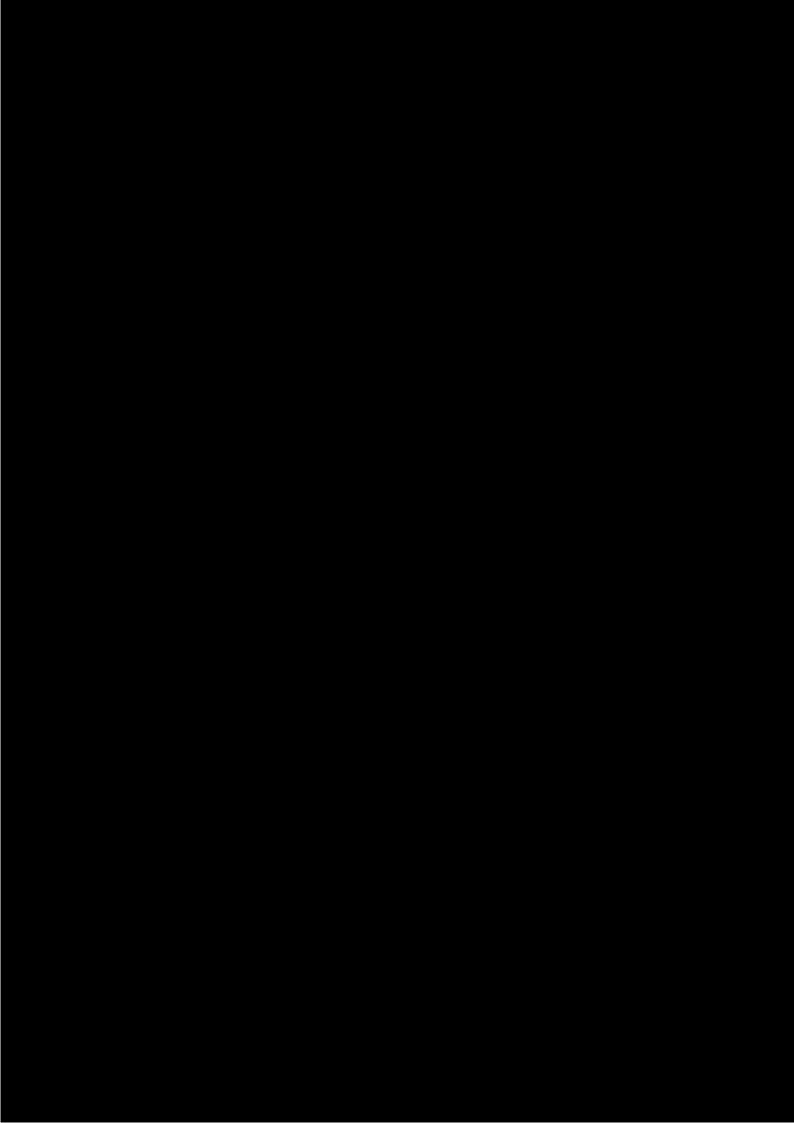


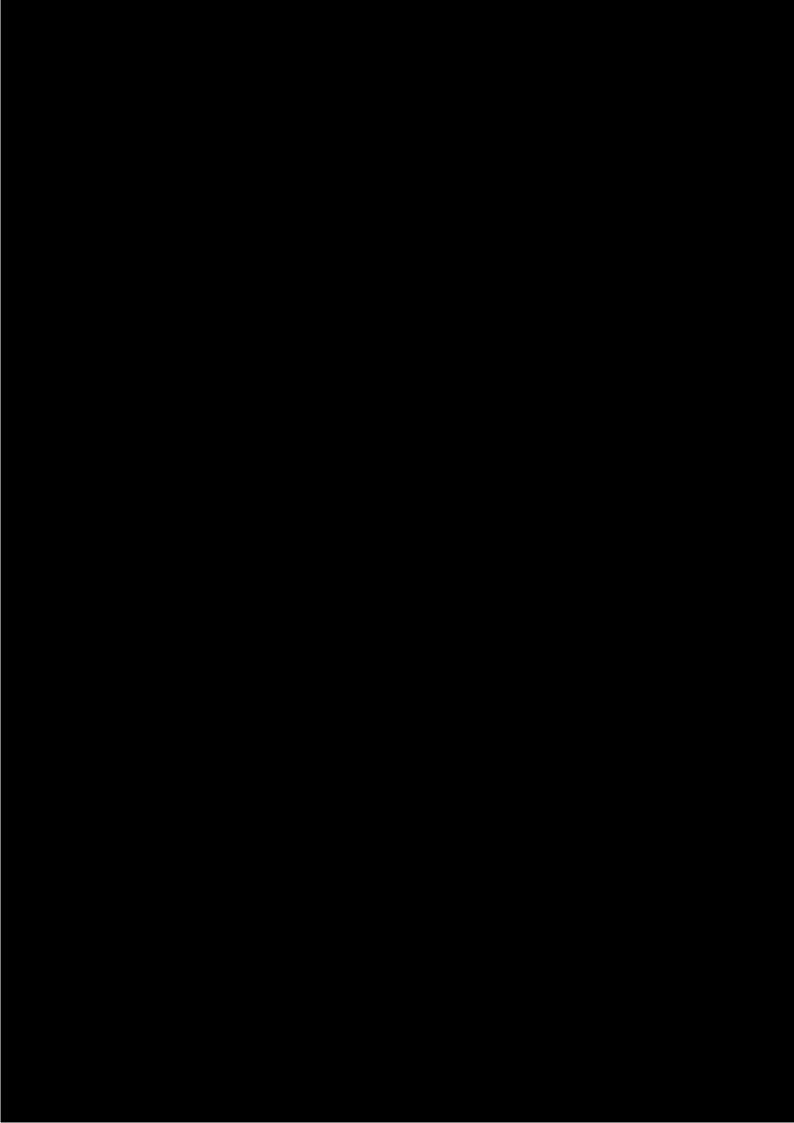


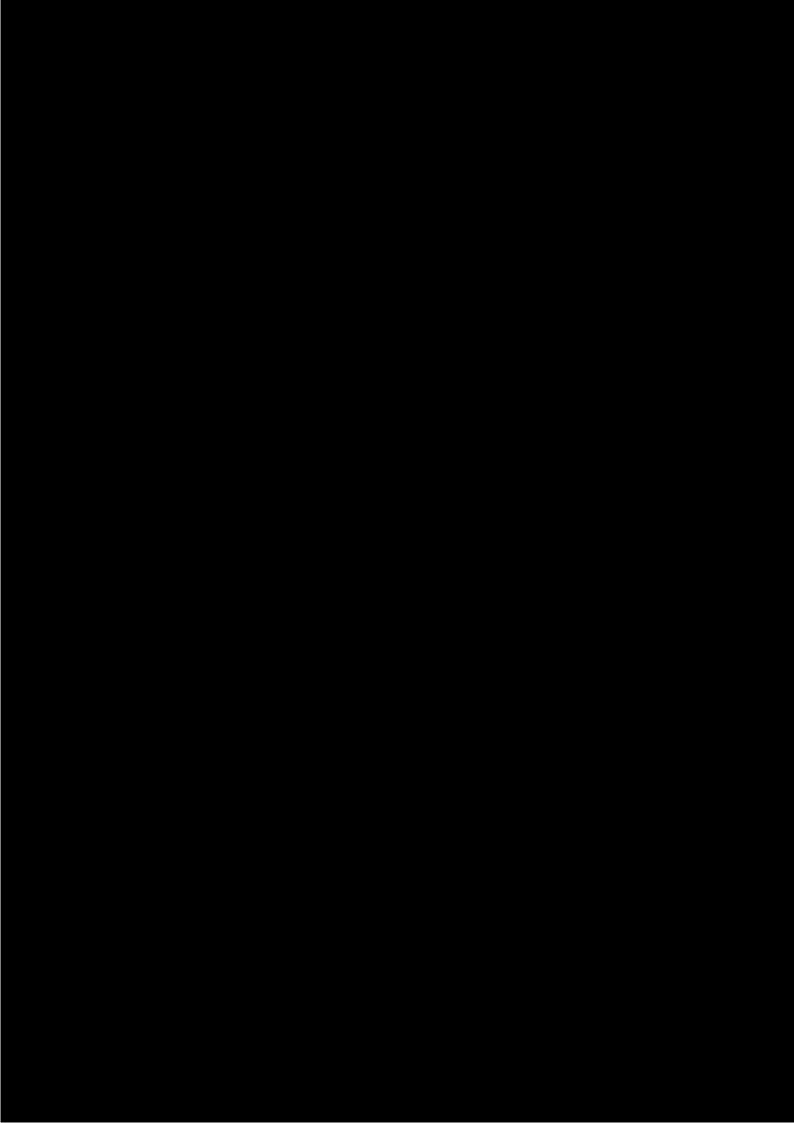


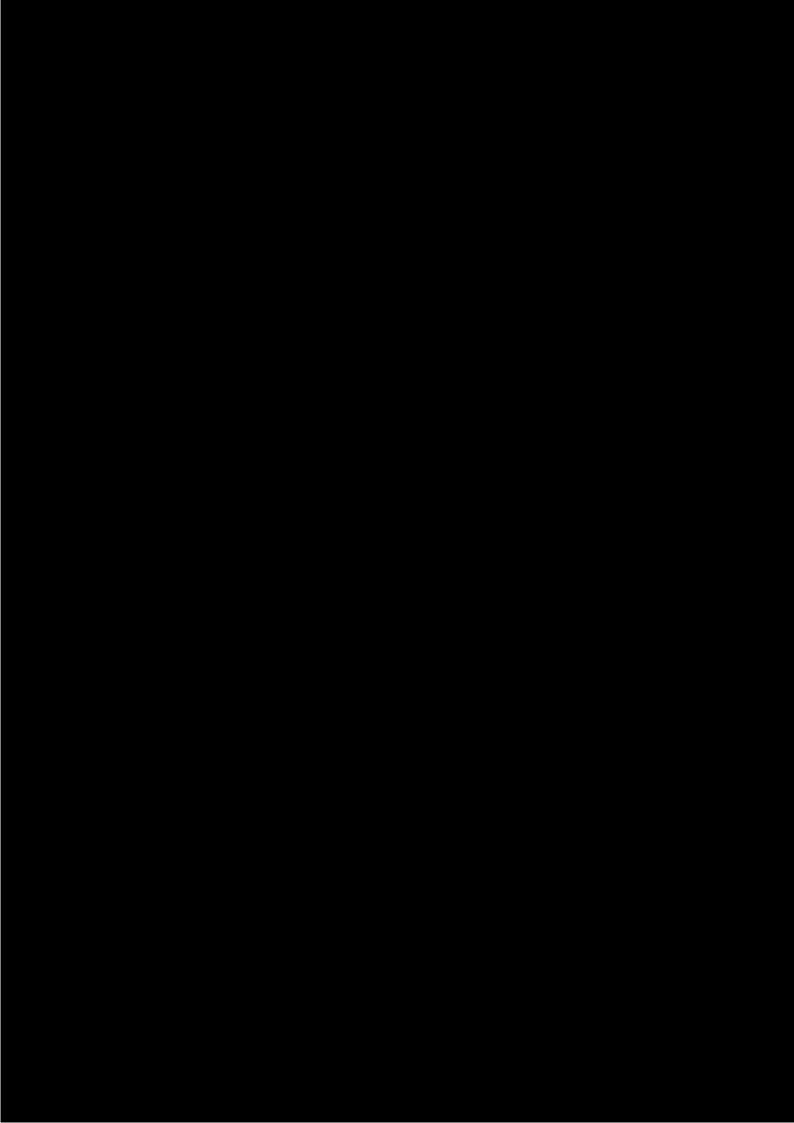


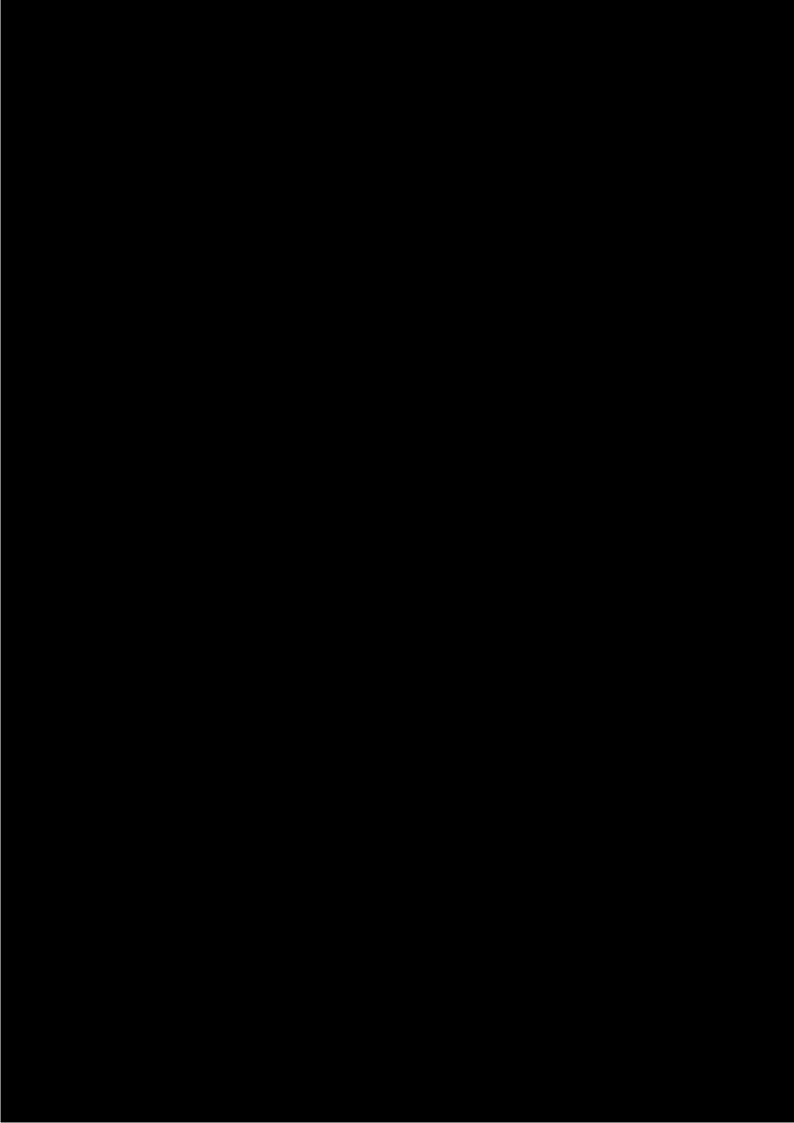


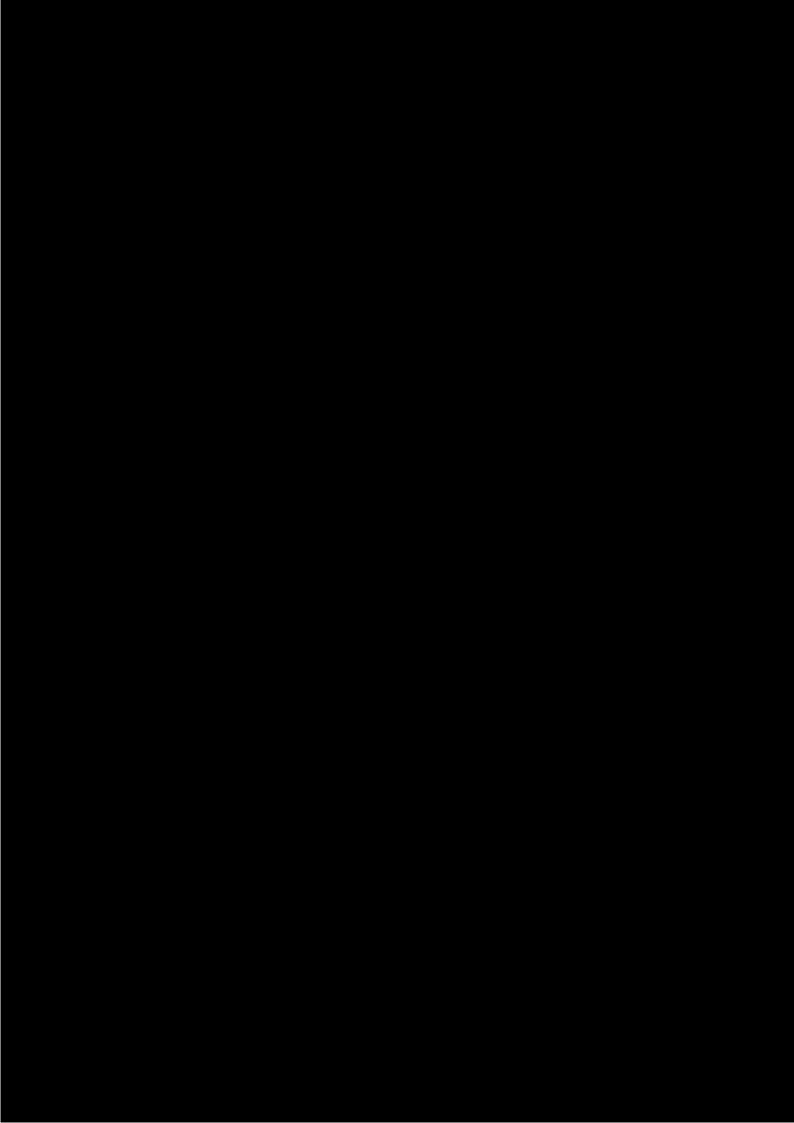


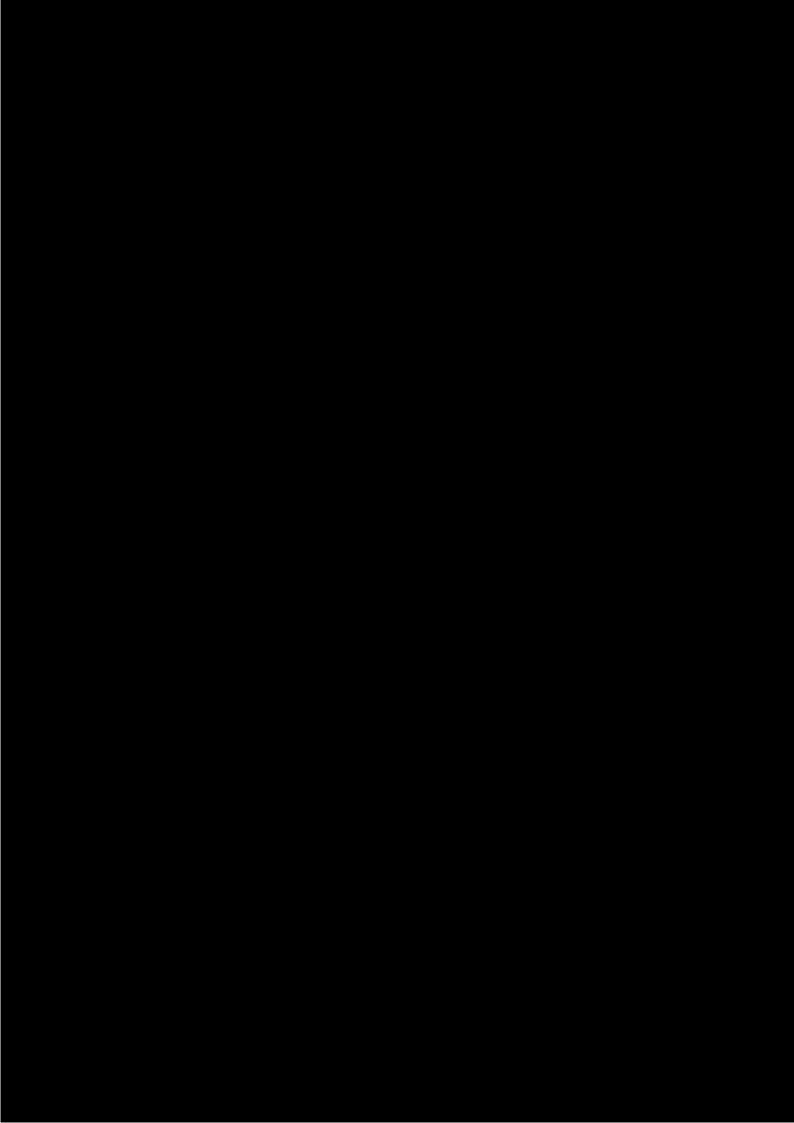


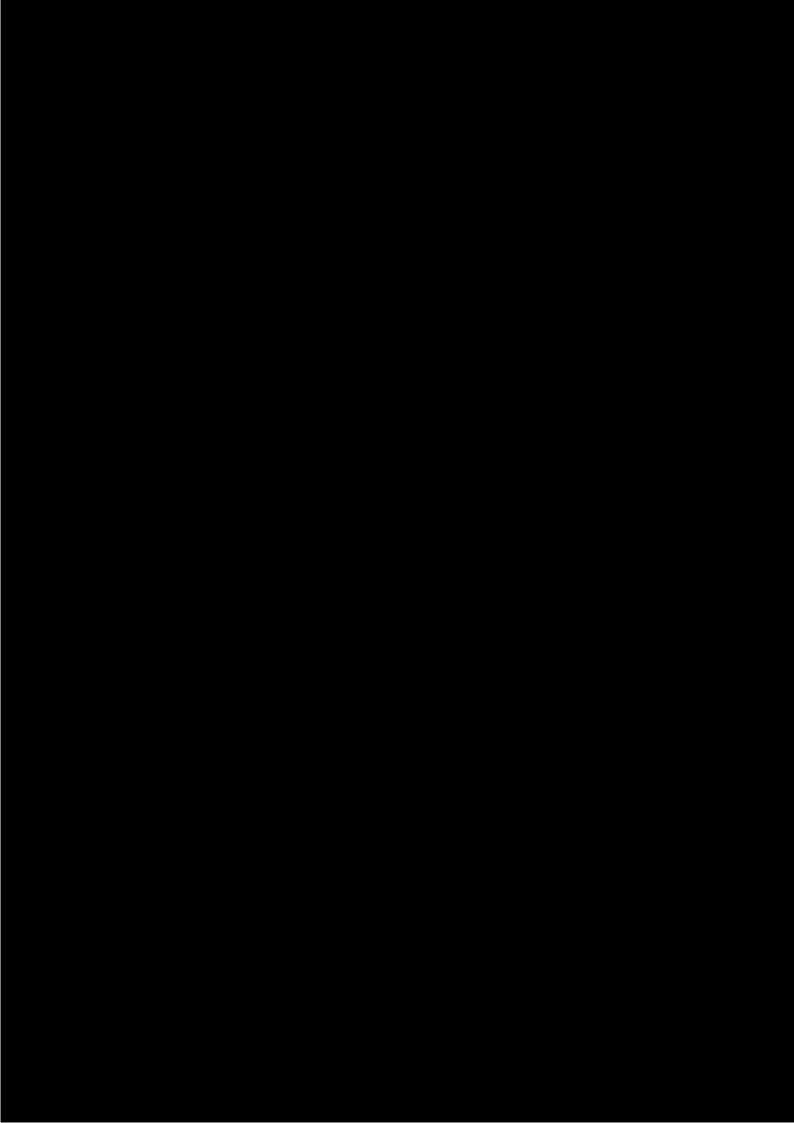


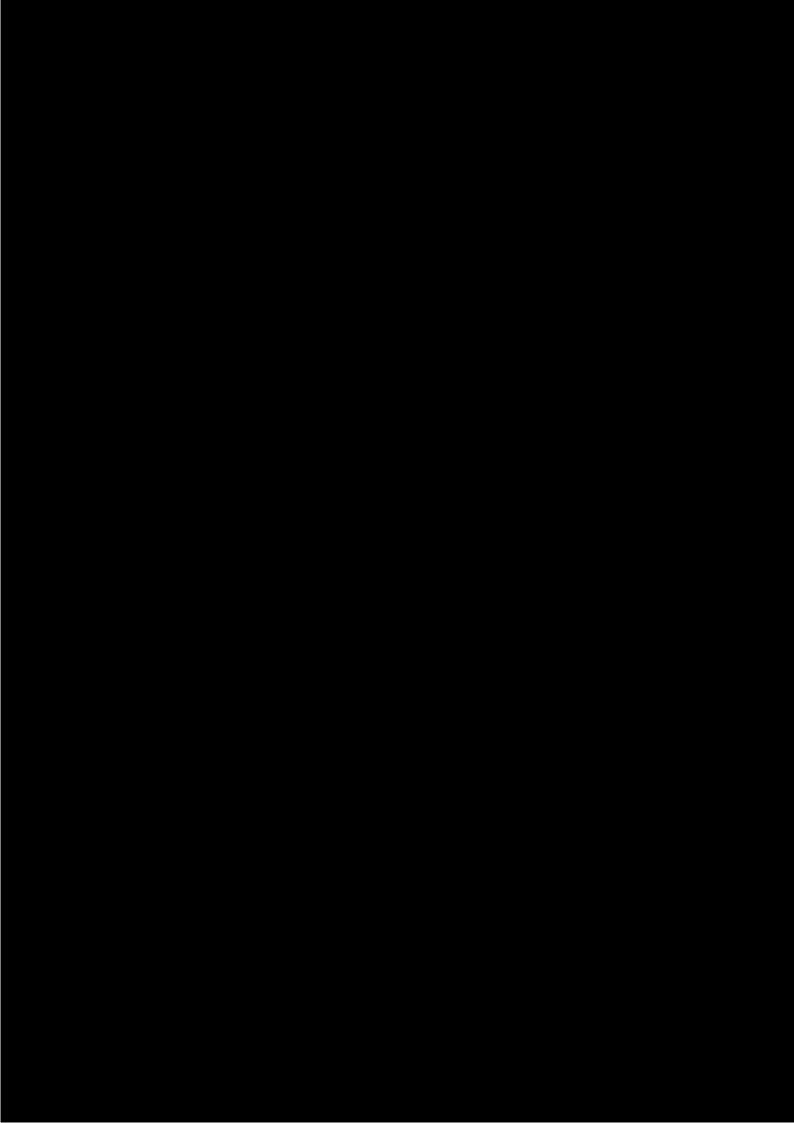


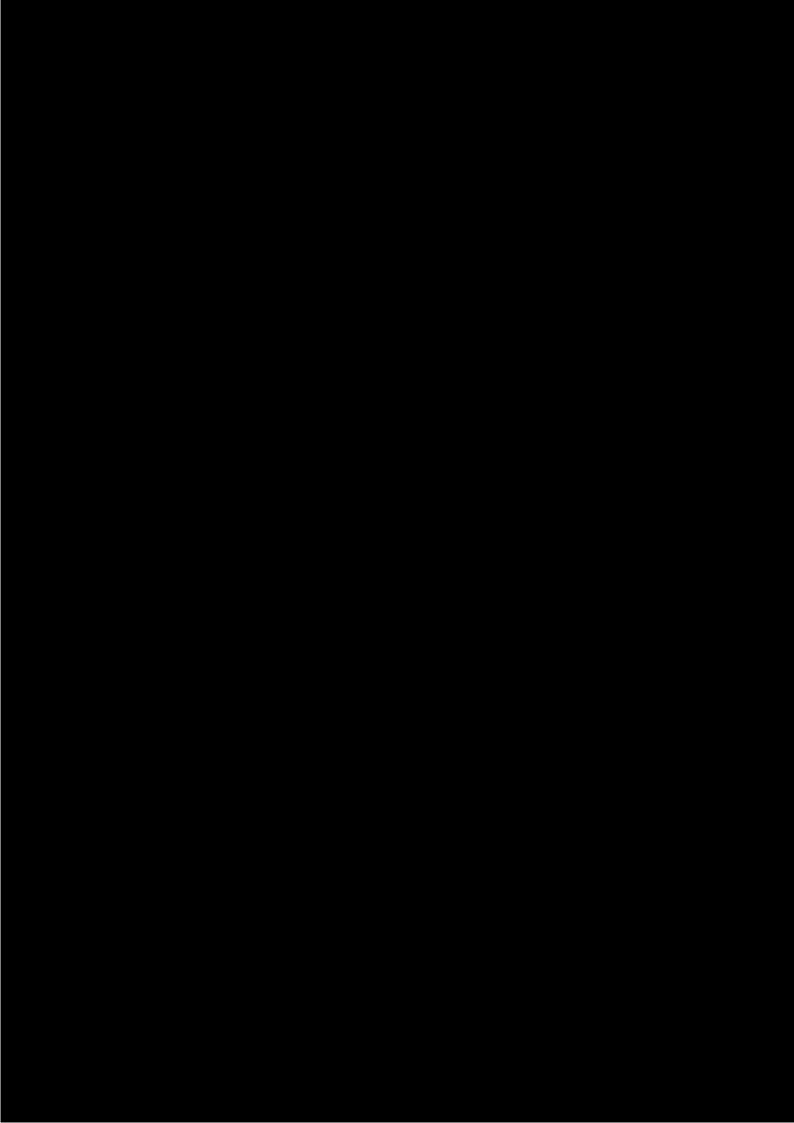


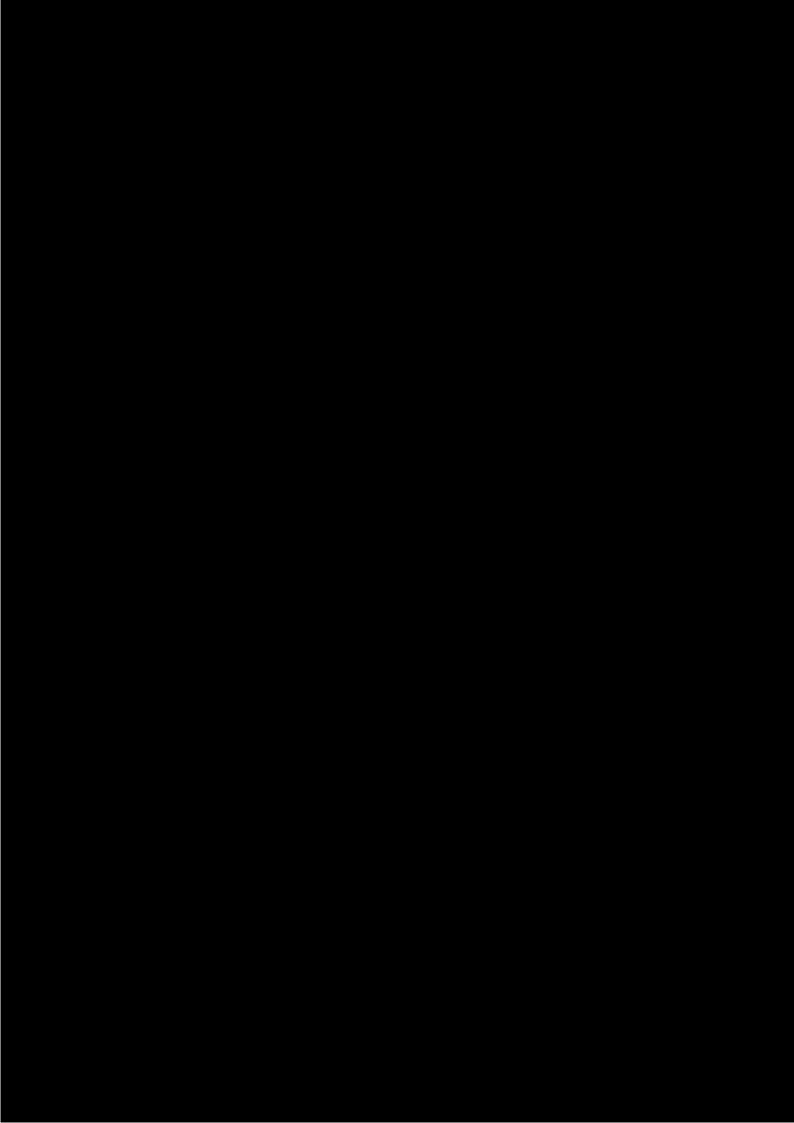


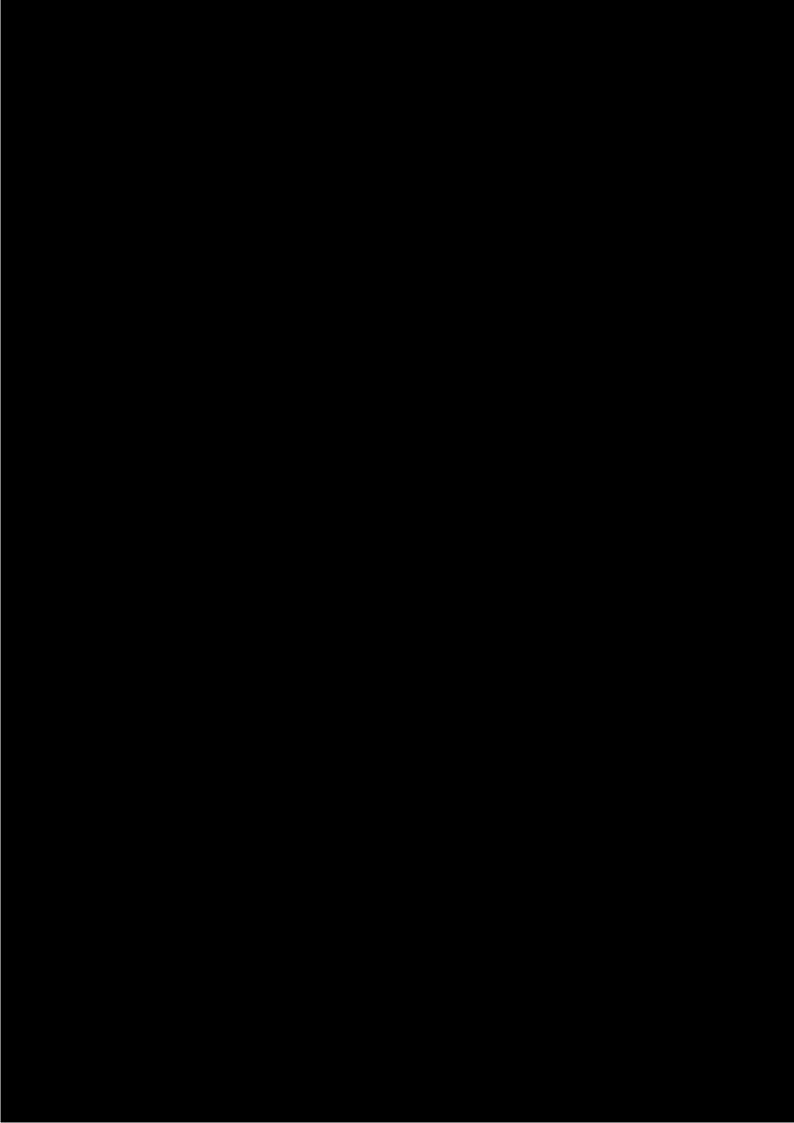


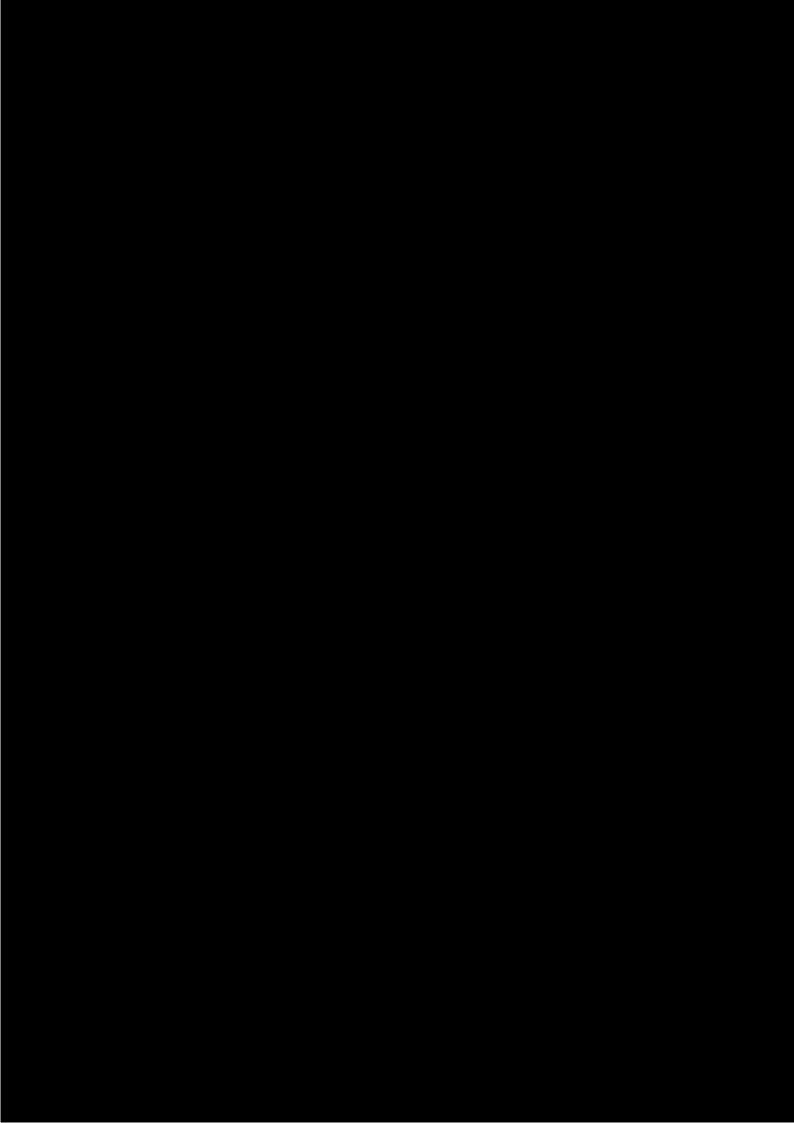


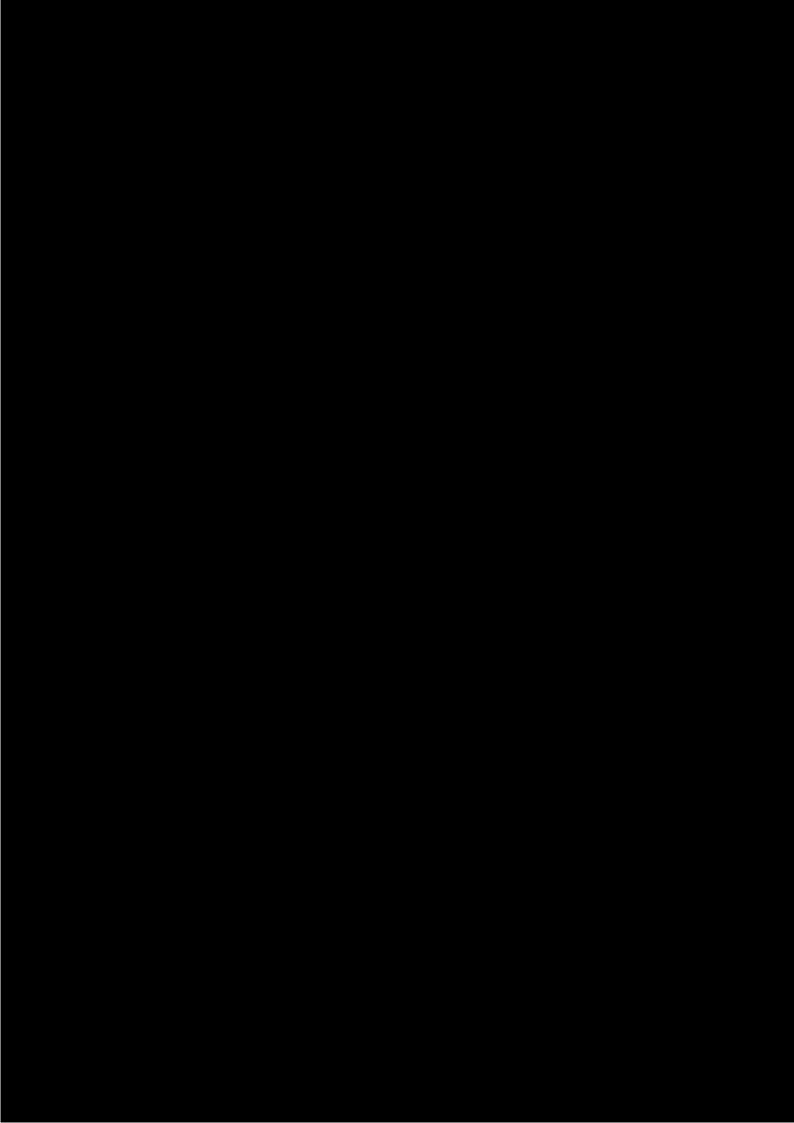


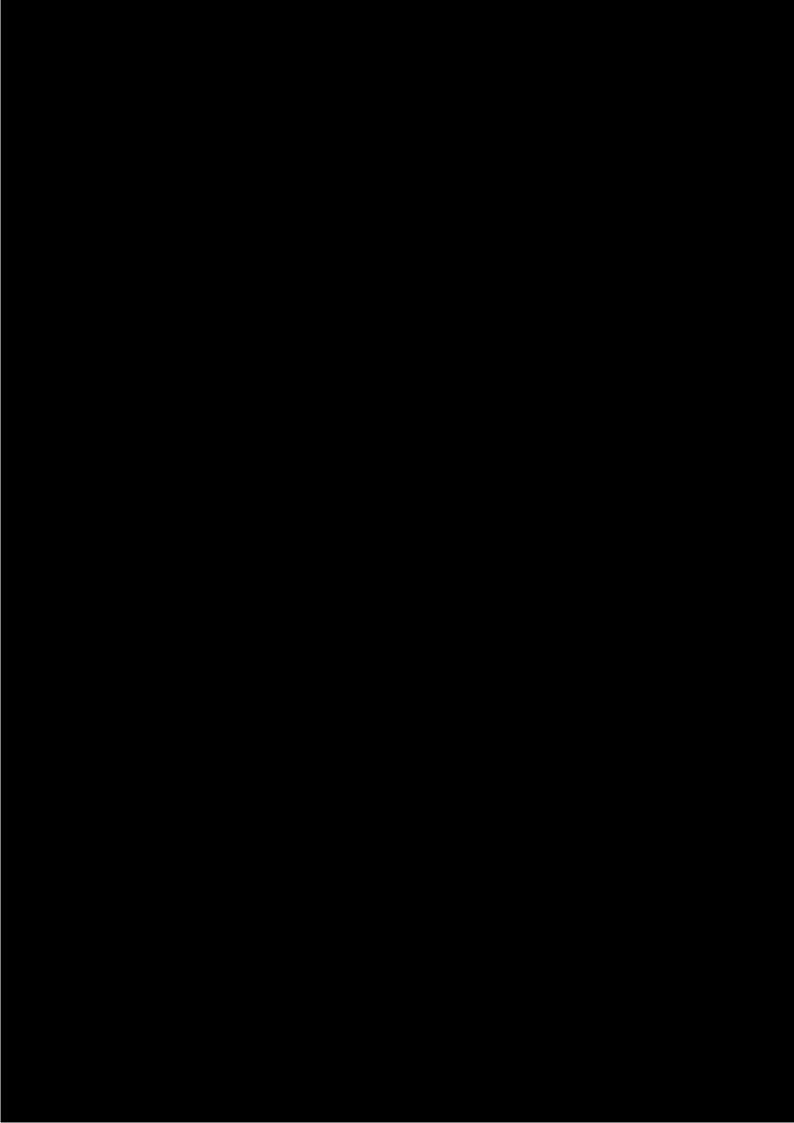


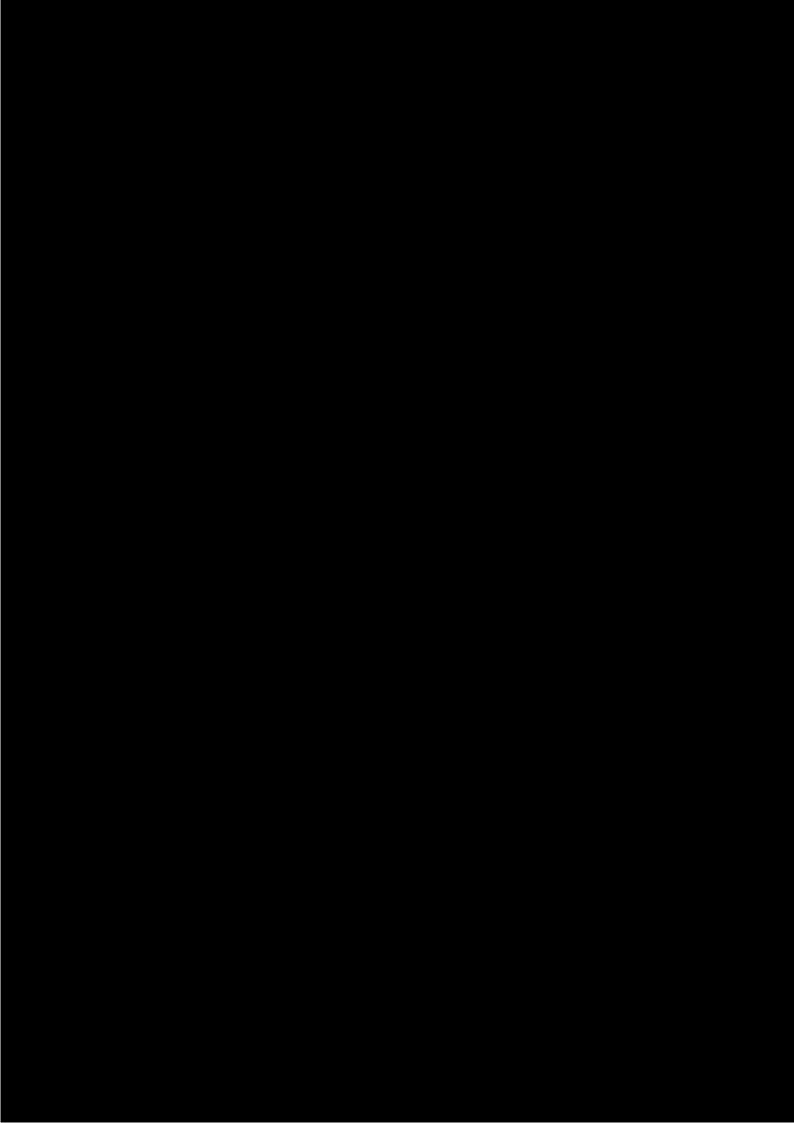


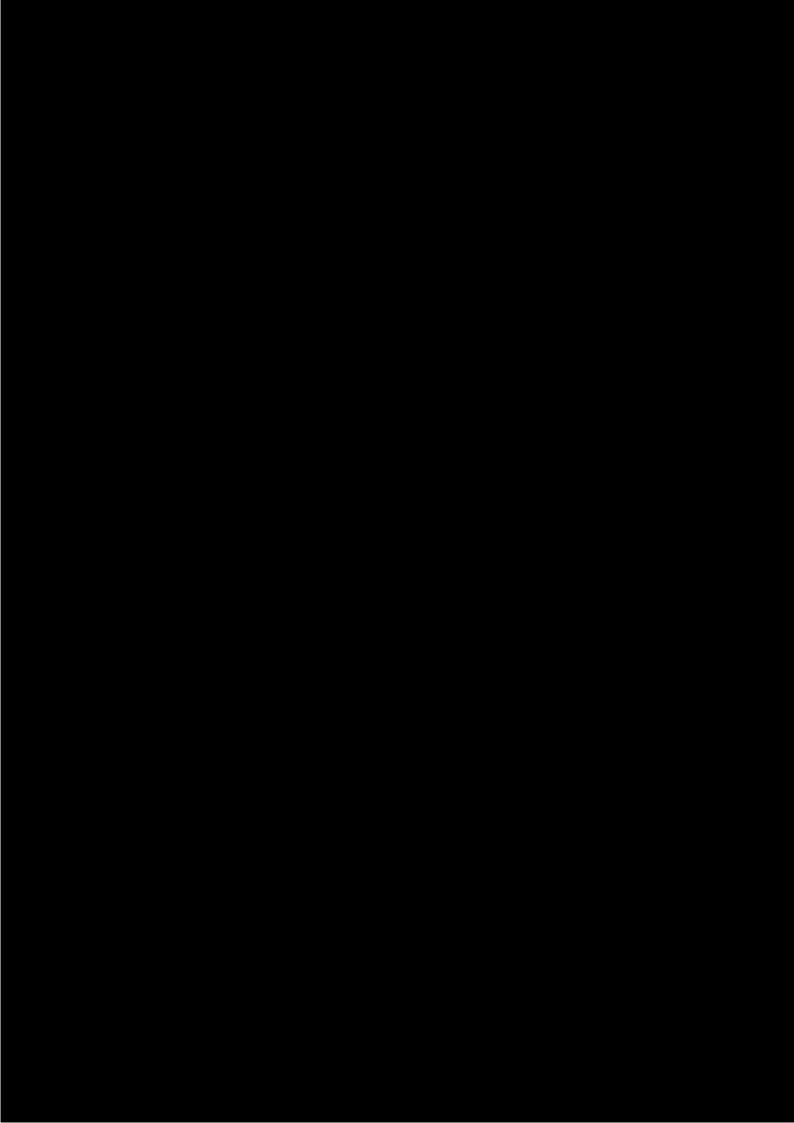


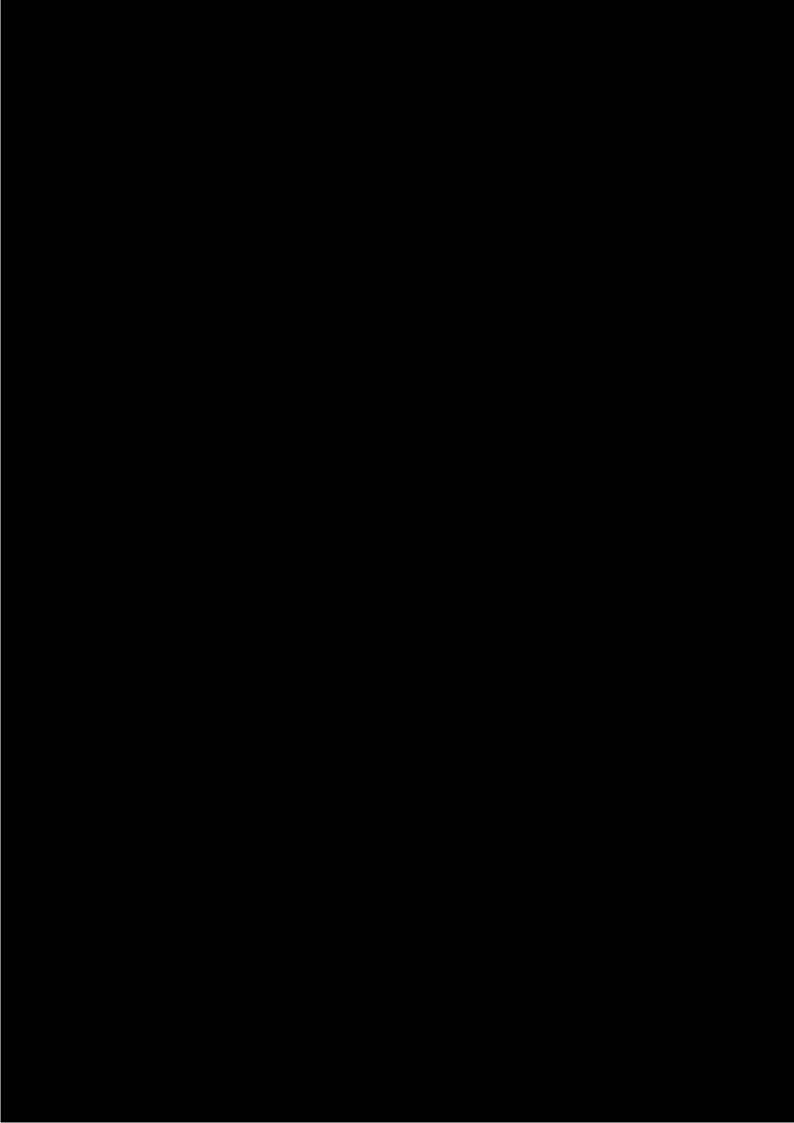


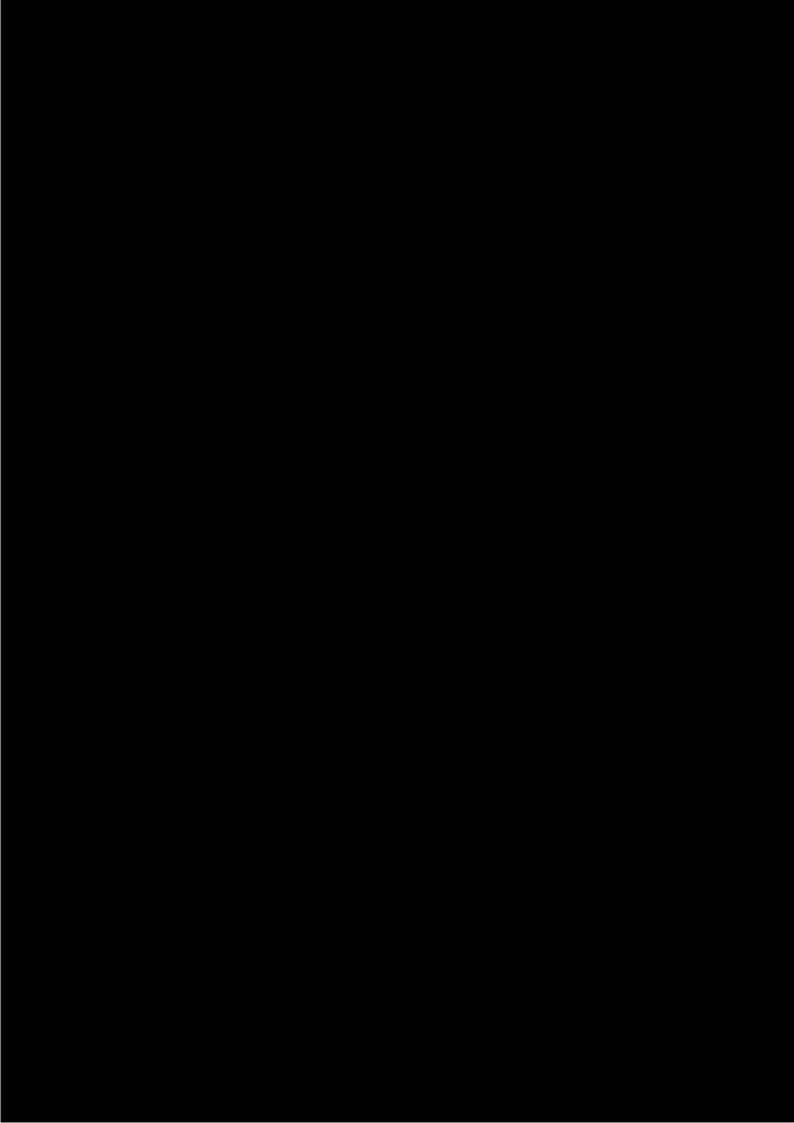


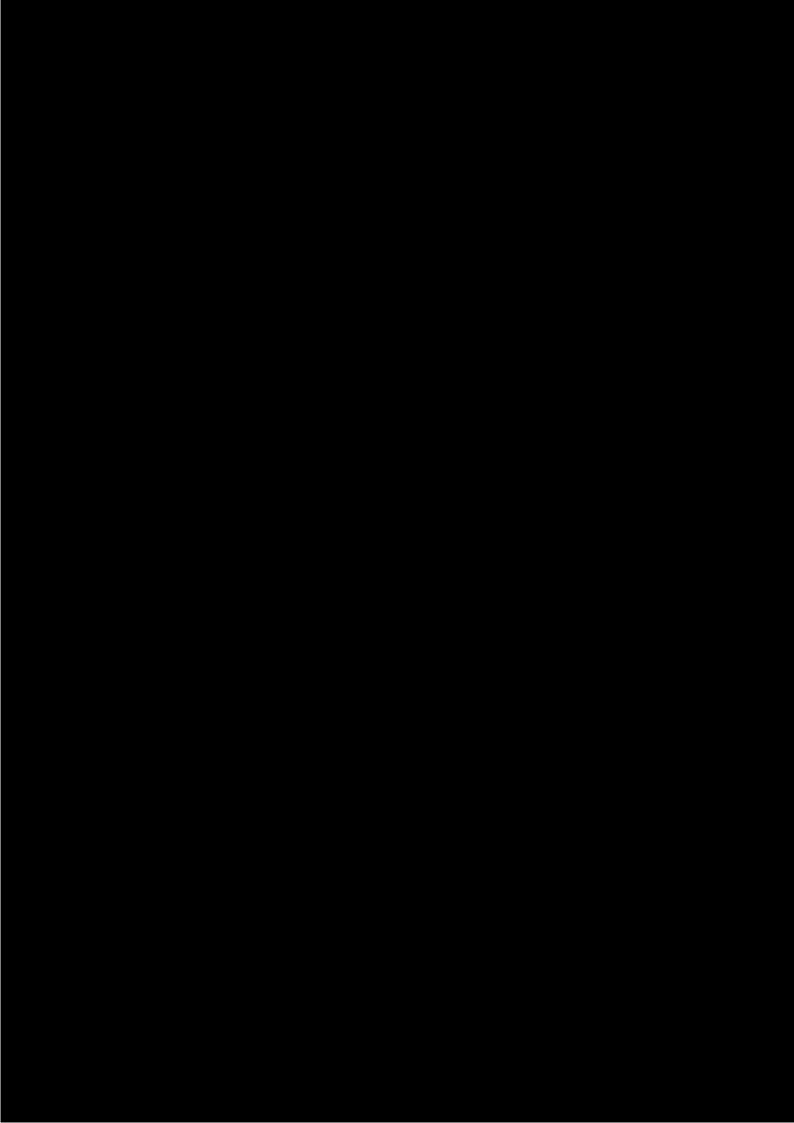


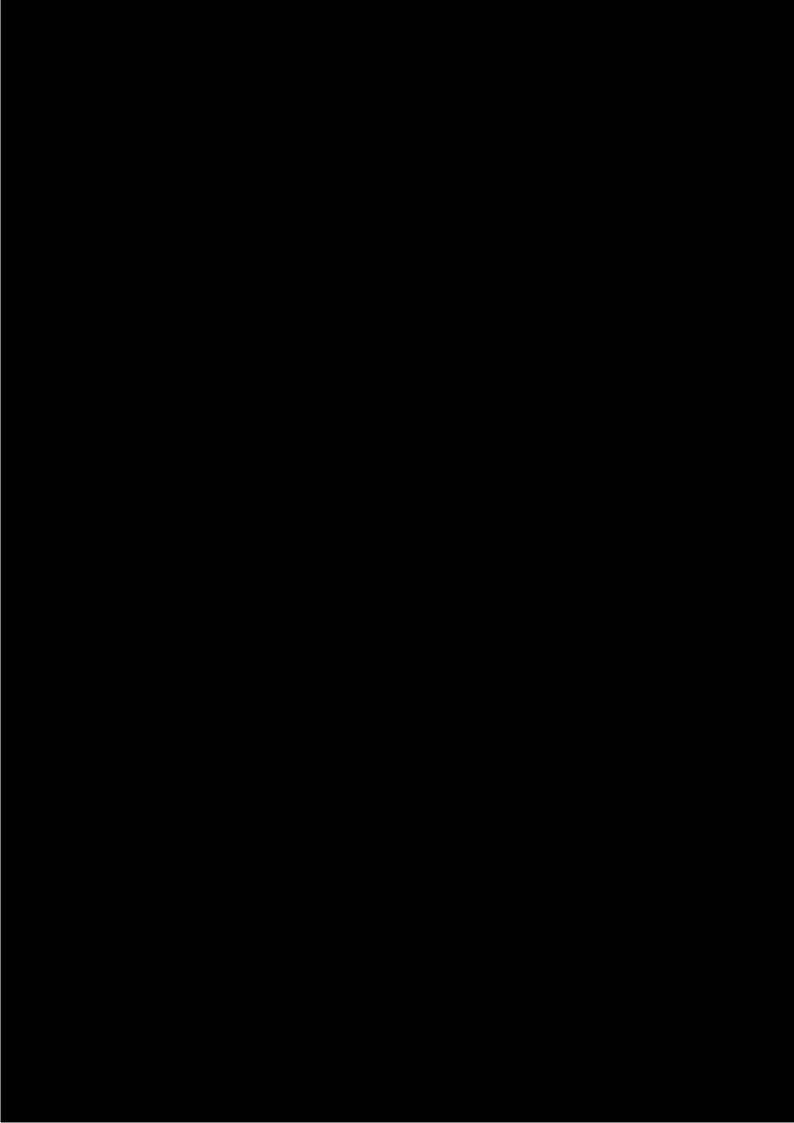


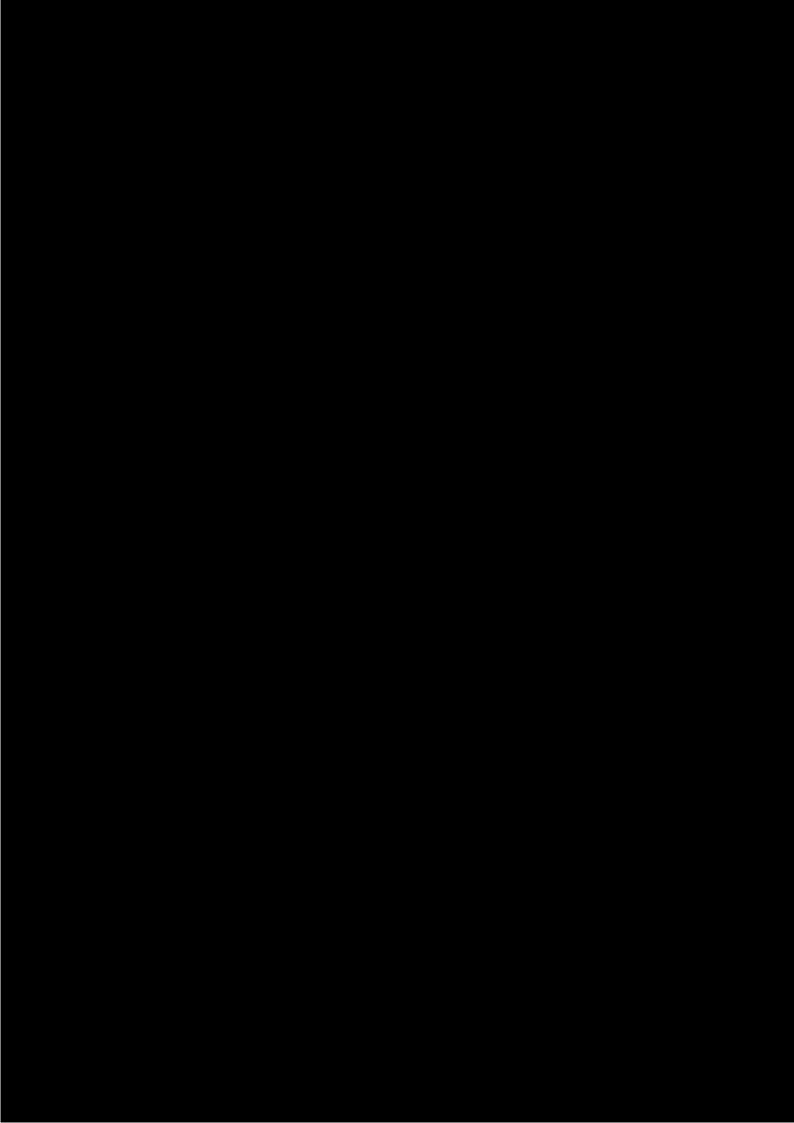


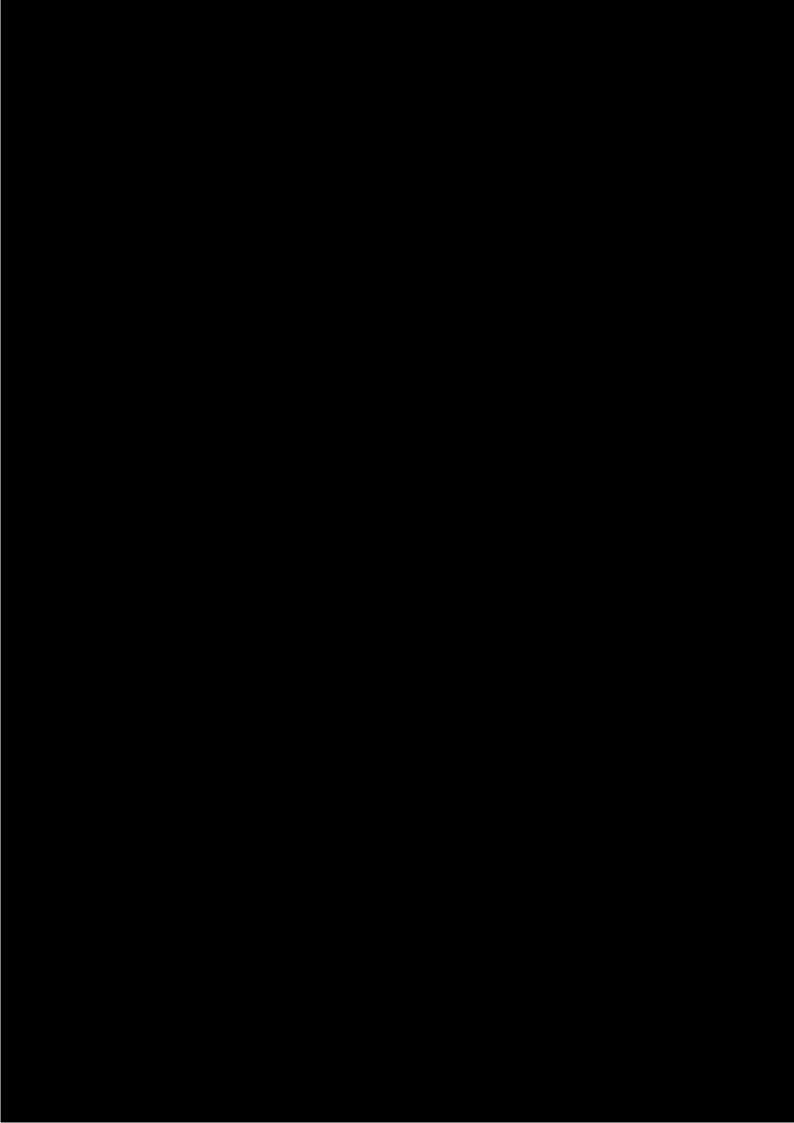


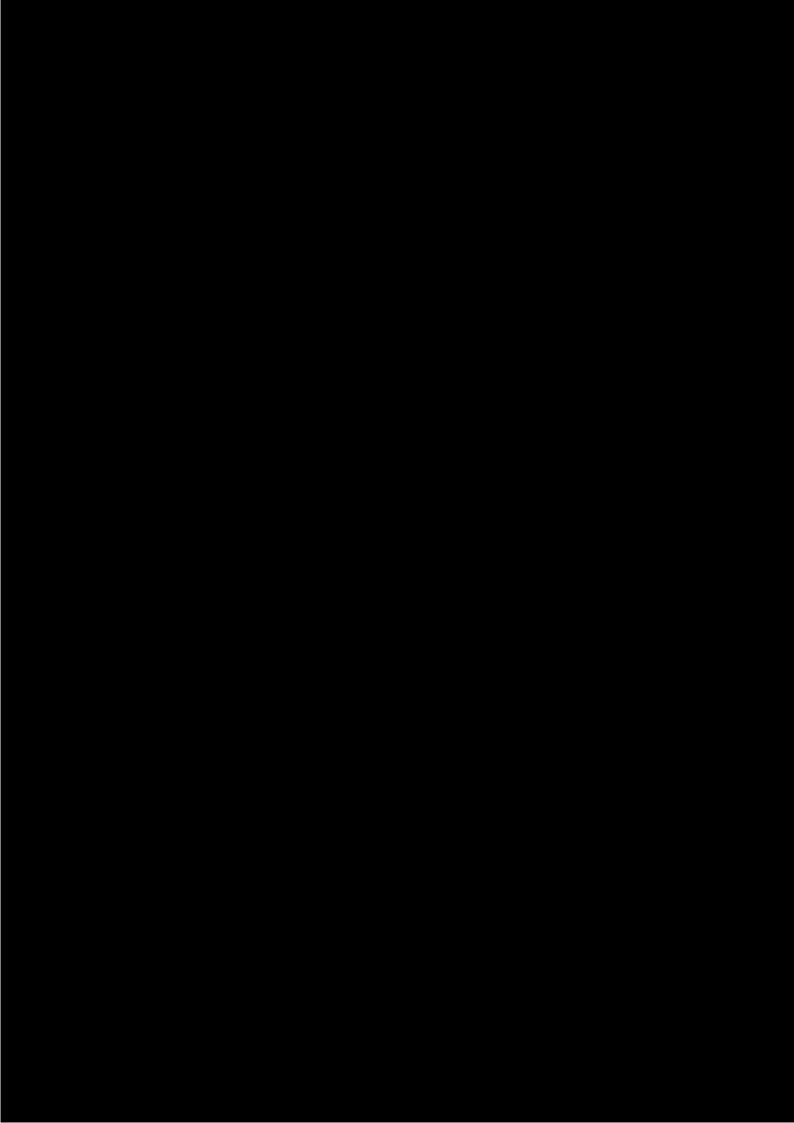


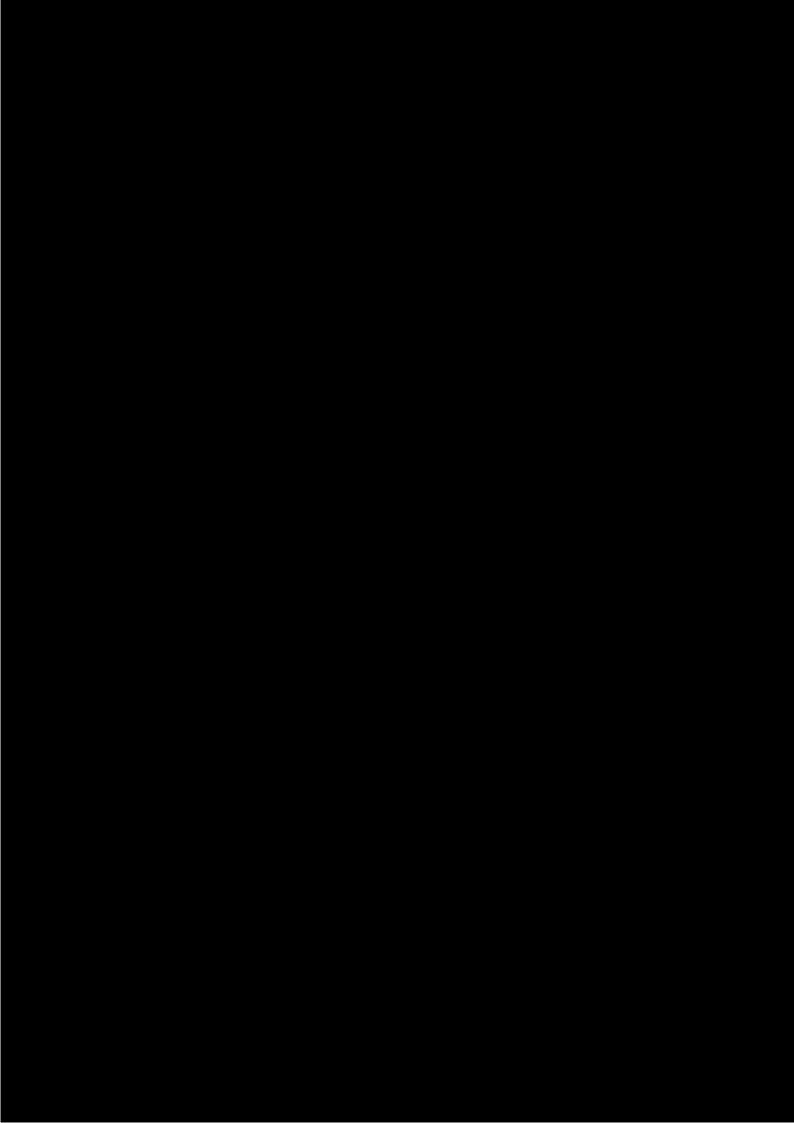


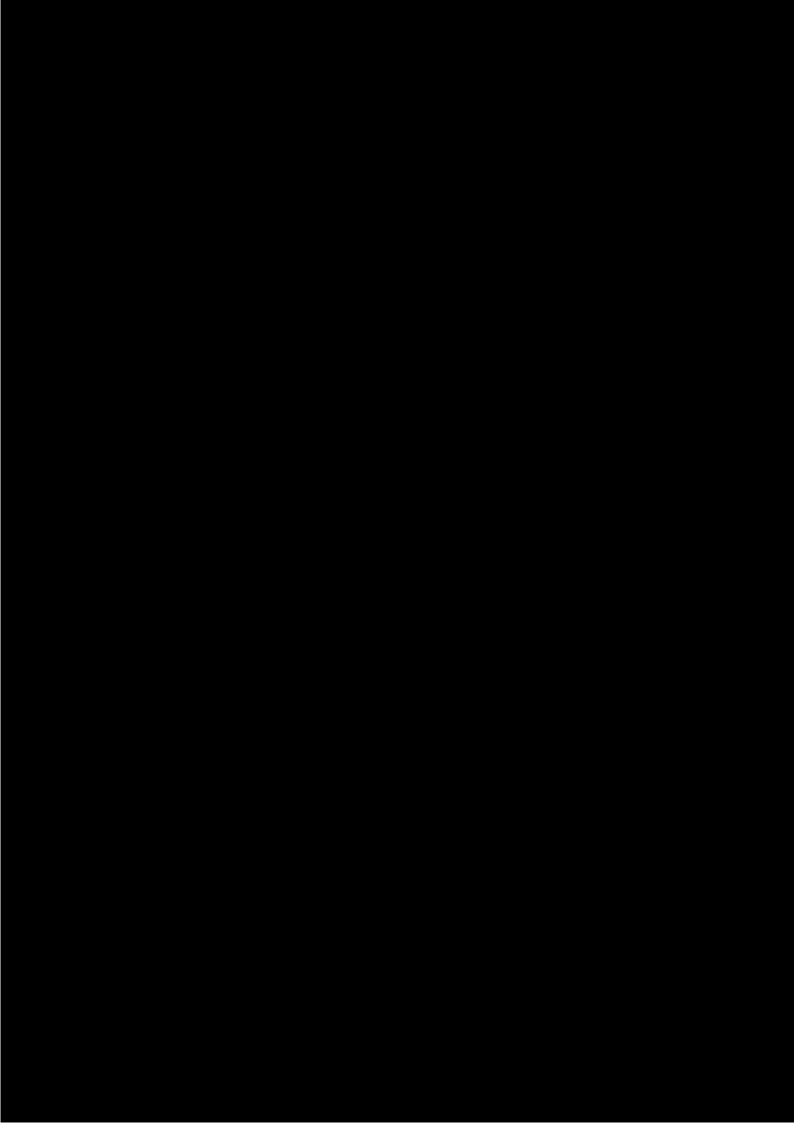


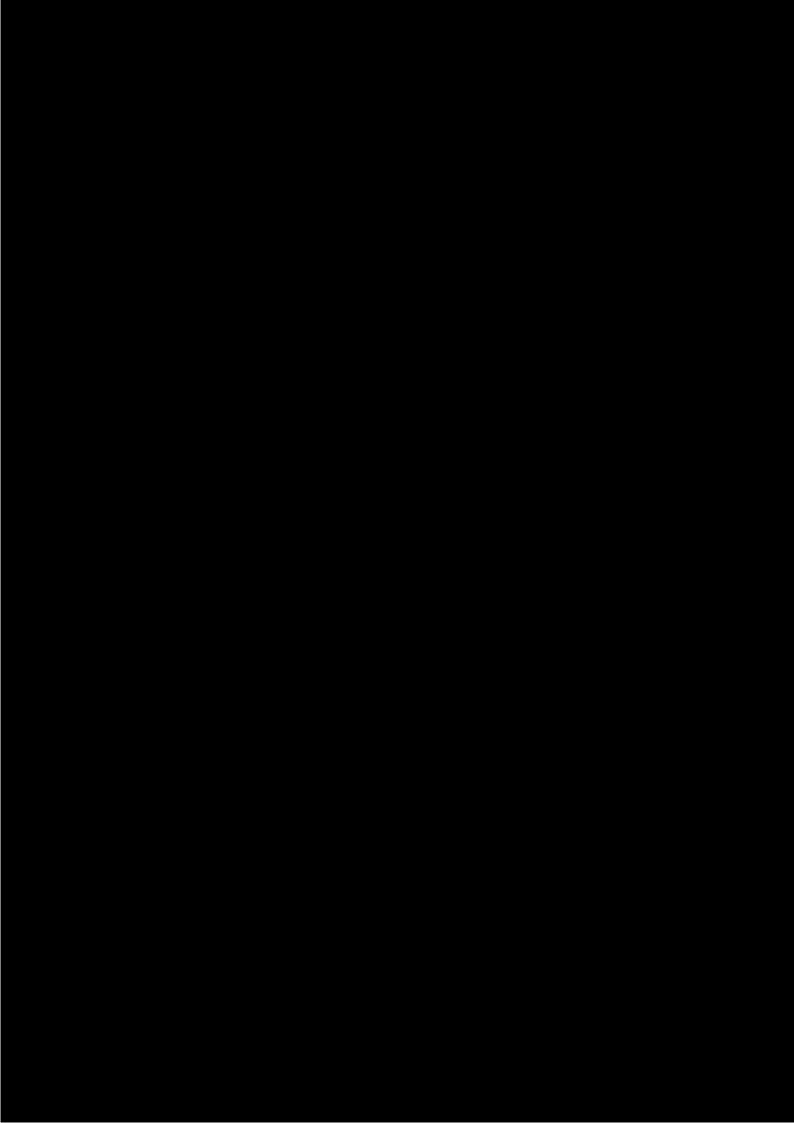


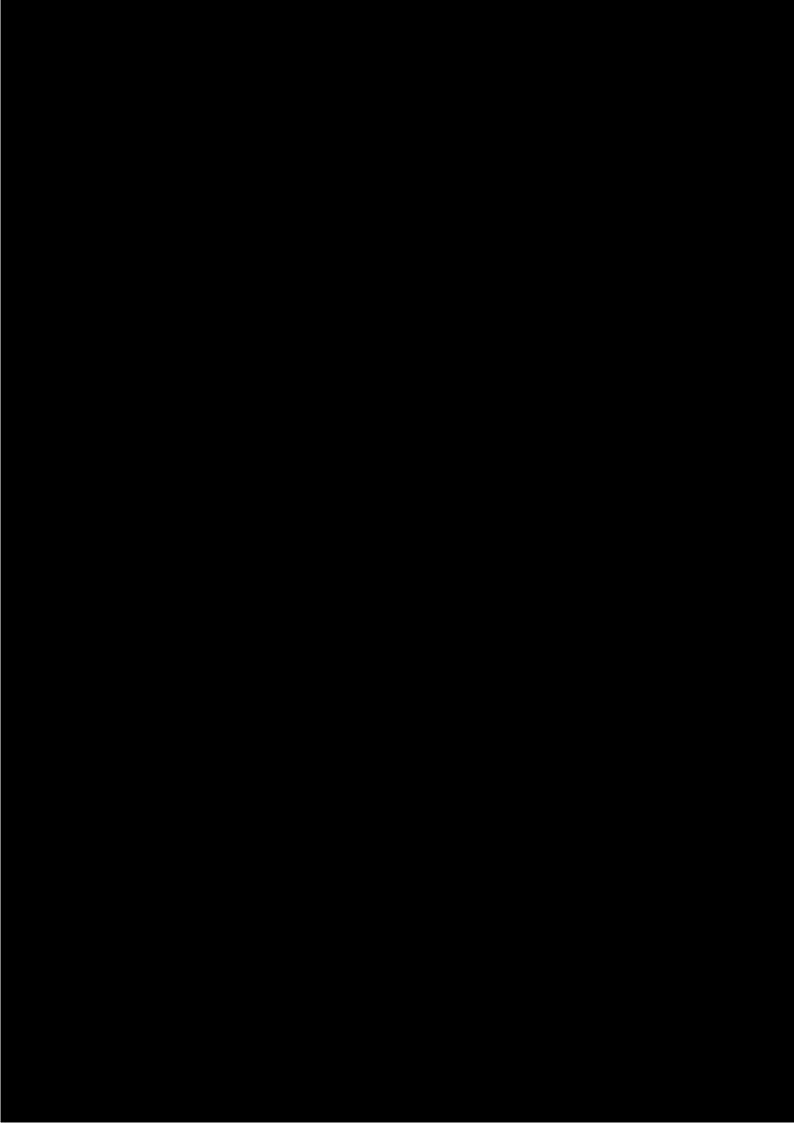


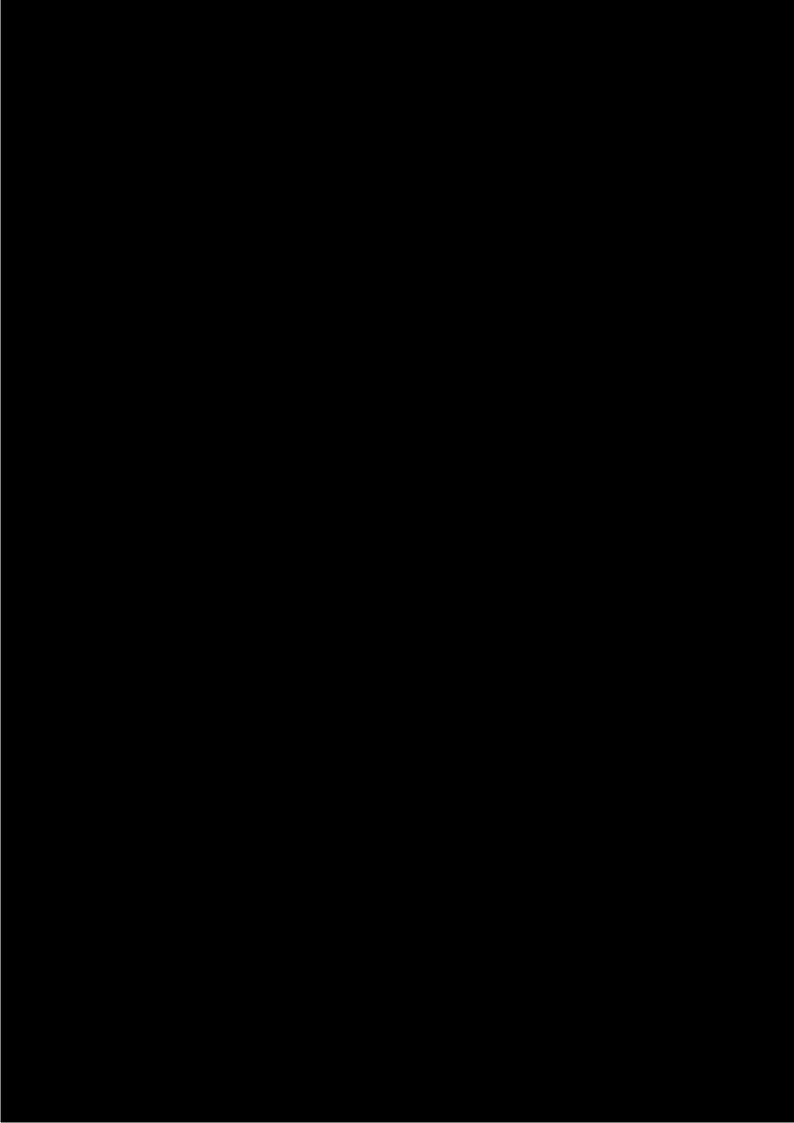


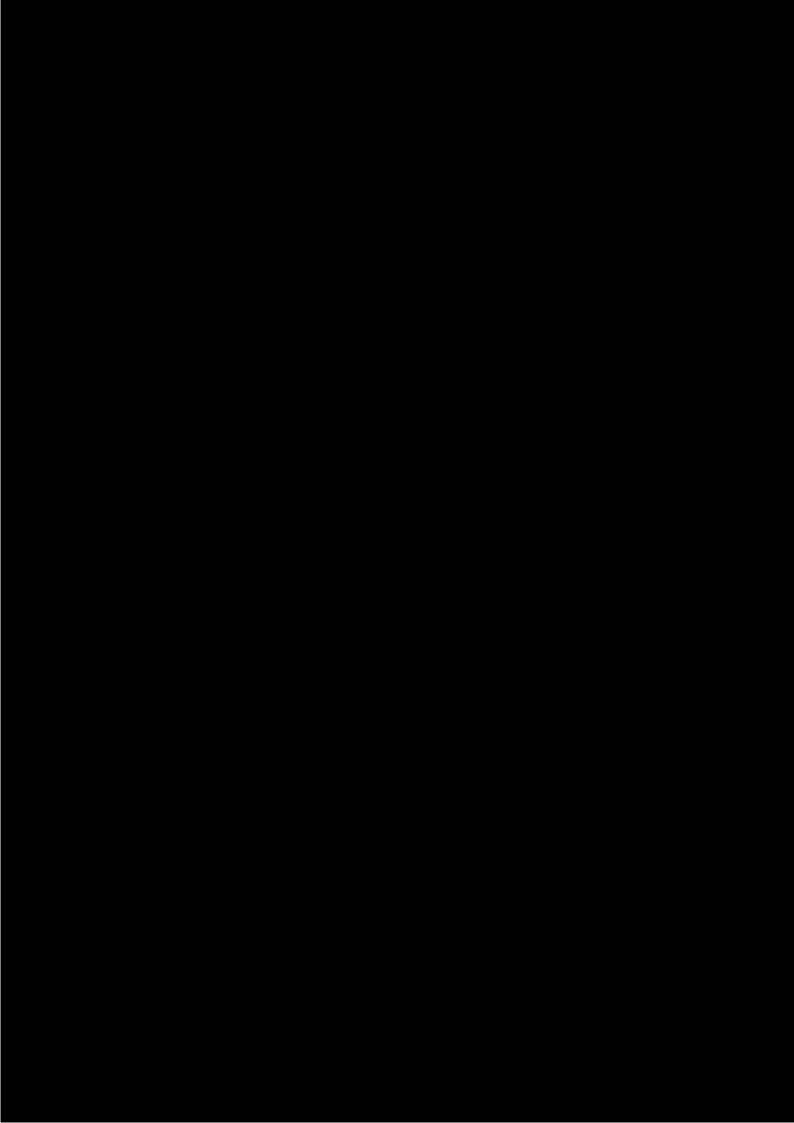


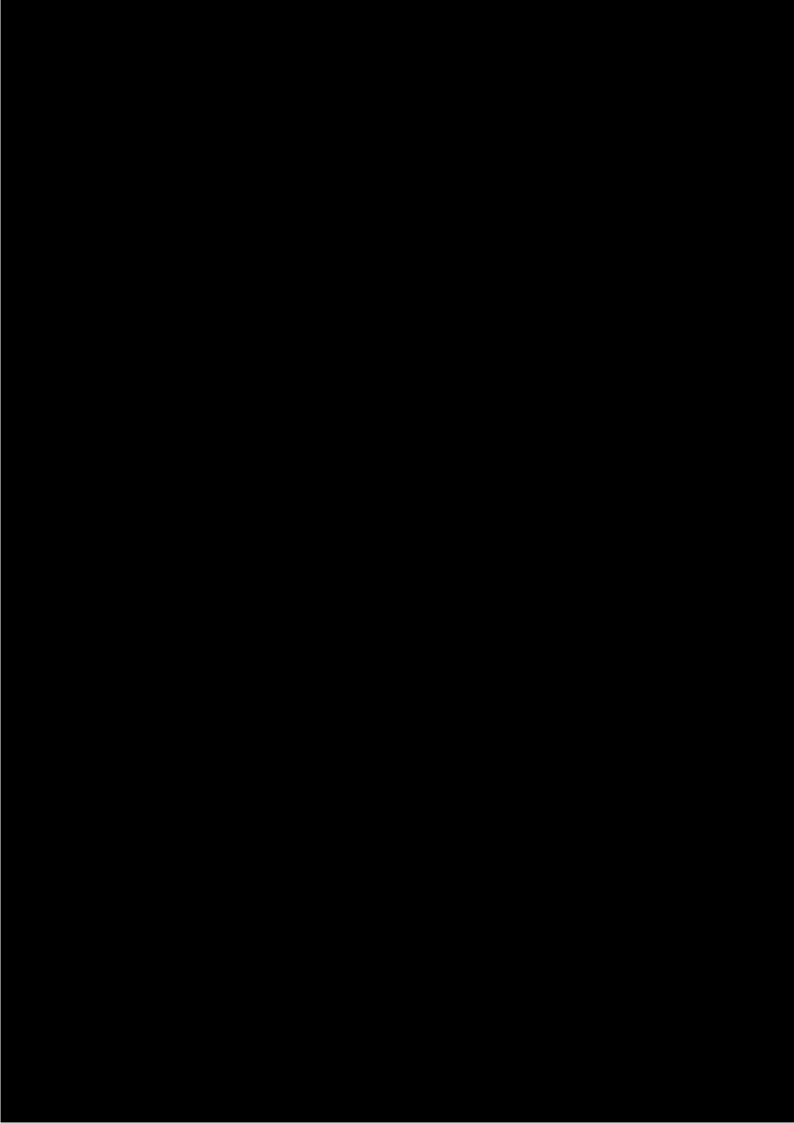


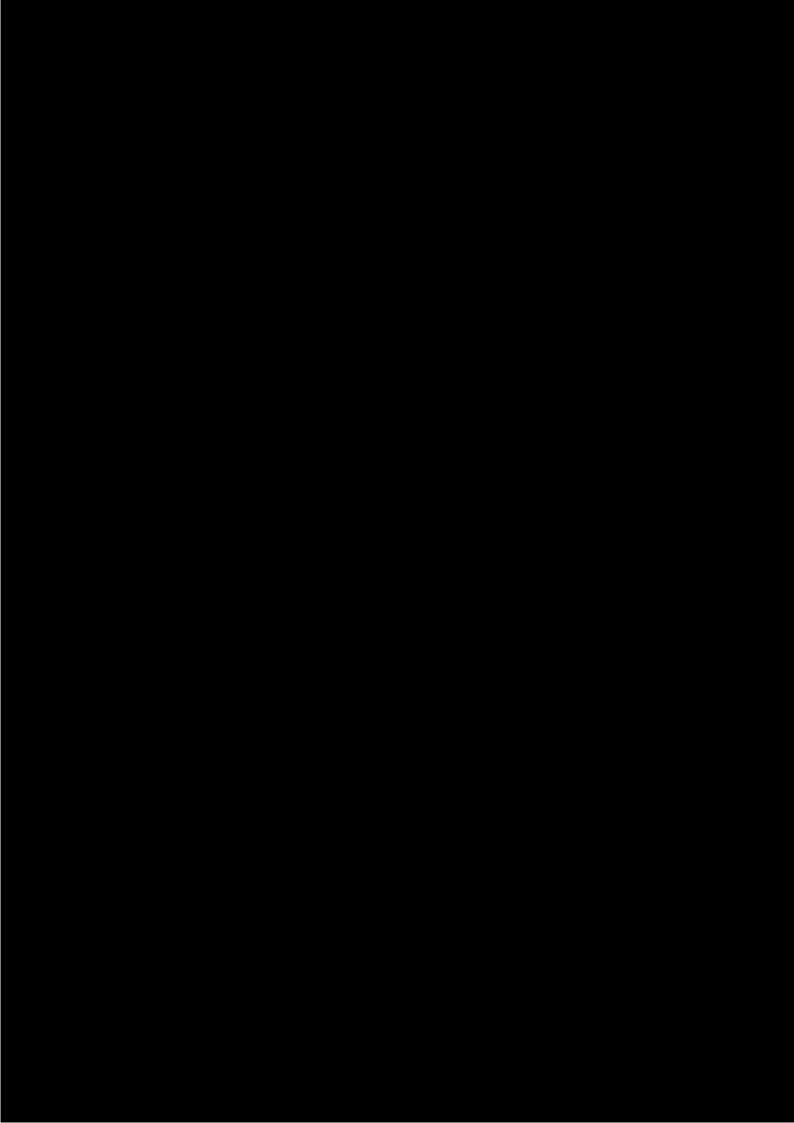


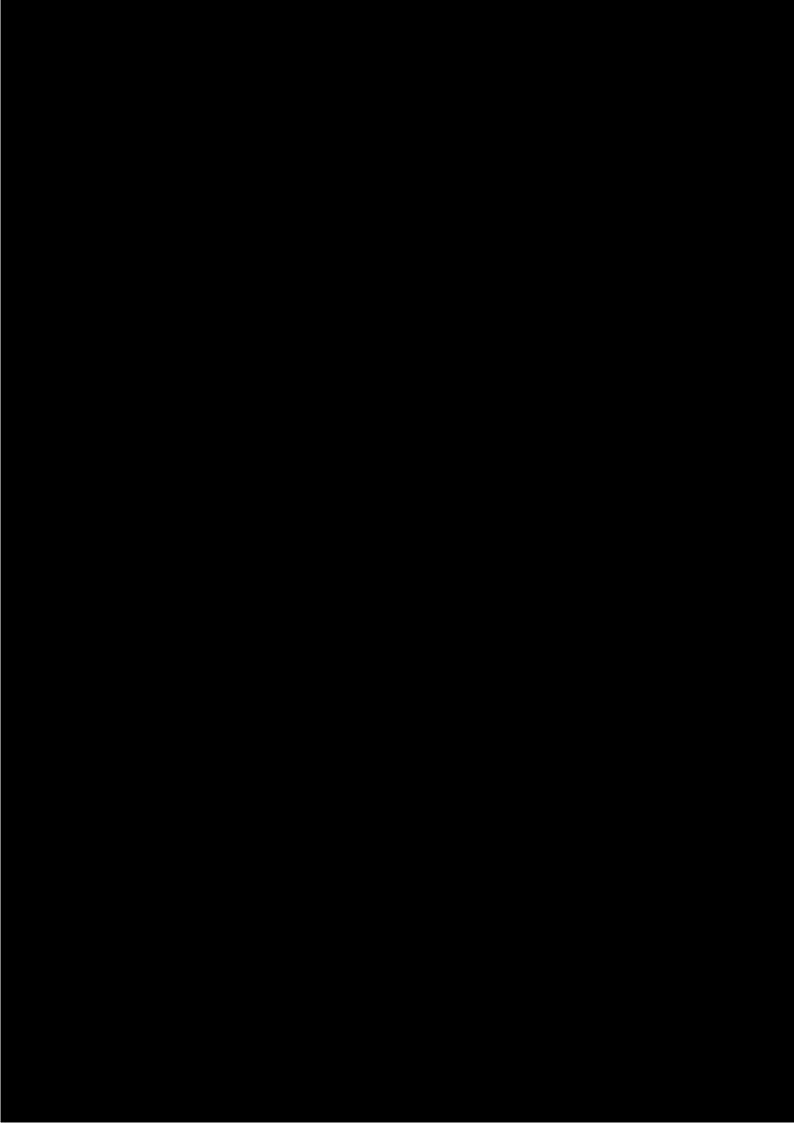


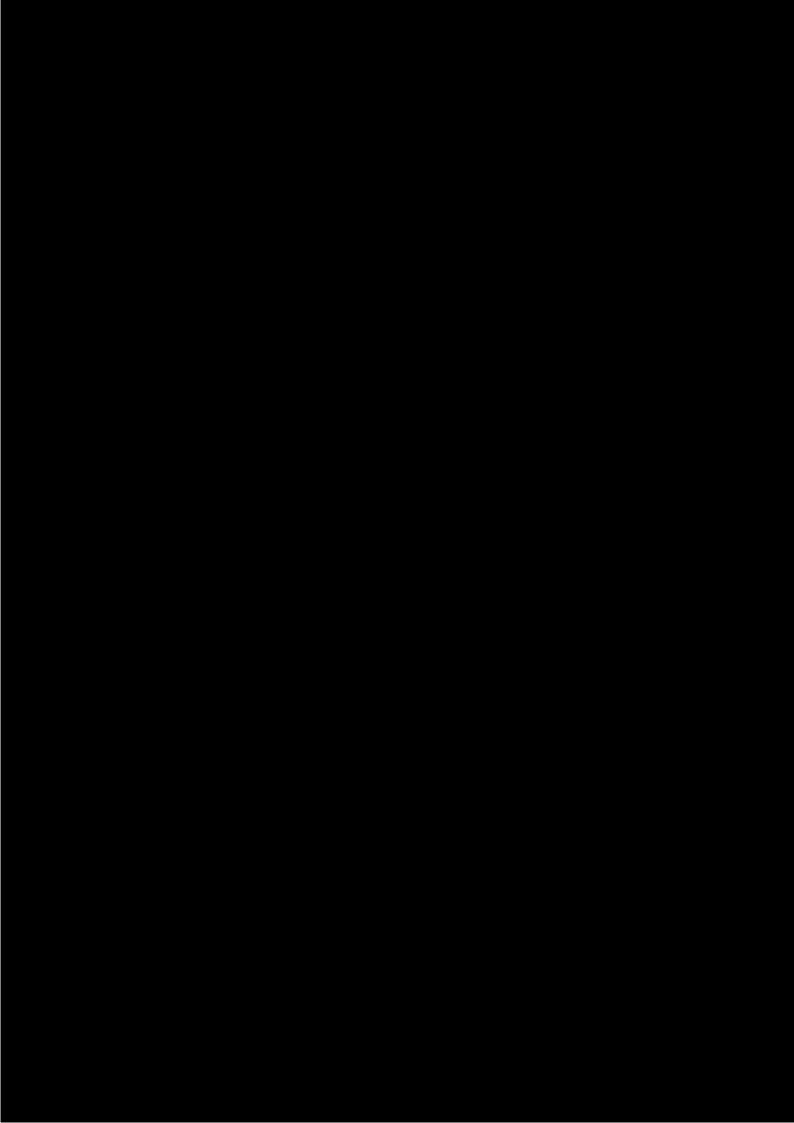


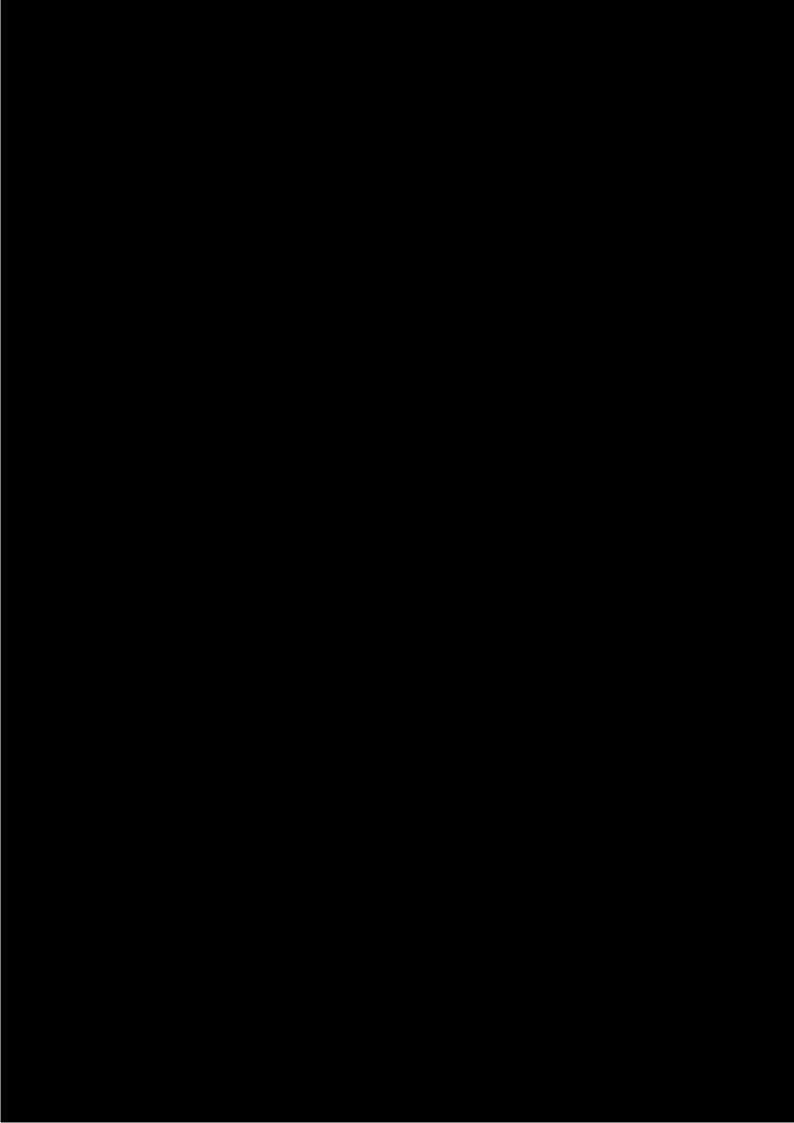


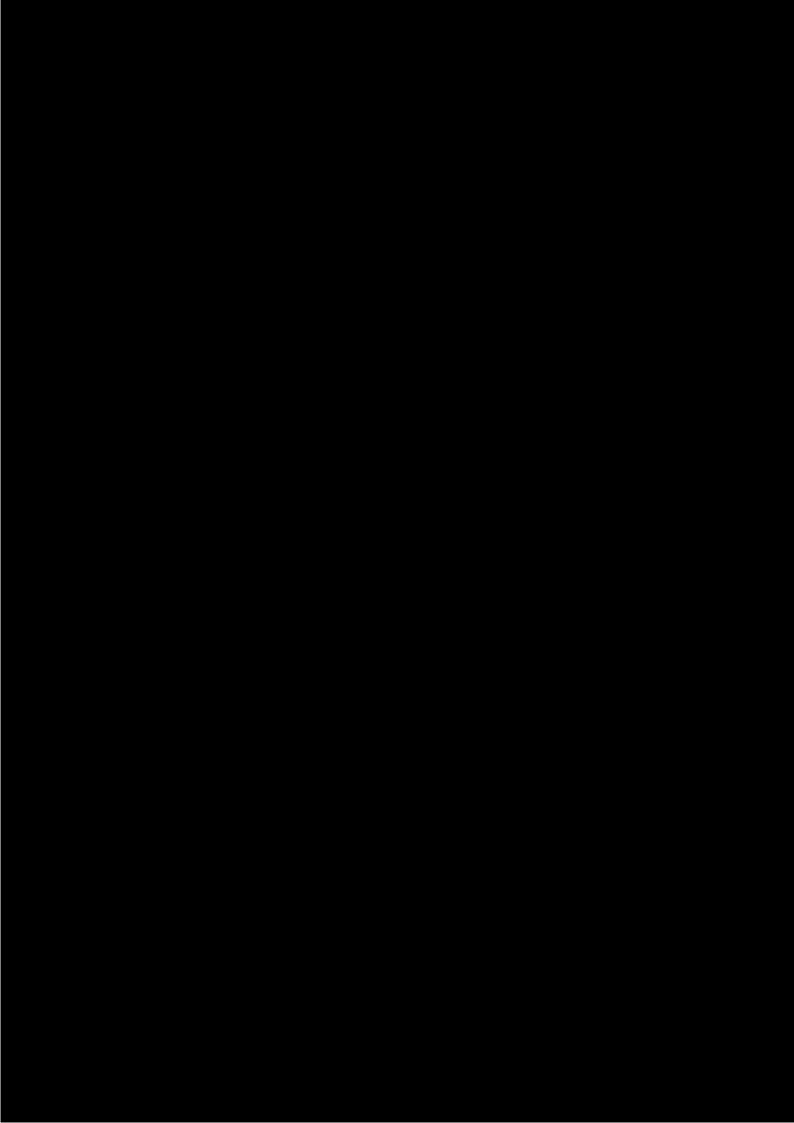


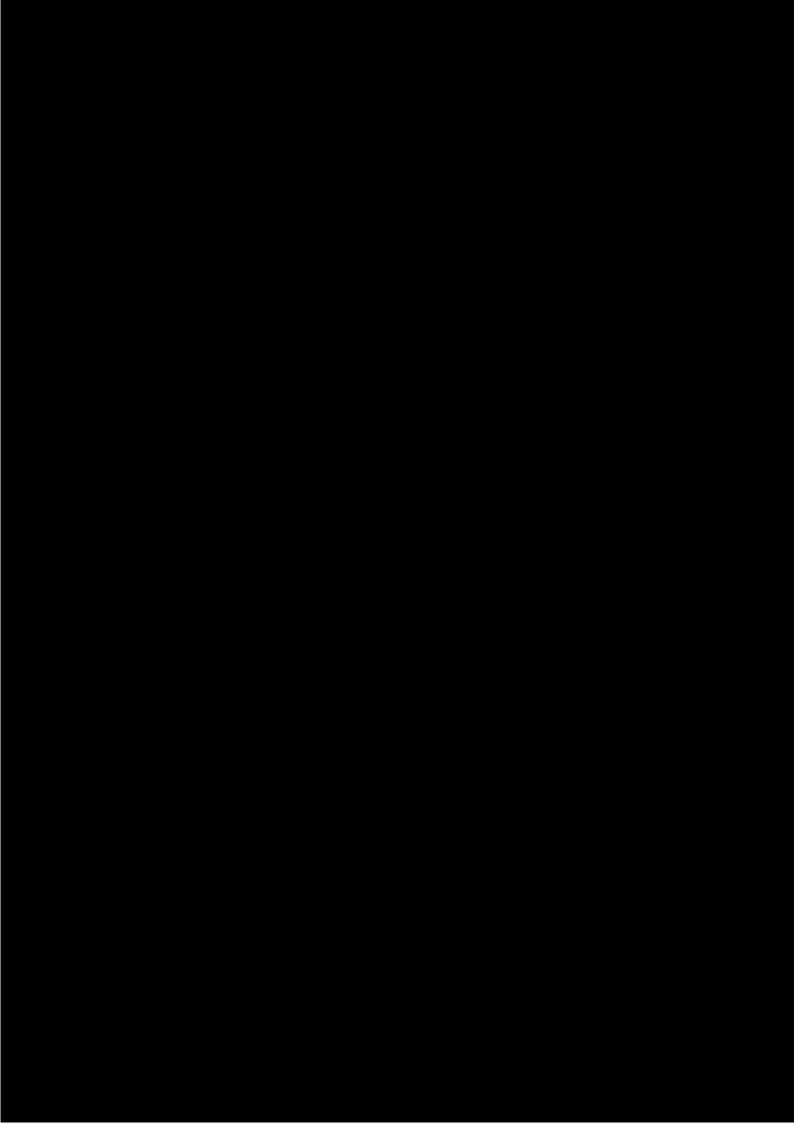


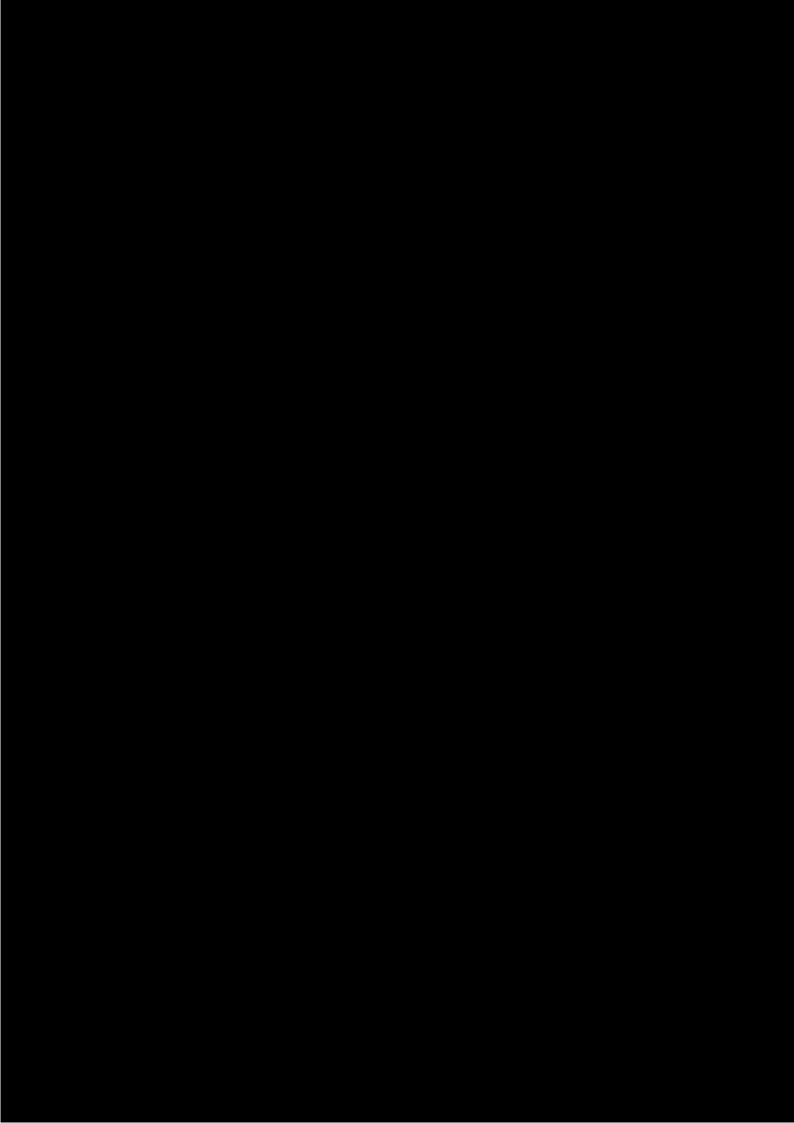


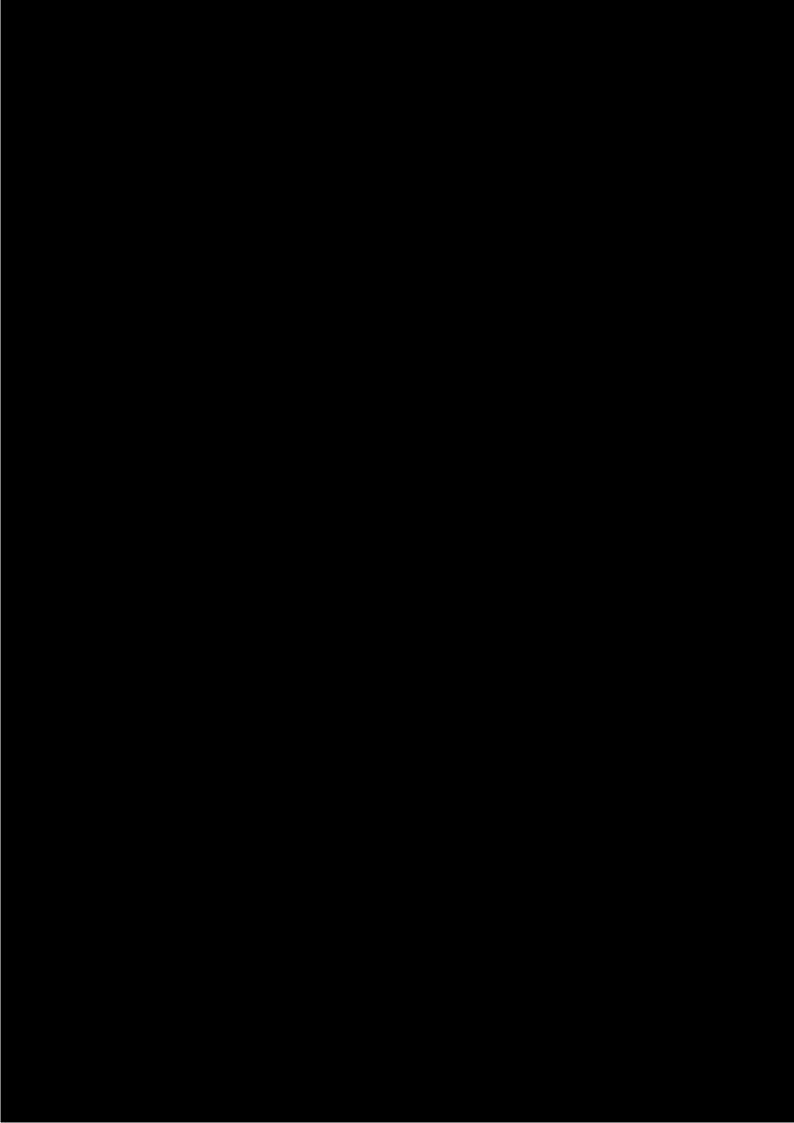


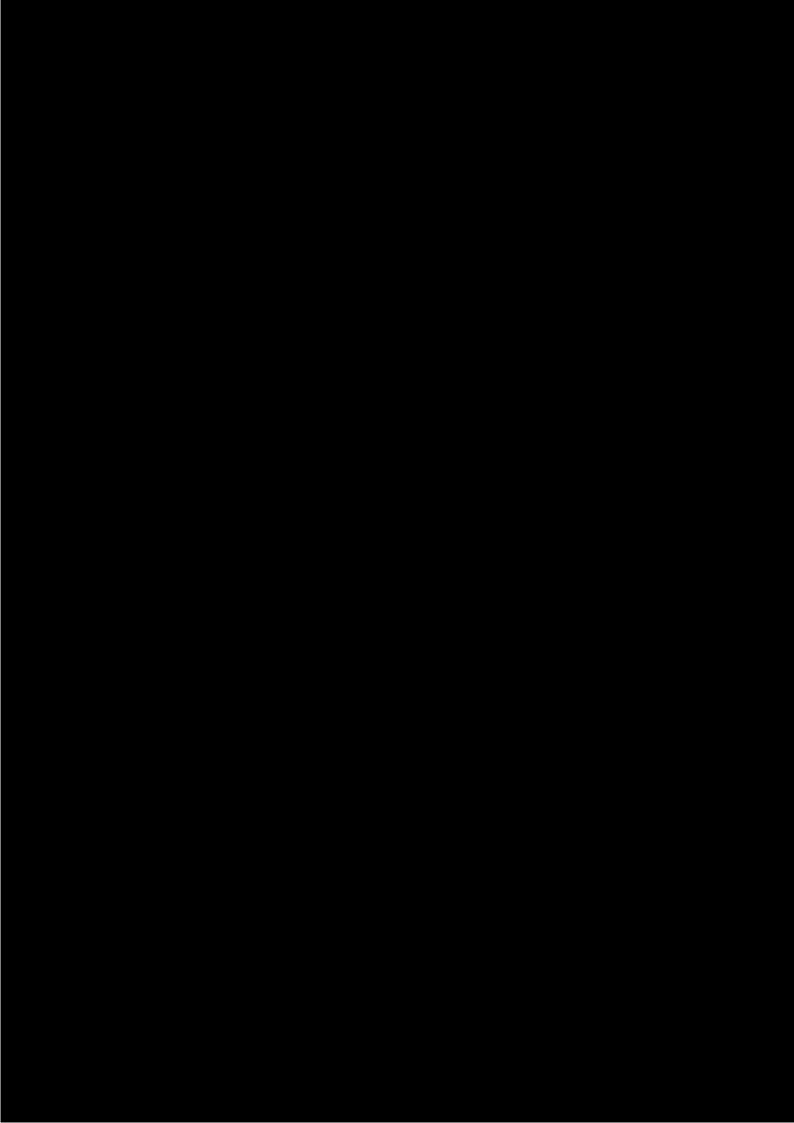


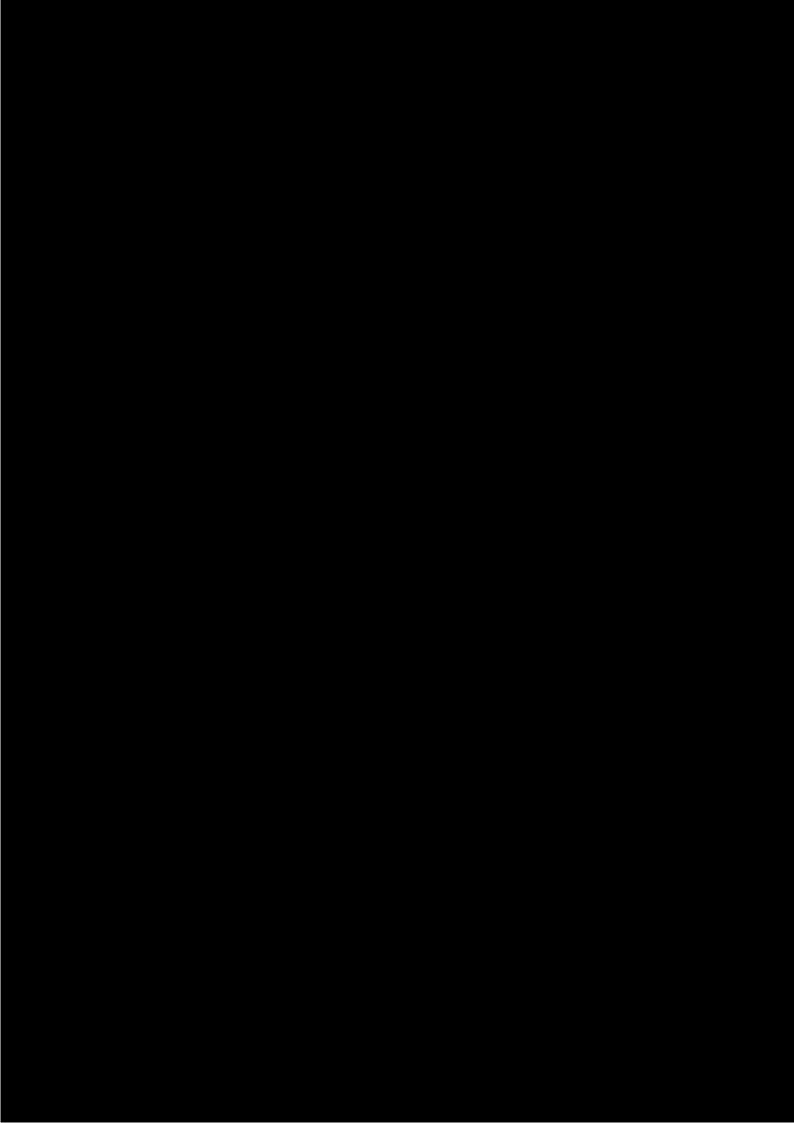


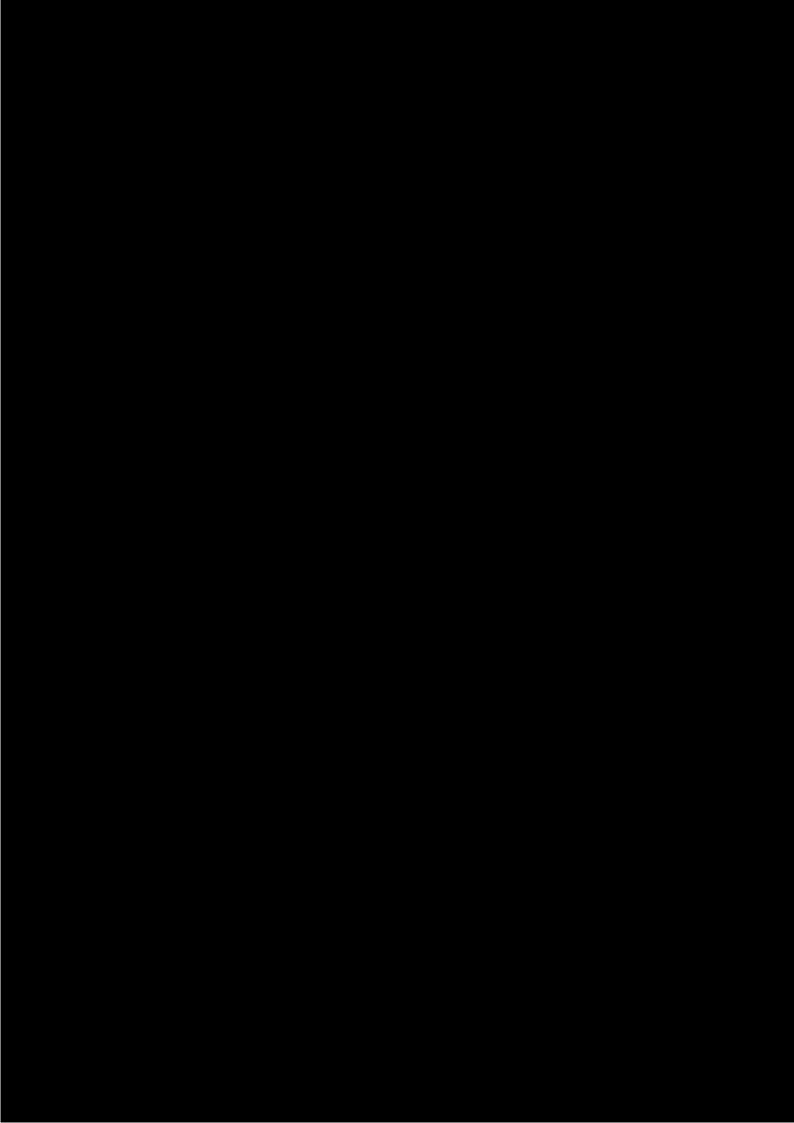


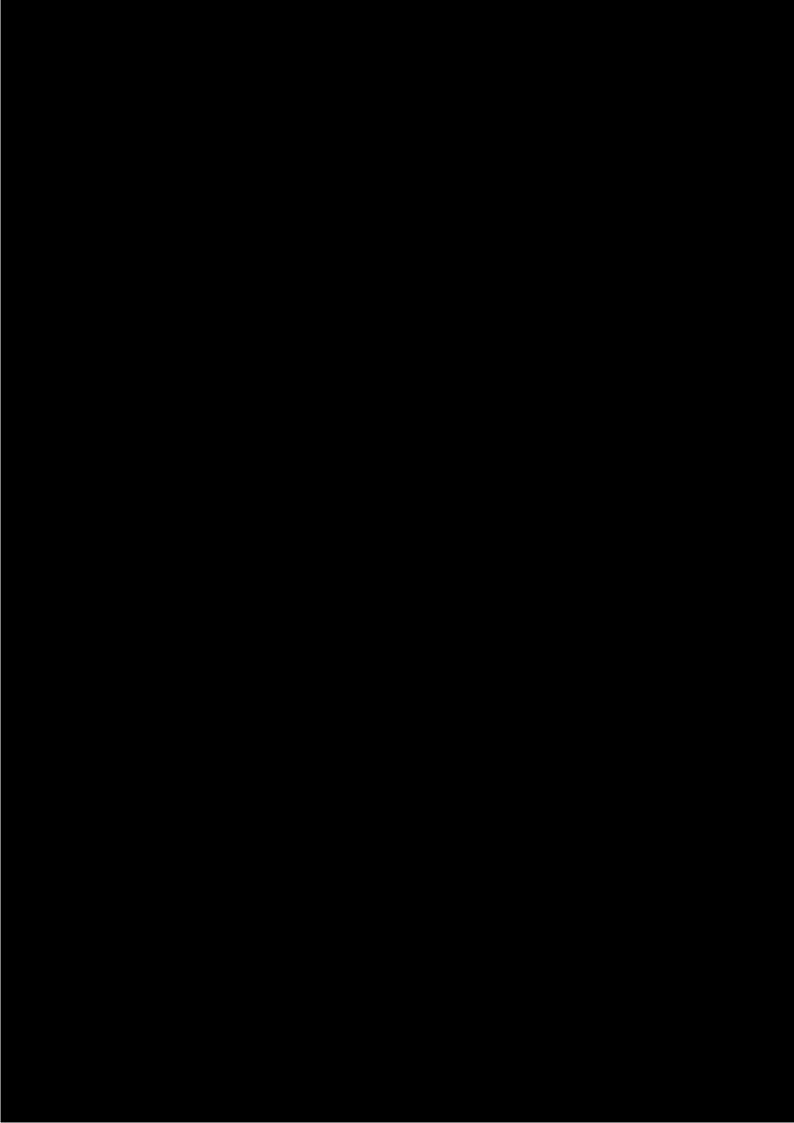


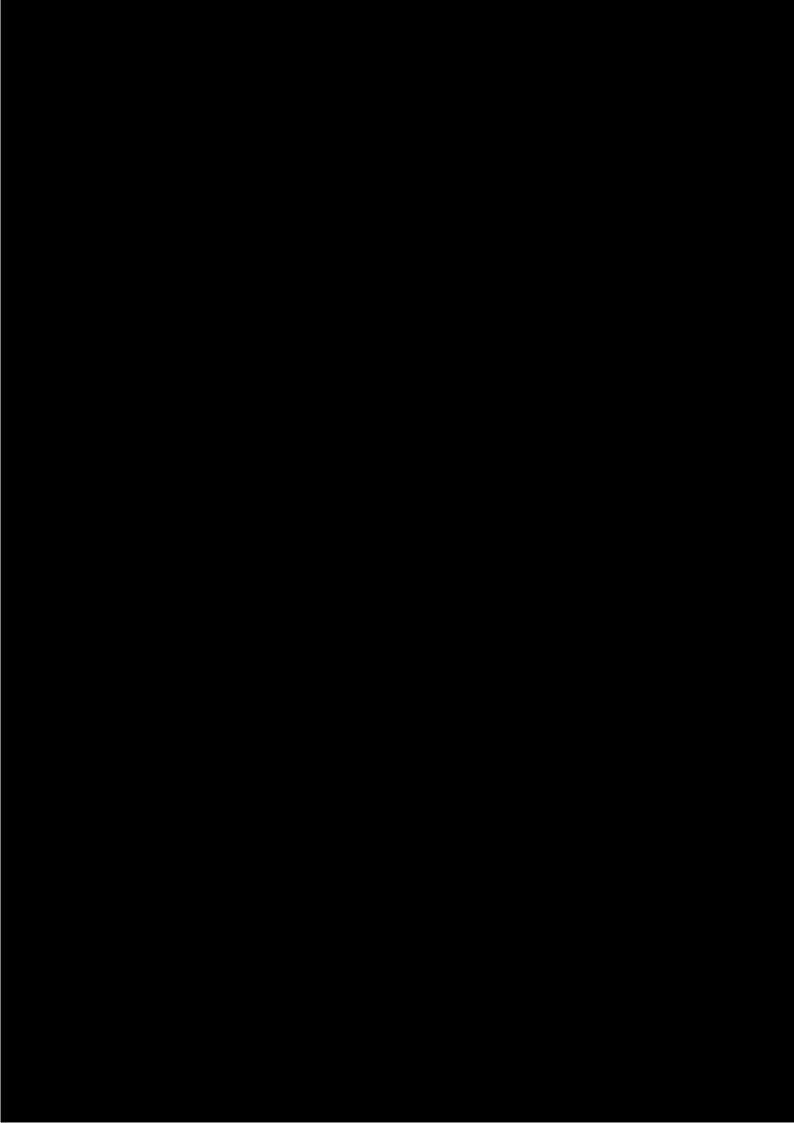


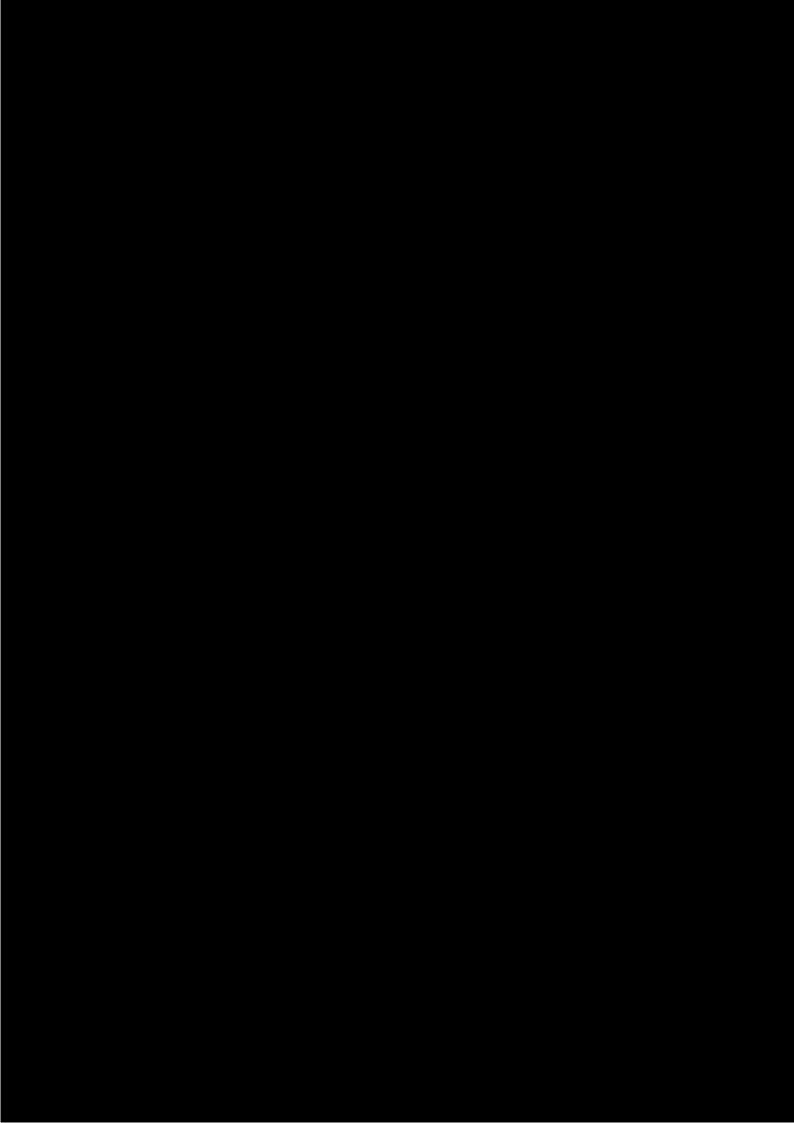


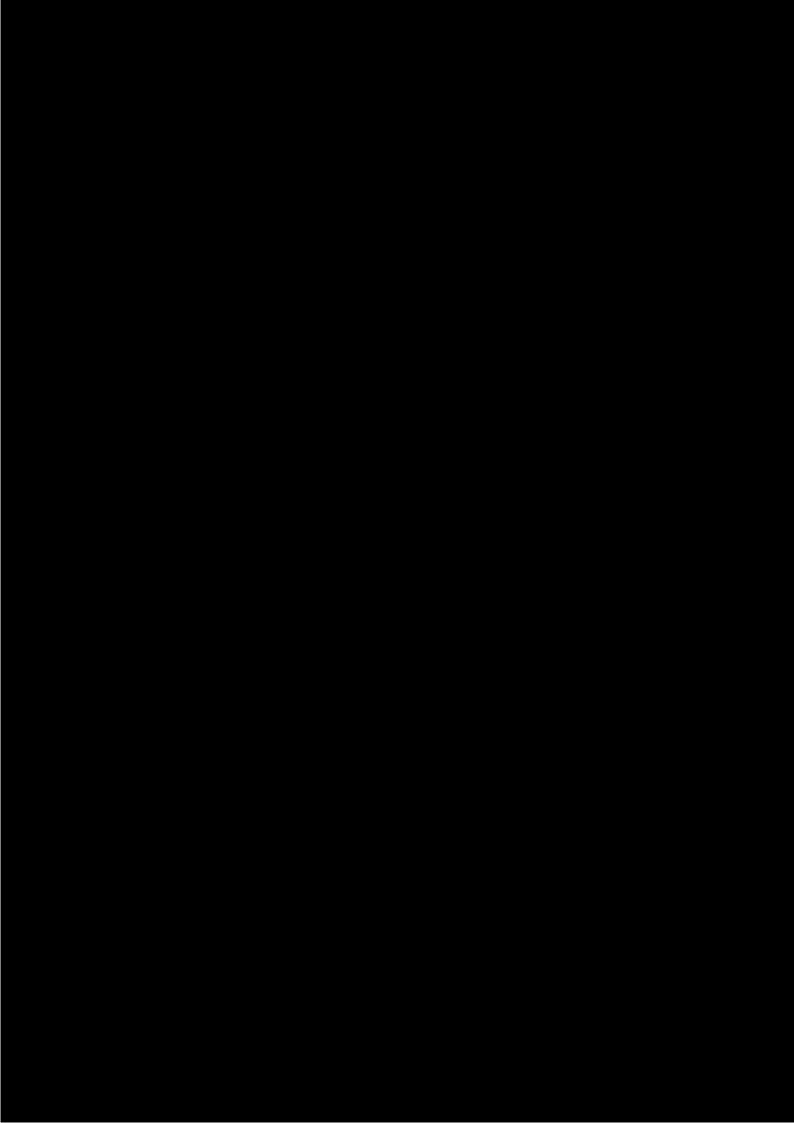














Sent: 25 November 2022 01:18

To: Business Licence <business.licence@brent.gov.uk>

Subject: In support of Aura

To whom this may concern,

As a resident of Sudbury, i am aware of my surroundings, and it has come to attention that there is a petition to close down Aura lounge on our high street due to some accusations that Aura is causing problems on the streets.

I understand that a person has died which is deeply upsetting but i do not believe it is Auras fault in this situation and should not be blamed for it.

Aura has been a great place on our street bringing in many customers from around london and it is truly an amazing place to visit.

I believe that Aura should definitely be kept open as they have not instigated this situation. I understand relatives and friends must be upset or angered but logically Aura had no part in this, it was just open to its customers like every other day it is open.

In addition Aura generates a really lively environment for our community as it is a trusty place we can visit when our lives get boring.

In my opinion this place is really special as it allows residents to have some fun from their stressful lives which is really hard to find. Lastly, i believe instead of closing Aura security should be increased in the area as it quite frequent to see robberies in my area, already making it unsafe. Therefore, we should not blame Aura.

Regarding to crime -

Last month in one mile radius of Sudbury Town 458 crimes has been reported.

Where 24 has been reported in Sudbury high street area.

This numbers indicates, we need more SNT on street in Sudbury area, need increased police numbers patrolling in wembley, and these criminals should be caught and punished higher. The example needs to be set by law protecting authorities.

Strict action needs to be take against Gun and knife crimes, some campaign should be run.

There were multiple shooting incident took place in Harrow high street, Kingsbury area this year (may be last year) one person has lost his life.

Shutting down places is never an option.

A fight has broke out side of the club. Knifes came from out side, club didn't provide knifes.

Argument happens inside of out side it doesn't matter, EOD no one has right to kill any one. Another group was waiting out side with knifes, that means it was a deliberate intention from beginning.

I'm pleased, we all are worry for community, but we should bare in mind 100+ ppl will lose their job, if club lost their licence, in this current economical condition.

That means we will face 100+ venerable young ppl on street, some families are depending on their job.

Hope ppl who wants club to close, have some plan for those young unemployed ppl.

(Because in my eyes those employees are innocent too, same like the young one whom we have sadly lost $\widehat{\mathbb{A}}$)

Sent: 19 November 2022 19:11

To: Business Licence <business.licence@brent.gov.uk>

Subject: Aura lounge night club representation

To whom it may concern

I'm a local resident of Sudbury Town area, lived in Rugby avenue, HA0

I would like to express my thoughts about the aura running as a business. I feel sorry about the tragic incident that happened in the Sudbury parade and my sincere and deepest condolences to the family and friends. As the word is spreading around that aura as a venue is not safe, I would to say that aura has been one of the safest venues around NW London and their security has always been on point. Being a local resident, I have visited the venue a lot of times and have never felt unsafe at any occasion inside the aura.

As per my understanding of the tragic incident, the guest visited aura but incident in question took place outside the aura restaurant involving a group if people fighting on the streets which makes it a police matter.

Blaming a business for this incident which actually did not even take place in their premises is brutal in itself and for a business which is actually doing its best to sustain themselves in this harsh economy. There are tragic incidents taking place throughout Sudbury, Wembley, harrow and all other places in London but closing restaurants and pubs for the violence is not the solution. Business are already suffering losses in their operation and by spreading such words and contemplating on revoking their license is wrongful judgement.

Aura being the best place to go in the area, I would urge the council to let aura stay open as usual.

Thanks



The Aura Application for a Summary Review of the Premises Licence 28/11/22

LICENCE HOLDER EVIDENCE PACK

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Joshua Simons & Associates – licensing agents

Joshua Simons & Associates

1. Witness Statement

Witness Statement of Atul Khosla

Introduction

- 1. I Atul Khosla am the Managing Director of KN Bros Limited, the premises licence holder and operator of premises trading as "Aura" at 763-765 Harrow Road, HAO 2LW. Aura is a Restaurant Lounge and Bar located on the Sudbury Road. I make this statement in relation to the summary review by Brent police licensing authority.
- 2. I attended Uxbridge college achieving a Btec National and Graduated from Kingston University with a BSc in (Computer Science). Since leaving higher education I have been involved as a sales director for a drinks company for over 8 years. I have also managed 5 licensed premises over 5 years successfully.
- 3. In this statement, I would like to explain a little about our operation, before turning to recent events which bring us before the Licensing Sub-Committee.

Aura

- 4. We purchased The Aura in 2019.
- 5. The Aura has three main spaces. First, there is a lounge/restaurant area. Second, there is a club area, furnished and with a small dance floor, which operates on weekends. Third, there is an external garden area. As the Sub-Committee can hopefully see from the attached photographs 1 to 7, we set out to provide a comfortable, largely seated environment.
- 6. We operate principally as a restaurant, cocktail lounge. I am producing our menus, from which it will be seen that we take our food offer very seriously. We find that rather than people going out to a bar or restaurant and then coming along to us, because we offer a full food, drink and entertainment service they come and spend their whole evening with us, in our friendly,

comfortable environment. One of the features which differentiates us from our competitors is that we serve food until 2 a.m. and operate a busy food service until that time. This is important to the overall ambience and attraction of our venue.

- 7. For entertainment, we have a wide music offer, with different music styles and performers on different nights of the week, as can be seen from our web page https://theaura.co.uk/. Our music includes latino, afro beats, house and commercial and pan Asian. We try to cater for all tastes. We do not offer music styles which are known sometimes to attract an unruly element. We are not and do not aspire to be that kind of venue. We set our music levels to enable people to have conversations with each other. It is part of our attraction.
- 8. We are a high service environment. We provide table service only. To achieve that, we have 42 staff. At maximum capacity we have 220 customers. That produces a ratio of 1:6, which is extremely high for a hospitality venue. Apart from the obvious benefits in terms of customer service and experience, it means that customer behaviours are observed at all times. We do not tolerate poor behaviour but in any case we do not find that we need to intervene on a frequent basis as might be the case in a nightclub or vertical drinking pub.
- 9. We operate a very strict dress code for example nobody is allowed in with tracksuits. Most customers are pre bookings and we only allow walk-ins if they are regulars. Customers come to have a lovely time, among staff who care, in a happy and lively environment.
- 10. On busy nights we have at least 5 door staff in place, producing a ratio below 1:50. The Sub-Committee will be aware that the ratio in hospitality tends to be 1:75 to 1:100, so we have a strong security presence for the safety of our staff and customers. This represents a significant expense to the business, but one we think is worth it.
- 11. Our customers have their identity scanned on the way in. If they don't produce ID, they are not admitted. We see at least two benefits with this. The first is that everyone knows that we know who they are. This means that

troublemakers don't really want to come to our venue: it is not for them. It also means that in the unlikely event of trouble, we are able to assist the Police in their investigations. That is in fact what happened in this case.

- 12. Our staff, who are locally recruited, are experienced and committed to what we are trying to achieve. Our staff turnover is very low.
- 13. Because of these factors, we are a popular venue, catering to a wide range of customers. We provide an event space for birthdays, anniversaries, Diwali, Eid, mothers' and fathers' day celebrations, Valentine's Day and of course statutory holidays. We tend not to attract 18 and 19 year olds because our price point is too high for their pockets. Our customer base ranges in age from 20 80 years old. We make sure we add the special touch to their birthday celebrations. On a number of occasions, people have proposed marriage to each other in our venue. We take that as a great compliment to the atmosphere we are trying to create.
- 14. Our customer ratio is 70% Woman and 30% men, which the Sub-Committee will appreciate is an unusual one in the night time economy. This is deliberate on our part. We do not accept stag parties: this is a strict policy. Nor do we allow a group off more than 3 men together.
- 15. We want to be part of our community and so work or raise funds for local charities and other causes. These include Victoria Care Centre Wembley, Seefi Social an autism charity, Jyot Yuva Parivaar a religious charity, Save the Children and Brent Care Home.
- 16. The Aura is a place where customers come to have the whole experience of good food, great cocktails and a lively, entertaining atmosphere. I have spent a little time trying to describe our venue, because we have worked very hard to achieve it and are proud of what we have done.
- 17. The majority of our customers who attend our venue do so between the hours of 10pm and 2am. These trading times are absolutely critical to the success of our business. Without them the business would simply not be viable.

18. Before I turn to deal with recent events, I would like to stress that we are not a high crime environment. Specifically to this hearing, I hope it goes without saying that we have never had an issue with weapons being brought into the venue. Nor have we had an instance of a weapon being used in the venue, such as a bottle or a glass. We are just not that sort of place, and never have been.

The review

19. As the Sub-Committee will be aware, on 18th October 2022 the premises were subject to a review hearing, mainly based on noise nuisance. It would not be appropriate for me to try to go over all the events leading up to and dealt with at the review. However, I have produced the review decision dated 21st October for the Sub-Committee's reference. It is important, perhaps, to stress that the measures imposed on the licence were those which I myself had suggested to deal with the matters of concern:

Having considered all of the above and in particular the need to be proportionate, the Committee has determined that the Premises licence should be amended to reflect the proposals set out within Mr Khosla's statement at paragraph 38, as follows:

- a) The terminal hour for licensable activities on Sunday to Thursday is 01:00hrs (with closing 30 minutes later, a reduction of 1hr)
- b) The terminal hours for licensable activities on Friday Saturday is 02:00hrs (with closing 30 minutes later, a reduction of 1hr)
- c) Existing conditions 11 and 13 on Annex 2 of the Premises licence are replaced with this condition: "Regulated entertainment in the form of live or recorded music shall not be permitted within the partially enclosed Garden Area or other external area".
- d) SIA door staff shall supervise the partially enclosed garden area at all times it is being used by customers after 7pm.

- e) Noise levels in the partially enclosed garden area shall be monitored so as to ensure that no public nuisance results.
- f) A noise limiter shall be installed and set at a level agreed with the Council's environmental health team.
- 20. The Sub-Committee also added a further condition:

The use of the enclosed garden area or other external area to cease after 23.30pm.

- 21. Of course, having proposed all but one of those changes, we did not appeal the decision but readied ourselves to comply with our amended licence. We are confident that the measures imposed are a proportionate set of measures to deal with the questions of impact on local residential amenity which the Sub-Committee carefully dealt with on the previous occasion.
- 22. I would also add to that that we have added a large banner to our website:

WE REQUEST ALL OUR GUESTS NOT TO PARK VEHICLE ON DOUBLE YELLOW OR BLOCK OUR NEIGHBOURS DRIVEWAY AT ALL TIMES. AVAILABLE PARKING AT BARHAM PARK HAO 2HB AND VALE FARM SPORTS GROUND HAO 3QS.

- 23. Any customers who do not have the courtesy to comply with that instruction are not admitted. We are committed to maintaining good relations with our neighbours and will not permit this to be jeopardised.
- 24. If we are permitted to continue to trade, we will of course take care to comply with the new trading conditions the Sub-Committee imposed.
- 25. Before I turn to deal with the summary review, I should reiterate that we have not suffered from a pattern of serious crime and disorder. We produced for the Sub-Committee's benefits the report of Shield Associates, and produce it for this Sub-Committee which we hope bears this point out.

The summary review

- 26. The events which bring us here are tragic and we express condolences to the family of the victim.
- 27. For understandable reasons, we have not been supplied with the CRIS report for the offence. We are therefore left with what we know and the little we have been gleaned from the police material.
- 28. The first and most obvious thing to state is that the incident did not take place in our venue.
- 29. The second thing to state is that we have no evidence whatsoever that any weapon got into our venue.
- 30. The third thing to state is that nothing like this has ever happened to us before.

 As I have said above, we do not have a problem with weapons getting into or being used in our venue. We do not have a record of serious assaults taken place.
- 31. While, therefore, this was an extremely traumatic thing to happen near to our venue, I have no reason to believe that we are responsible for this tragedy. Obviously, we have been caught up in the incident, and are extremely sad about that, but we have not caused it.
- 32. The police in their summary review state the male had attended the Aura and that there had been an altercation inside the Aura which continued outside. It is true the suspect had attended The Aura. However on reviewing cctv for the night in question, it is clear that the suspect male was not involved in any altercation with the victim inside the premise and that the suspect had exited the premises after the victim prior to the altercation that started outside on the Harrow Road. CCTV is available and has been provided to Brent police to demonstrate this.
- 33. The police have pointed out that some of the licence conditions were not being complied with on the night of the incident.

- 34.I accept that there were licence breaches. I acknowledge that this is unacceptable. I apologise for those breaches. We can do better and will do so. We do not think that compliance with conditions is optional. We impress on our staff that they are our legal obligations. However, I would also ask the Sub-Committee to accept that the breaches which occurred did not seriously compromise the operation of the premises on the night.
- 35. In relation to Condition 3 that there should be a mix of male and female door supervisors we accept that this condition was not fully complied with due to circumstances where the female SIA Syeda Javeria (SIA badge number 1015693813222099) called in unwell with food poisoning a ½ hour before the shift that she was due to work. This was unfortunate. However, it was simply too late to find a replacement. We did however station a female staff member at the entrance to provide a female presence on the night as set out below.
- 36. In relation to the comment by Brent police that not all persons were searched or their ID was scanned as they entered the premises, this is not factually correct. All persons that entered Aura on the night of the 29th October were searched by a team of 5 SIA staff who were deployed to check and scan ID. There were two points of search: the front foyer where the majority of males were initially searched by a pat down and then at the second point at the concierge desk by the use of a metal wand. It is accepted that female customers had their bags searched but were not patted down as there was no female SIA deployed on the night. However female customers were checked by the use of a metal wand and on this basis the absence of a female SIA did not compromise searching of female customers. In addition to SIA the premise had the manager Justyna and Concierge manager Naidu was assisting on the door to welcome customers and ensure they were being searched by SIA staff.
- 37. In relation to Condition 9 it is not accepted that there was no record of the incident. We provided a copy of the incident book held in the front concierge desk that was reviewed by PC Graves. A practice had developed of recording incidents in this book rather than in the premises' accident/incident book which

was subsequently located and a copy of that book is enclosed. On consideration, I do not believe that our recording practice was up to scratch, for which I apologise. We now have a new improved larger incident log book and SIA and staff have been briefed on using this to record all incidents or visits by a responsible authority.

- 38. In relation to Condition 9 on no entry after 1am it is accepted that SIA and management permitted guests to continue to access the premises until 1.30am We explained at the interim steps hearing that this was due to confusion with the change from British summer timings. It is not our practice to breach the hours conditions on our licence, but to comply with them.
- 39. In relation to Condition 17 and 21 we have notices displayed on the wall above the entrance door. These were not seen by police because it was dark and the premises had been closed.
- 40. Condition 19. 'Copy of the premises License'. This was on display and was at the time displayed on the left external wall of the premise fascia. On the date of the visit by police it was in the same location but was behind construction hoardings at the front of the venue, but not visible.
- 41. The comment of PS Clarke that the premise management was obstructive is just not accurate. We are law-abiding citizens who would always wish to help law enforcement officials to the very best of our ability. We have naturally tried to work with the police CID, Homicide divisions that are investigating this appalling murder near to our premises. We voluntarily attended Brent police station when requested by PC Graves and his licensing sergeant for the borough Sergeant Clark to provide answers to questions the police had during their investigation and prior to the summary review of the premises licence.
- 42. It is correct that a person the police refer to as Ash Singh was not helpful to police when they initially attended the premises. However it was explained at the expedited review hearing that this person is not a manager but is an investor in the business and was at the premises in an unofficial capacity. I am

a director and have knowledge of the day to day operation of the Aura. The day after the incident I was contacted by PC Graves, I cooperated from the beginning of the police investigation. I and my team ensured that all relevant CCTV and data from the ID scanner was provided to Brent police. The amount of data requested was a challenge, and we employed a specialist CCTV engineer to download a large data file of footage. It is accurate to state that the driving licence of the suspect was included in the data that was supplied to the police which assisted police in their initial enquiries and the current criminal investigation and led to the arrest and charging of a suspect.

- 43. In relation to the assertion by Sgt Clarke for the police that two individuals are believed to have bought knives into the Aura, no evidence at all has been provided for this, and I believe that this has been accepted as complete speculation. Our previous legal counsel challenged this and stated at the expedited review that there was no intelligence offered by Brent police that identifies knives inside the premises. Indeed a review of cctv by me and the (DPS) designated premises supervisor shows that on entry and when the suspect went out to smoke he was challenged by the Aura's SIA staff and was not seen to be carrying a knife or any other weapon.
- 44. In relation to the stabbing this happened outside the premises sometime after the parties left. Those individuals in track suits that appeared to have joined in the fight were not customers of the Aura. Dressed as they were, they would never have been admitted.
- 45. In relation to the police comment that the staff from the premise took no action to call police when the fight took place I bring to the attention of the subcommittee members that our SIA security team and the Aura management at the time focused on ensuring that those persons inside the premise who were pushing to leave the Aura were kept safe inside by closing the premise and only permitting egress once the police had arrived on the scene. The head of the SIA team Ahmed Benbouchta did ask a customer to call 999 which the customer did.

- 46. In relation to police comments in expedited review about one CCTV not working, this related to the single rear cctv camera out of the 22 cameras operational in the premises. I am afraid that in all systems, individual cameras stop working from time to time, as happened here. We instructed our CCTV engineer to check and repair all of the CCTV cameras, and they are all working now.
- 47. Obviously, it is not comfortable to accept that there were licence breaches However, I do accept where we have fallen short, and we did fall short to the extent I have just described, for which I apologise unreservedly. We need to take responsibility for shortcomings, and I do. I will ensure that this does not happen again.

Police letter dated 12 November 2022

48. Regarding comment in the police letter from PC Clarke I refer to the last page points numbered 1 to 4. In relation to point 1, I clarify that we have provided a letter from the female SIA contractor that she called in unwell on the night of the 29th October. In relation to point 2 we do not have an employee handbook for procedure where an SIA member of staff calls in sick, in relation to point 3 we have already provided information to Brent police CID, Homicide from the Auras ID scanner system.

Representation by the Licensing Authority dated 7 November 2022

- 49.I respectfully but strongly dispute a number of points that have been used in the officer letter to support the representation of the licensing authority. In particular the premises are not the source of serious crime and disorder this was evidenced in the report of Shield Associates to which I have referred above.
- 50.I also strongly disagree with the comment about the lack of self-regulation which the LA state led to problem of intoxication and that in turn led to the tragic incident on Sunday 30th October. It is accepted that some of the conditions on the premises were not fully complied with and this as I have

stated is unacceptable however these issues should not be used to conflate that they were the cause or in any way connected with the murder of a young male.

Residents and Councillor representations

- 51.I am very respectful of the representations which have been made by the residents and the councillor. However, in fairness, the question of impact on local amenity was dealt with in the original application by attachment of further conditions.
- 52. Some of the residents refer to the behaviour of our guests after they leave the premises. I am disappointed to read this. It is not something that has been drawn to our attention by the authorities but is certainly something that we would wish to deal with, even if any disturbance is at a low level. Accordingly, I would propose that we have an SIA supervisor patrol the vicinity of the premises from 1 hour before it closes until 30 minutes after it closes or until the last customer has left the vicinity, whichever be the later. If, of course, it proves that a more intensive effort is required, we will respond to ensure that any issue is cured.
- 53. I would like to assure those making representations that we are always here to discuss concerns. Should the Sub-Committee consider that there needs to be more formal liaison, or the provision of a direct telephone number for residents to call, I will of course be glad to comply with any conditions the Sub-Committee may decide to impose.

Proposals

- 54. It is obviously horrifying to us to be back before the Sub-Committee so soon after the first review, and in such tragic circumstances.
- 55. We do however ask the sub-committee to accept that the murder of this young male was not caused by us. Knife crime is a terrible thing, but it is not

something which we encourage or condone in any way. We do not welcome trouble-makers. We do not play music styles which sometimes come along with criminality. We keep control of our premises. As the Shield report makes clear, we have not experienced a high crime rate over the years.

- 56. We would also ask the Sub-Committee to accept that it has only just imposed further control measures to reduce the risk of harm to local amenity. There is no need for further steps to be taken just a month later.
- 57. At the interim steps hearing I offered a number of urgent control measures to try to keep the venue open and trading pending the final hearing. In the event, the interim steps imposed largely followed our suggestions, including: (i) cancellation of events; (ii) replacement of the existing SIA team with a new team, (iii) reduction of capacity from 220 to 150, (iv) restriction on the sale of alcohol to those taking substantial meal; (v) installation of a metal walk through arch to ensure every customer is checked for any weapons; (vi) reduction of licensable hours to 23:30 and opening hours to 24:00.
- 58. We have carefully reviewed these steps with our lawyers with a view to considering which are necessary, in the light of the up to date evidence, to respond to the matters of concern in this review. As the Sub-Committee will appreciate, we have also looked at whether we can actually survive economically with those amended trading conditions.
- 59. We have replaced our SIA team with a new team. We have also installed a metal arch at the main entrance and are content to use this all the time for all of our customers.
- 60. However, the continued cancellation of our events, the requirement that all alcohol sold is ancillary to a meal (so preventing anyone just enjoying a cocktail while listening to entertainers), and the reduction of capacity, would all terminate our business and everything we have tried to build here. We do not think that those measures continue to be necessary to respond to the murder of a member of the public on the pavement near our premises, tragic as that was, and we do not think they would be fair or proportionate measures to

impose. I list those interim steps that we request the sub committee to remove

those interim steps specified below and as set out on the decision notice:

• All pre-planned special events to be cancelled

• Condition 23 to be modified: The number of customers permitted at the

premises at any one time to be reduced from 220 to 150

• The premises opening hours to be amended to be from 11.00 to 24.00

Monday to Sunday with all licensable activity to cease by 23.30.

• Condition 8 is amended by the addition of the following words: "The

sale of alcohol to be permitted only to customers having a substantial

meal".

61. On the other hand, we totally accept that we should receive a formal warning

for our breaches of licence condition, and we also accept that the Sub-

Committee may want to impose conditions to improve patrol of the vicinity, and

liaison with our local community, something we will work on further whether

conditions are imposed or not.

62. I hope that the Sub-Committee considers that the above suggestions are a fair

way of dealing with the case, while allowing us to survive as a business.

Statement of Truth

This statement consisting of 13 pages is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Print Name: Atul Khosla

Signature: Hul Khosla

Dated: 25/11/22

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Joshua Simons & Associates

2. Photos of the Aura

Photo 1 - Exterior of Aura looking from the Harrow Road



Photo 2 – Showing front entrance door with corridor leading to main bar and lounge area



Photo 3 – Showing bar area



Photo 4 – Showing entrance from bar area into rear lounge garden area



Photo 5 – Showing rear lounge area under canopy

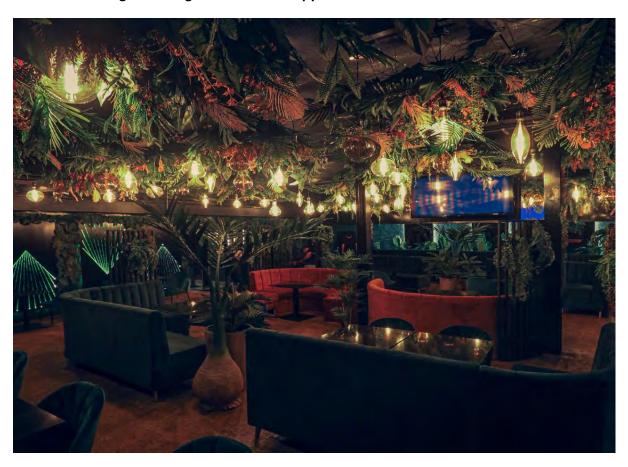


Photo 6 – Showing bar servery with guest seating area

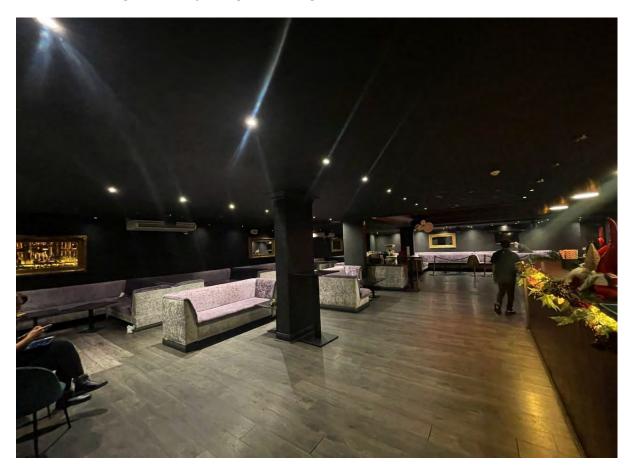


Photo 7 – Showing guest seating and dance area



End of photos

Joshua Simons & Associates

3. Food Menu



THE ALL A



NIBBLES



7.45

A fine selection of olives mixed with selection of Mediterranean pickles

Halloumi Fries

9.95

Golden crisp Middle Eastern cheese sticks served with sweet chilly sauce

Asian Prawn Rolls

10.45

Filo pastry filled with sauteed prawns and fresh spring vegetables served with light soya sauce

STARTERS

Trio Of Mezze

10.95

A trio of home made mezze serves with pitta bread, Hummus; chickpeas with tahini, olive oil, garlic and lemon juice. Melitzanosalata; Roasted Eggplant, garlic, olive oil, lemon juice and onion. Tzatziki; Yoghurt, cucumber, garlic and fresh mint

Peri Peri Wings

10.95

★ Charcoal grilled chicken wings marinated in our home made peri peri sauce served with garlic sauce

BBQ Honey Wings

0.95

⊗ ★ Solution State

⊗ ★ Solution State

Solution State barbecue mix, topped with sesame seeds

Cheese And Mushrooms Rolls 9.45

A blend of original Greek feta, Halloumi and British cheddar mixed with infused mushrooms and baby spinach served served in golden crisp filo pastry

Falafel 9.45

and spices served with Tahini sauce

Fried Calamari

9.45

Deep fried seasoned crispy squid rings and lightly breaded served with tartar sauce

Golden Prawns

12.95

Deep fried golden crisp tempura prawns dipped in variety of different sauces

Truffle Arancini

9.45

Arborio rice balls with mushroom, truffle and cheese rolled seasoned in Japanese style panko crumbs, deep fried perfectly to melt in your mouth

WRAPS	Chicken Shish Charcoal grilled marinated chicken cubes with fresh tomatoes, lettuce and pickles	10.45
	Lamb Kofta Seasoned minced lamb with pickled cucumber and onions with Tahini paste	10.45
	Halloumi Cheese Charcoal grilled halloumi with cucumber, tomato, lettuce and olive paste	10.45
	Falafel Deep fried Lebanese croquettes with fresh tomato lettuce and parsley served with Tahini sauce	10.45 es,
BURGERS	The Aura Mini Slider Burger Platter Create your own burger platter consisting of three burger sliders. Served with skinny fries. Choose From; Home made lamb patty cooked to perfection on a Home made chicken burger cooked to perfection of Home made oven baked vegan patty slider burger Served on a mini baguette bun with cripsy lettuce, caramelized onion, melted red leicester cheese and burger sauce Classic Burgers available on request.	harcoal grill, on charcoal grill, c. tomatoes,
SALADS	Aura Salad Levantine salad with pomegrante dressing fresh figues grilled chicken fillet topped with micro leave pomegranate seeds with walnuts	15.45
	Halloumi Salad spring leaves diced tomatoes cucumber and mixed peppers kalamata olives and balsamic dressing served with grilled halloumi cheese and figues jam	13.45
NAAINIC	$O1 \cdot 1 C1 \cdot 1$	1 7 4 7

MAINS

Chicken Shish 17.45

Chicken cube skwers marinated in a fresh lemon and garlic sauce

> Lamb Kofta Kebab 18.45

Skewers of specially seasoned grilled minced lamb onions and parsley

Lamb Fillets Shish 19.45

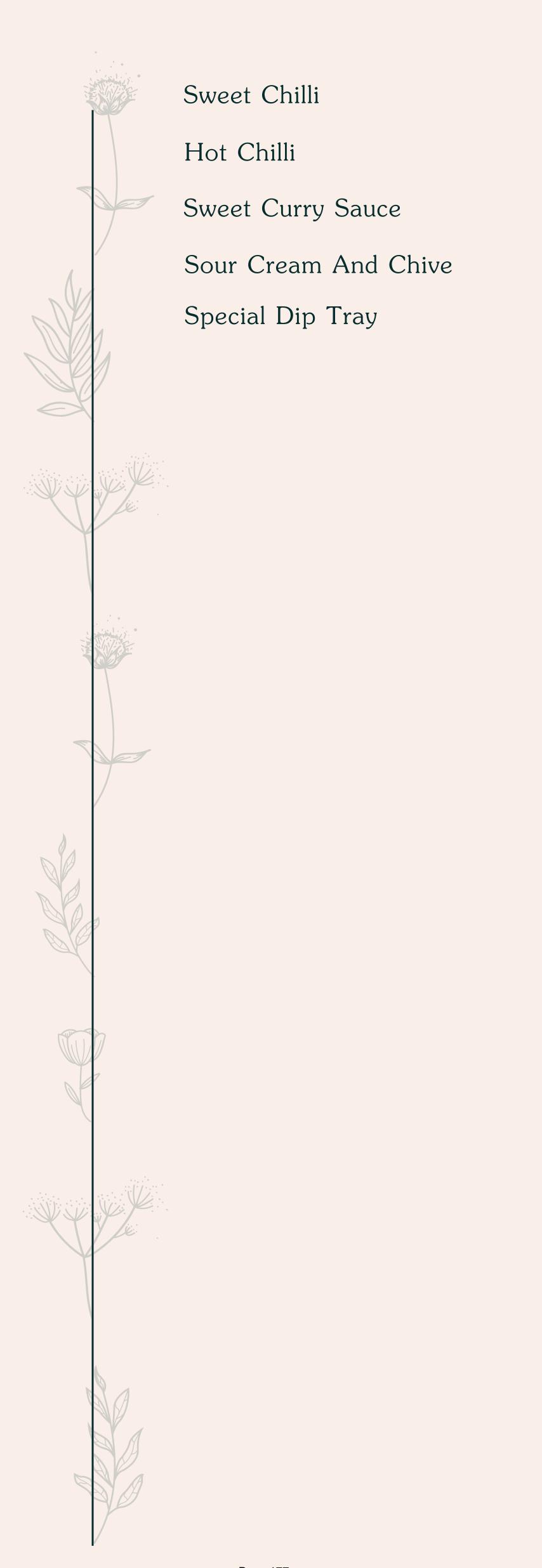
Lamb marinated with olive oil garlic and thyme







		Mixed Grill	24.45
		Trio Combination of kofta lamb chicken skwers and lamb cubes	
		Lamb Chops	23.45
		Specially marinated and grilled tender lamb cutle	IS
		Creamy Chicken Pasta	16.45
		Add Truffle	3.50
		Tagliatelle cooked with chicken strips in a rich creamy sauce with garlic, fresh baby spinach,	
		chestnut mushrooms and parmesan cheese	
		Sweet Chilli Prawns Linguini	18.45
		A perfect meal! Linguini cooked with prawns, and mussels in a rich tomato and basil sauce, topped	
		with parmesan cheese	
		Creamy Vegetarian Pasta	15.45
		Add Truffle	3.50
		Al dente penne cooked in a cheesy garlic becham with grilled mushrooms, topped with parmesan che	el sauce
		with grined mashrooms, topped with parmesan en	
		Mixed Fish Platter	24.95
		Oven baked king prawns ,salmon and seabass	
		fillets served with sauteed broccoli, baby corn , green beans and carrots served with chips	
		A. I. A. A. I. I. G. A. D. G. G. D. II. G. A. G. G. I. D. II.	
		ALL MAINS ARE SERVED WITH SEASONED GARNI	SH AND RICE
CIDEC			4.05
SIDES		Salty Edamame	4.95
		Sauteed Mixed Vegetables	5.95
		caateea rinea vegetaeres	0.50
		Vermicelli Rice	4.95
		Fries	4.95
		Add Truffle	3
		Sweet Potato Fries	5.95
DIDC	4	D D	1 ~
DIPS		Bang Bang	1.5
		Garlic	1.5



1.5

1.5

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4. Crime Survey & Report – October 2022



Crime Data Analysis

The Aura - 763 to 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW

Author: Ian Smith – Director Shield Associates

For: The Aura management team & Joshua Simons and Associates Ltd

1. Introduction

1.1. I retired from the Metropolitan Police Service as a Detective Superintendent in October 2013 after having completed 30 years exemplary service. I have extensive experience in policing across many challenging London boroughs including Lambeth, Southwark, Croydon and latterly Kingston-Upon-Thames. I am now employed as a Director of a security consultancy company called Shield Associates.

1.2. Shield Associates are a company formed by former senior Metropolitan police officers in 2013. The three Directors all served a minimum of 30 years and were at different times responsible for policing, liaison, partnership working and compliance in relation to licensed premises in the Boroughs of Westminster, Southwark, Sutton, and Kingston-upon-Thames as well as being involved in the planning and coordination of licensing initiatives and compliance strategies across the Metropolitan Police area.

1.3. Shield Associates Directors all served in senior positions within the Metropolitan Police, Ian Smith – Detective Superintendent and Borough Commander, Gary Taylor – Superintendent; Pan-London Licensing and TfL policing lead, and David Gair – Chief Inspector; Public Order and Licensing specialist. All three Directors were responsible for crime and disorder reduction, community confidence, public

satisfaction and licensing related issues and enforcement with specific dedicated licensing teams under their command.

- 1.4. As part of our licensing response, we undertook problem solving, partnership working and compliance regimes to ensure the safety and security of patrons, staff and the local community in relation to NTE licensed premises, in particular large night-clubs and venues that remained open beyond 0200hrs. This included late-night refreshment houses, liaison with public transport providers and licensed mini-cab activities as part of the larger problem-solving initiatives.
- 1.5. During my police service I was responsible for overseeing policing operations including crime prevention strategies and enforcement. I was the Deputy Borough Commander at Southwark where I was responsible for implementing crime and disorder strategies across the borough, which saw unprecedented reductions in serious violence and anti-social behaviour. In 2011 I was commended for leading the investigation response into the crimes committed following the London wide disorders.
- 1.6. My last post in the Metropolitan Police Service was as the Borough Commander for Kingston–Upon–Thames. I was responsible and accountable for all police activity including all licensing operations within the night-time economy. I developed numerous strategies tackling crime, anti -social behaviour and public safety. In my role I had to manage and develop working solutions in addressing crime and disorder at a night-time economy venue known as Oceana (now Pryzm), which was a cause for concern as it was ranked 1st across all London boroughs for crime and anti social behaviour being committed at night-time economy venues.
- 1.7. The working solutions and activities I put in place saw a 25% reduction in crime at 'Oceana', which had a knock-on effect against all crime within Kingston–Upon–Thames town centre and the night-time economy.
- 1.8. Shield Associates also deliver nationally accredited training for owners, DPS, licensees, security companies, bar staff and workers involved with NTE venues around crime reduction, anti-social behaviour and awareness of their responsibilities

under the Licensing Act, forensic awareness, drugs awareness, personal safety and vulnerable persons. Shield Associates Directors are all members of the Institute of Licensing.

- 1.9. As a company our aim is to provide independent regulatory support to the Licensing trade, offer problem solving and compliance guidance and support the key objectives of the Licensing Act in reviewing working practices, policies, and procedures to ensure:
- The security and safety of those visiting a venue
- The prevention of crime and disorder
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of young and vulnerable people from harm
 - 1.10. As such we have undertaken comprehensive reviews and audits of licensed premises to ensure compliance and responsible management in support of the licensing objectives. We have delivered training to staff at licensed venues, local Pub-Watch schemes, personal licence holders and SIA door security companies.

As a company, we undertake independent reviews of premises when instructed to do so. In doing so we recognise that our duty is to provide an independent, objective report to the licensing committee, bearing in mind the potential impact of the premises and its hours on the licensing objectives.

1.11. All issues identified in our reports are true to the best of our knowledge and experience. They were either witnessed or experienced by us or told to us in good faith. The opinions expressed in this report are honestly held and correct to the best of our judgement. The fee for this report is not conditional on the outcome of the case in anyway whatsoever.

We have not previously been instructed on behalf of the premises licence holder and have never previously been to any of its premises.

1.12. I am aware of the potential impact of the operation of NTE venues on local communities and have provided reports to licensing committees and courts in

relation to a variety of licensing issues on various occasions both as a police officer and as a Director of Shield Associates.

2. <u>Instructions to Shield Associates</u>

2.1. Examine and conduct analysis of submissions of police documents that have been provided by Joshua Simons and Associates Ltd in respect of crime and anti – social behaviour that is believed by police to be connected to the Aura venue 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW.

3. <u>Disclosed Police information and reports</u>

- 3.1. The Police have disclosed a letter dated 02/06/2022 prepared by PC 3122 NW Phil Graves, which forms part of the licensing review hearing bundle (reference 3.5 of the police disclosure). Within this document a schedule of references is made in relation to crime reports, CAD reports, Intelligence reports and a stop and search document. Also, contained in the letter is a narrative reference to a 'spiking' and a robbery allegation, which is now recorded as an actual bodily harm. These two reports are referenced within the schedule. All the documentation provided highlight crimes and calls attributable to the Aura venue over a 11-month period from 01/06/2021 08/05/2022. These documents will be referred to within this report.
- 3.2. In reference to the police reports some are comprehensive, others contain one line of information due to the non-disclosure by police, and others are heavily redacted. The crime reports have all their crime reference numbers edited, so dates and times are relied upon. These will be highlighted and referred to in the report.
- 3.3. The crime reports from 2021 2022 total 11 in number, with some crimes linked together that have arisen from the same incident. Some crimes highlighted involve staff from the venue lawfully ejecting patrons and others in which the venue and staff are victims of crime.
- 3.4. The CAD reports from 2021 2022 total 10 in number with some CAD reports linked together that have arisen from the same incident.

3.5. The intelligence reports total 2 in number and have not been disclosed in full by police. A stop and search record is mentioned but again as not been disclosed in full by police.

4. Crime analysis

- 4.1. Crime report: reference number edited Monday 12th July 2021 00.01 hours Kidnapping reported by to police by phone at 04.30 hours. The victim had attended the Aura venue, then left and walked towards his car which was parked outside. He was then forcibly taken by three suspects and placed inside a car where he was assaulted with a broken bottle (stab wounds to shoulder) and threatened with a machete. He was driven about for some time before he managed to escape and call police. The investigation report has been heavily redacted, and the case has since been closed as the victim was unwilling to pursue this allegation. *This crime cannot be attributable to the venue as the victim was kidnapped outside and assaulted during his journey with the abductors. The offence isn't connected with the venue, albeit the victim had attended before the offence took place and is a victim of crime.*
- 4.2. Crime reports x 2: reference numbers edited two linked offences arising out of the same incident. Saturday 09th October 2021 23.40 hours Assault on a police officer and an assault on the door security team. The suspect had been inside the Aura venue and became intoxicated. The door security team requested the suspect to leave and sought the assistance of the suspect's friend to assist. Once outside the venue the suspect and their friend began to argue, and a fight ensued. The door security team intervened to separate both parties and the door team member was bitten on the hand. Police who were in the vicinity witnessed the altercation and assisted the door team member. During this process the police officer was slapped on the wrist (no visible injury) and the suspect was arrested and later charged with an assault on an emergency worker and actual bodily harm on the door team member. The venue and its staff were being proactive in supporting the licensing objectives by ejecting an individual that was intoxicated and preventing crime and disorder by trying to stop two individuals from harming

each other. The venue was positive in preventing disorder outside their venue and professional by supporting the police in the prosecution of an offender by providing statements.

- 4.3. Crime report: reference number edited Saturday 13th November 2021 00.09 hours Attempted theft person reported by to police by phone at 00.09 hours. The victim attempted to gain entry to the venue but was refused as his identification had expired, he was refused entry. The victim walked away and was approached by the suspect who attempted to steal his chain from around his neck, but was unsuccessful and the victim called police. Police attended and confirmed his identity and persuaded the Aura venue to take him inside as a place of safety, which they agreed to do. *This crime is not connected with the venue as the offence took place outside and the victim was initially refused entry as their identification had expired.* The venue was professional by refusing admission but later supported police by allowing the victim into their premises as a place of safety.
- 4.4. Crime report: reference number edited Saturday 04th December 2021 02.46 hours Criminal damage reported to police by the Aura venue. The door security team called police as they tried to eject an individual who was drunk and proceeded to smash the ID scanner equipment located at the venue. Police attended, no one was arrested, and the suspect agreed to pay for the damage. The Police highlighted this as incident as a low-level offence and suitable for a community resolution. The suspect was issued with a community resolution order. This crime cannot be fairly attributable to the venue as they are a victim of a crime, and they were professional in reporting the crime to police. In addition, they were also supporting the licensing objectives by attempting to eject an individual who had become intoxicated.
- 4.5. Crime report: reference number edited Friday 31st December 2021 22.00 hours but later reported to police on Saturday 01st January 2022 05.22 hours 'Spiking' allegation reported to police by the victim. Victim describes attending the Aura venue and having a couple of drinks but remembers nothing else. The victims mother finds her in her bedroom naked with scratch marks on her face. Police are called and an investigation begins. Samples are taken and the toxicology results

reveal no stupefying drugs present, and only cannabis in the victim's system. The victim fails to maintain contact with police and the case is confirmed as a no crime allegation.

This allegation is not a crime and cannot be connected with the venue as no offence has taken place. In addition, the venue has been professional by providing police with CCTV and assisting with the investigation.

- 4.6. Crime report: reference number edited Saturday 01st January 2022. Victim alleges a theft where her handbag and contents were stolen whilst she was visiting the Aura venue. The victim stated she had left her handbag unattended within the venue. The allegation is reported to police and no investigation takes place which is recorded as low level. There are no suspects, and it is difficult to make any comment on this allegation.
- 4.7. Crime report: reference number edited Sunday 16th January 2022 01.22 hours and reported via the internet to police on Friday 21st January 2022 at 14.39 hours. The victim alleges he was assaulted causing actual bodily harm after he was refused entry to the venue Aura. In the process of refusing entry, he was punched in the face causing bruising and a chipped tooth. The victim was unwilling to pursue a criminal allegation as he wanted compensation in the civil courts. It is difficult to make comment about this allegation as no formal investigation has taken place and the venue and its staff have not been spoken to by police. From the information provided this is the robbery allegation that was referred to in the police evidential bundle (3.5 police licensing hearing).
- 4.8. Crime reports x 3: reference numbers edited three linked offences arising out of the same incident. Monday 21st March 2022 02.00 02.19 hours. These allegations relate to two actual bodily harm (cross allegations against two persons) and a drunk and disorderly offence. Two groups of people about 15 -20 were attending an event inside the Aura venue where there had been no trouble or indication of such. Both groups left the venue and as they walked off there was an altercation which resulted in a fight between the groups. Police were called and two persons made allegations against each other highlighting one was punched causing a reddening of the eye (minor injury) and a cut lip (minor injury), one person who was

seen by police to push another person was issued with a fixed penalty notice for being drunk and disorderly. No one was arrested and there was no formal investigation. It is unclear if all of those involved in the fight had been inside the venue. From all the records there was no criticism by police or a visit by the police licensing team in respect of these linked incidents. The offence occurred outside the venue but there is very little information on how this happened. This was an isolated incident outside the venue, and it is difficult to see how staff could have known or prevented this from happening, especially as there was no trouble caused by some or all the group who had been inside the venue previously.

- 4.9. CAD report: 492 8th May 2021 01.03 hours. The head doorman at the Aura venue called police to a female who was smoking cannabis outside the venue. They refused her entry to the venue due to her cannabis smoking. She caused a disturbance, as she wanted her jacket that was left inside. To prevent further disturbances the staff at the venue return the jacket and woman leaves before the arrival of police who drive past at 01.09 hours. The result shown by police is 'no crime' and no anti-social behaviour report required. The venue and its staff were being proactive in supporting the licensing objectives by refusing entry to a person that was smoking cannabis and causing anti-social behaviour.
- 4.10. CAD report: 977 01st June 2021 03.57 hours. A call is made to police that a large group of people are meeting inside the Aura venue in breach of Covid regulations. They indicate this was happening at 23.30 hours. Police drive past at 04.04 hours and indicate nothing is going on. *This call to the venue is not a crime and cannot be connected with the venue, as no offence has taken place. At best this call may have been made in good faith or at worst malicious.*
- 4.11. CAD report: 6593 06th July 2021 19.26 hours. A call is made to police highlighting the Aura venue is breaching covid regulations by smoking shisha and not socially distancing. Police attend the venue on 7th July 2021 at 15.10 hours and enter and speak with the manager Mr Nunes. The police highlight no Covid breaches were being committed. *This call to the venue is not a crime and cannot be connected with the venue, as no offence has taken place. At best this call may have been made in good faith or at worst malicious.*

- 4.12. CAD report: 8569 27th October 2021 23.24 hours. The door team from the Aura venue called police to a male who had been refused entry due to them having no identification and was now violent. Police arrive at 23.30 hours and highlight no offences being disclosed and the person was lawfully evicted. *This call to the venue is not a crime and cannot be connected with the venue, as no offence has taken place. In addition, the security team were being professional and meeting the licensing objectives in preventing crime by refusing entry to a violent male who had no proper identification.*
- 4.13. CAD report: $582 27^{th}$ November 2021 02.30 hours. Police are called by the informant who highlighted there was loud music coming from the Aura venues back garden. There was no police involvement, and the call is referred to the local authority. Due to the lack of detail, it is difficult to make comment on this incident.
- 4.14. CAD report: x 2 linked incidents 237 and 396 12th December 2021 00.35. The door team from the Aura venue called police to a male who had been refused entry, who aggressive and wanted to fight other people. Police arrived and no offences were disclosed. This call to the venue is not a crime and cannot be connected with the venue, as no offence has taken place. In addition, the security team were being professional and meeting the licensing objectives in preventing crime by refusing entry to a drunken violent male.
- 4.15. CAD report: x 3 linked incidents 306, 323, 344, 25th December 2021 00.52 hours. Police were called to the Aura venue by the informant who stated he had overheard someone from the back garden at the venue say they had a knife. Police arrived at the venue and spoke with the security team. The informant who was outside is identified by police as drunk and clearly had issues with the security. No offences are identified, no one is arrested, and no crime has been reported. *This allegation is not a crime and cannot be connected with the venue as no offence had taken place.*

- 4.16. Intelligence report (reference number edited) Monday 31st May 2021. This one sentence of information highlighted drug activity taking place inside and outside the Aura venue. The information indicated the door staff had knowledge of this but choose to ignore it. Again, the provenance of the source could be genuine or malicious. The police have more recently (on 25.7.22) indicated they do not place any weight on this intelligence and withdraw it.
- 4.17. Intelligence report (reference number edited) Saturday 14th August 2021. This one-line of information highlighted gang activity was taking place outside the Aura lounge. This is difficult to make comment as there is little information supplied. Again, the provenance of the source could be genuine or malicious. *The police have more recently (on 25.7.22) indicated they do not place any weight on this intelligence and withdraw it.*
- 4.18. Stop and search record (reference number edited) Saturday 2nd October 2021. Police received a call from the door security team at the Aura venue that a male was armed with a knife. Police attend and arrest the male for possession of drugs. *The venue and its staff were being proactive in supporting the licensing objectives in preventing crime and disorder by calling the police to a male who was in possession of a knife. The police have more recently (on 25.7.22) indicated they do not place any weight on this intelligence and withdraw it.*
- 4.19. Licensing issues This is a short narrative summary by PC 3122 NW Phil Graves, where he described two offences connected with the Aura venue, a 'spiking' (described at 4.5) and a robbery (not a robbery but an actual bodily harm described at 4.7). In the summary he made criticism of the CCTV handling by the Aura venue whereby there were delays in providing CCTV, the venue editing the CCTV and refusing to provide it. It is difficult to make comment on this summary as there is no criticism by the investigating officers of the venue's actions regarding the CCTV.

5. Conclusions

5.1. This is in two parts: (1) Commentary / Analysis (2) Recommendations

5.2. The Commentary / Analysis

- 5.3. I have had sight of a number of police crime reports, CAD reports and other police documents which include intelligence reports and a stop and search record.
- 5.4. In respect of the crime data supplied by police they have indicated that over a 9 month period 11 crimes were attributable to the Aura venue from July 2021 March 2022. I have been supplied with 11 crime reports the police indicate are connected or indirectly connected to the Aura venue.
- 5.5. In respect of calls made to police known as CAD (computer aided despatch) where calls are logged, they detail summary of the call, which police officers are assigned, their time of arrival and the result of the call. The police have indicated 10 CAD calls had been generated over a 12-month period June 2021 May 2022 which are attributable to the Aura venue. I have been supplied with 10 CAD reports the police indicate are connected or indirectly connected to the Aura venue.
- 5.6. In respect of the other police documents, I have been supplied with a limited summary of two intelligence reports and a stop and search record. Both these documents are only referenced in PC 3122 NW Phil Graves licensing letter and schedule dated 02/06/2022. The police have since withdrawn reliance on these reports.
- 5.7. When crime reports are created, they may arise out of the same incident, so will give an inflated view of the number of incidents. In addition, police rely on the location venue to determine where a crime has been committed and who it is attributable to, either by a geographical area or a landmark in which the allegation is made. In respect of night-time economy venues these highlight a number of anomalies, for example in terms of a location if the victim is unclear of where exactly

an offence was committed, they will provide a landmark i.e., the Aura venue, which will include whether the offence was outside, opposite or near this landmark. Unfortunately, these anomalies don't consider if the venue was open, closed or whether the victim or suspect had been inside the venue. This is part of the questionable connection / remote connection / no connection with the venue which needs to be explored in detail within the main body of any crime report.

- 5.8. Other exceptions are where the venue is being proactive, and the crime allegation is self-generated. These include venue staff finding drugs or offensive weapons during searches. These are positive outcomes, yet the crime allegation is seen as a negative record against the venue. If police are proactive and arrest individuals for unrelated matters outside the venue this is also seen as a negative record for the venue.
- 5.9. Finally, the crime allegation location venues don't consider lawful ejections where a suspect is injured or where the security team are assaulted in the course of their duties.
- 5.10. Consequently, when the police conduct their computer-generated data searches by location venue only, it can affect the accuracy of recordings against a venue. The only way this can be addressed accurately is by reading the full investigation within the crime report.
- 5.11. Also contained within the crime report is the allegation type where police officers record the initial allegation made by the victim. In a number of serious assault allegations generally no account is taken of the actual injury sustained because of the way the crime has to be recorded under The Home Office Counting rules. For example, a Grievous Bodily Harm allegation can initially be recorded as serious but when the injury type is known it can be significantly downgraded to a minor injury. Again, this can only be accurately assessed by reading the full investigation within the crime report.
- 5.12. In respect of the crime allegations against the Aura venue from 12th July 2021 21st March 2022 there were 11 crimes police have highlighted as attributable to the

venue. In my professional opinion having reviewed the investigation reports 6 of these crimes were not directly or fairly attributable in any way to the venue. These include where staff have been assaulted during the execution of their lawful duties, conducting lawful ejections where police have acknowledged they were acting lawfully and correctly, the venue being a victim of criminal damage, victims who have been assaulted on their way home after leaving the venue and one allegation where a no crime has been recorded in relation to an allegation of 'spiking'.

5.13. In respect of the CAD reports where police have been called to the venue from 01^{st} June $2021 - 08^{th}$ May 2022 there were 10 reports police have highlighted as attributable to the venue. In my professional opinion having reviewed the CAD reports 8 of these calls were not directly or fairly attributable in any way to the venue. These include where staff have called police to persons committing crimes, causing disturbances outside the venue after being refused entry and potentially malicious calls made about the venue.

5.14. In respect of the other police reports there are 3 reports police have highlighted as being attributable to the Aura venue from 31st May 2021 – 02nd December 2021. In my professional opinion having reviewed the very limited information provided **1 of** *these incidents are not directly or fairly attributable in any way to the venue.* This one stop and search record highlights professional proactive work by the door security team who call police to outside the venue where a person is arrested for possession of drugs.

5.15. In addressing the crime in general there have been 8 crimes in my professional opinion that cannot be directly attributed to the Aura venue, which leaves a total of 2 crimes being attributable to the venue over a 9-month period. Out of these figures, 2 crimes relate to a low-level theft of a handbag and an actual bodily harm that has been alleged against the door security team at the venue. In relation to the crime report incidents 5 reports that were created relate to two separate incidents.

5.16. In addressing the CAD reports in general there have been 8 calls in my professional opinion that cannot be directly attributed to the Aura venue, which

leaves a total of 2 calls potentially being attributable to the venue over a 12-month period. Out of these figures, 2 calls relate to Covid regulations being broken by persons not socially distancing and a noise complaint about the venue. In addition to these CAD reports 5 calls are linked to 2 separate incidents.

5.17. In addressing the other police reports in general there has been 1 report in my professional opinion that cannot be negatively attributed to the Aura venue, as they called police to a person committing a crime, which resulted in an arrest for drug possession.

5.18. When you examine these crimes against the venue, the calls to the venue and associated police reports with the capacity of the venue of 215 persons and operating 7 days a week. I would suggest the <u>level of crimes are extremely low</u> even against the backdrop of the time the venue was closed during the global pandemic. In respect of the serious crime that has taken place inside / outside / connected with Aura venue there has been 1 kidnapping reported to police during this period. There has been no serious assaults or sexual offences being reported and of the other assaults these assaults record injuries that are minor / moderate in nature. Finally, the police highlight 24 incidents that are captured by way of a crime report, CAD report and other police record. Of these incidents 10 incidents arise out of 4 incident dates, which are linked offences.

5.19. In the incidents recorded by police it is clear the venue and its staff fully engage with the crime and disorder prevention; the venue reports crime and disorder, cooperates with the police; watches and observes what goes on outside its doorstep.

5.20. It should be said in my experience some irresponsible Night-time operators proactively take steps *not* to report crime and incidents to police as they don't want to come under scrutiny by the police. They also appreciate that by reporting crime this can have a detrimental effect on their licence in the event a critical incident takes place at their venue.

7. Recommendations

In reviewing all the crimes and information relating to the Aura venue I would recommend that the venue consider the following recommendations, which would enhance and support the licensing objectives.

- Independent review of their operational processes in respect of crowd management, searching and dispersal of patrons.
- Training in conflict management and personal safety, this is in part due to the number of assaults on staff when lawfully engaged in ejections.
- Closer liaison with the local police licensing team and to address issues as they arise.

Alex

Ian Smith MSyl Director Shield Associates

25thJuly 2021

Member of the Institute of Licensing



4A. Crime Report – November 2022



The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW

Notification of Hearing of Review following an Expedited Review

Shield Associates review of police evidence and submissions for a summary review of the premises licence for Aura

In relation to a request from Joshua Simons (Joshua Simons and Associates) and the owner of The Aura Bar and Restaurant, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, to review evidence presented by police and others in relation to an expedited review of the venue's premises licence, Shield Associates have reviewed the bundle of papers presented to the licensing committee, especially items $3.2-3.5\ \&\ 3.11$. The following report sets out our initial findings.

The expedited review was instigated by police following a disturbance, altercation and ultimately stabbing and murder of an individual nearby to the venue in the Harrow Road after the victim and suspect had visited the restaurant/bar and left. There is an allegation that there had been an altercation inside the venue prior to both parties leaving.

The summary review was applied for due to the following concerns about the venue:

- 1. A serious crime took place where the victim and suspect came from The Aura following an altercation in the venue where a knife was used.
- 2. Security did not support the Licensing objectives by calling Police.
- 3. Condition 3 was breached as there no 'mixed gender' of security staff. A female manager was there at the time, but it is not confirmed if they have are SIA approved.

- 4. Condition 9 was breached as no incident log was made of this incident or any other crimes at The Aura.
- 5. Condition 11 was breached as persons were allowed after 0100 hours
- 6. Condition 14 and 18 were breached as no 'keep quiet' signs were adequately displayed.
- 7. Condition 19 was breached as the licence was not clearly displayed.
- 8. The venue have not followed their policy of everyone being searched and ID scanned.
- 9. A delay and some confusion over what CCTV images were required and were provided.

Shield Associates have not had the opportunity to review details of the actual criminal offences as this is an ongoing murder investigation and it is accepted that this would not be appropriate.

In relation to issue 1

It is accepted that a serious crime has taken place outside the venue. There is, however, no current evidence from the police that we have seen, that the suspect for this murder had the knife with him while he was inside the bar/restaurant. There is suspicion on behalf of the investigating officer as quoted by PS Clarke who stated that 'he had been informed by investigating officers that it was believed that knives had been taken into the premises.' It is, however, possible that the suspect armed himself outside the venue after leaving. There is a five-minute gap between the victim and the suspect leaving the venue along with associated members of each party.

Without any further disclosure, it is also unclear whether any kind of altercation between the two males took place inside the venue. There may be witness testimony that we have not seen, however, from the bundle presented for the summary review, no evidence of a serious issue inside the venue is apparent.

In relation to issue 2

In relation to police comment that the staff from the premise took no action to call police when the fight took place, we feel this is an issue. The SIA security team and the Aura management did, however, focus on ensuring that those persons inside the premise who were pushing to leave the Aura were kept safe inside by closing the premises and only permitting egress once the police had arrived on the scene. The head of the SIA team Ahmed Benbouchta did apparently ask a customer to call 999 which the customer did. We would have expected, however, someone employed at the venue to dial 999 as soon as practicable.

In relation to issue 3

Our understanding is that there was a female security guard due to be on duty at the venue on the night in question, however, she phoned in sick late and could not be replaced. This was an issue outside the control of the venue. A more resilient model might have to be considered going forward.

In relation to issue 4

As mentioned in response to issue 1, it is not clear from the information provided whether there was a crime or notable altercation/fight inside the venue. If there had been an intervention by the security team, I would have expected a full report in the premises incident log. We did review the incident/accident report book during our compliance visit on 19th June 2022.

In relation to issue 5

From the CCTV provided by the venue it would appear that evidence has come to light that there has been a breach of licensing conditions in respect to allowing people into the venue after the last entry time (0100hrs). The fact that the CCTV was provided to assist a murder

investigation and has now been used to pro-actively look for licensing breaches is somewhat unfortunate in our opinion. There is, however, evidence of minor breaches of condition 11.

In relation to issue 6

Conditions 14 and 18 relate to 'keep quiet' signs being prominently displayed. We have not had the opportunity to re-visit the venue and check the positioning of any signs. If this is correct, then this is a minor breach of the licensing conditions.

In relation to issue 7

During our licensing compliance survey on 19th June 2022, we noted the following: 'The full premises licence is displayed underneath the covered awning to the left of the entrance to the venue'. We understand that the licence was obscured by temporary timber hording panels due to internal refurbishment of the front pat of the premises.

In relation to issue 8

The search policy for the venue was awaiting update and introduction following a recent licensing hearing. It is understood that everyone entering the venue should have appropriate ID scanned into the venue ID Scan system. On our visit on 19th June 2022, we witnessed the SIA team searching visitors to the venue at the entrance. If there has been a lack or proactive searching this needs to be addressed and the new conditions complied with. Our understanding is that details of the suspect and victim were on the ID scan system and provided to police. This assisted the investigating team and helped them identify and arrest a suspect for murder. It is our understanding that a male has been charged with murder in relation to this incident.

In relation to issue 9

There does appear to have been some delay and confusion in getting the right CCTV footage downloaded and provided to the police as seen in the email trails. I am led to understand that the amount of footage required was beyond the capabilities of the staff at the venue and a specialist CCTV engineer had to be employed to download a large data file of footage for the police to view.

Summary Conclusions

There does appear to have been a number of minor breaches of the venue licence as

highlighted by the review of CCTV footage and a visit to the premises. The operators should

consider this and ensure that staff and the security team are fully briefed and trained in the

importance of supporting the licensing objectives.

In relation to the tragic murder of a man near to the venue. The victim and suspect had been

in the premises, their details were on the ID scan machine and provided to police. There is a

belief that the suspect had carried a knife into the premises, however, at this stage no

evidence to support that assumption (we have not been able to review the full details of the

investigation or police interviews). There is a delay of around 5 minutes between the victim

and suspect leaving the venue. Other members of each party had also left the premises

around the same time (0240-0246hrs) and could possibly have collected a knife from a

vehicle or other person outside in the Harrow Road.

The ID scan evidence provided by the venue did help identify the suspect and went some

way towards police making a relatively speedy arrest. We would have expected a member of

the team to call the emergency services, or ensure they were called; however, we would not

have expected the SIA team to try and intervene in the altercation, their option to secure

the venue and prevent anyone else from leaving at the time is, in our opinion, a

proportionate response.

David Gair

Shield Associates.

24/11/2022

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Joshua Simons & Associates

5. Barnebi Nemi Letter



Dear Sirs

I am writing this letter in regards to the Review Hearing - Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW.

My name is Barnabe Nemi, Chairman of Sudbury Metropolitan Police Ward Panel. I have lived in Sudbury for more than 10 years.

After attending a community meeting where complaints were made about Aura, I did ask whether those complaining had made any contact with the owner and the answer was, no.

I decided to request a meeting with the owner to find out about these issues, as we never received any sort of complaints in regards to policing matter about Aura.

After meeting with them I was satisfied with all the explanations given.

But we decided to investigate further. We visited jointly the premises cited above. The Chair of Sudbury Town Residents Association (STRA), and myself to trying to find out more.

We walked around on 21st May 2022 from around to 11:45 pm till around 1:30 am to check the operation of this business.

We discovered that they are very cooperative, willing to work with the community and very professional in dealing with different issues.

We couldn't hear the music either outside of the venue or on the back of the venue.

We then walked to Elton Avenue where we discovered issues related to Aura's customers parking. We addressed these issues of parking with Aura's executive team. My understanding is that they are dealing with it in a professional manner.

My View on this Matter is:

Nuisance:

On each occasion we visited them we were satisfied with the noise level and the security process. We never noticed any nuisance from this business in regards to the policing point of view. As a chairman of the board, I have never received any official complaint and neither did our local police officers.

We also learnt that this business is employing twenty three (23) local residents which I think is a huge contribution to our community and it requires nothing but encouragement as we are not anti-local businesses.

We also discovered that they are engaged in charity work and donations in our community and are happy to be part of the Sudbury community and to contribute to our community life.

We strongly believe that this business is making difference to our community. If it gets shut down, twenty three locals will be jobless.

I will strongly advise to work with the business in question and the community to find a common ground as Aura owners have mentioned several times that they are willing to work with the locals.

I will be happy to help all parties to come to a common ground.

Barnabe Nemi

General Manager Chair of Sudbury Metropolitan Police Ward

Joshua Simons & Associates

6. Petition

Petition in support of The Aura

Petition summary and background

We the undersigned live and/or work in the vicinity of The Aura at 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley. We understand that Brent Council's Noise Control Officer has applied to review the premises licence of The Aura under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 due to allegations of noise nuisance. The review seeks to drastically cut the operating hours of the premises and use of the rear external area rear which will render the business enviable. In our view The Aura is a highly valued community premises which serves as a social hub for people who live or work in the area. We do not recognise the allegations of noise nuisance made against the venue and we do not associate the premises with crime, disorder or anti-social behaviour. We urge the Council's licensing sub-committee to find a solution that does not close this popular local venue by destroying its late night business model.

Print Name	Signature	Local address Contact email/phone	Comment	Date
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RAJAMPREET	Okaur		28/6/22
Violhin	Dear		28/6/22
Dhawl Portel	Dans		28/6/22

058

Joshua Simons & Associates

7. Letters of Support

RESIDENTS

Yandex Mail

Fwd: In support of Aura

25 No 2022 101 10

From

To: info@theaura.co.uk <info@theaura.co.uk>

Thanks

Amit Patel

Begin forwarded message:

From:

Date: 25 November 2022 at 1:17:44 am GMT

To: <u>business.licence@brent.gov.uk</u>
Subject: In support of Aura

To whom this may concern,

As a resident of Sudbury, i am aware of my surroundings, and it has come to attention that there is a petition to close down Aura lounge on our high street due to some accusations that Aura is causing problems on the streets.

I understand that a person has died which is deeply upsetting but i do not believe it is Auras fault in this situation and should not be blamed for it.

Aura has been a great place on our street bringing in many customers from around london and it is truly an amazing place to visit.

I believe that Aura should definitely be kept open as they have not instigated this situation. I understand relatives and friends must be upset or angered but logically Aura had no part in this, it was just open to its customers like every other day it is open.

In addition Aura generates a really lively environment for our community as it is a trusty place we can visit when our lives get boring.

In my opinion this place is really special as it allows residents to have some fun from their stressful lives which is really hard to find. Lastly, i believe instead of closing Aura security should be increased in the area as it quite frequent to see robberies in my area, already making it unsafe. Therefore, we should not blame Aura.

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Last month in one mile radius of Sudbury Town 458 crimes has been reported.

Where 24 has been reported in Sudbury high street area.

This numbers indicates, we need more SNT on street in Sudbury area, need increased police numbers patrolling in wembley, and these criminals should be caught and punished higher. The example needs to be set by law protecting authorities.

Strict action needs to be take against Gun and knife crimes, some campaign should be run.

There were multiple shooting incident took place in Harrow high street, Kingsbury area this year (may be last year) one person has lost his life.

Shutting down places is never an option.

A fight has broke out side of the club. Knifes came from out side, club didn't provide knifes.

Argument happens inside of out side it doesn't matter, EOD no one has right to kill any one.

Another group was waiting out side with knifes, that means it was a deliberate intention from beginning.

I'm pleased, we all are worry for community, but we should bare in mind 100+ ppl will lose their job, if club lost their licence, in this current economical condition.

That means we will face 100+ venerable young ppl on street, some families are depending on their job.

Hope ppl who wants club to close, have some plan for those young unemployed ppl.

(Because in my eyes those employees are innocent too, same like the young one whom we have sadly lost A)

Yours faithfully



To the licensing officer,

Hope you are well. I have been a resident in this area at since many years. I have also been in touch with the council and the aura regarding the nuisance and everything which has happened in the last 6 months. I have complained a lot of times to council and aura about the parking issues which I had on the pavement opposite my house. We tried getting in touch with Paul Lorber who is a councillor, who had been sending us complaints against the aura especially but never got replied back from him even after waiting for weeks. Finally, I had to go the other route and I had a meeting with the aura surveillance team in regard to my issues which I expressed and they have been really helpful and took actions straight away. I have been seeing road marshals in my area, a security patrolling and the team which keeps an eye every now and then. This made us feel extra secure and helped us very well to have peaceful sleep. There were no nuisance incidents after that from random patrons.

I feel really sorry for the young soul which died, but there had been fights in this area which resulted in nuisance anyways. I get that people feel that the aura is to blame here but we as residents don't see any reason to blame them. There have been fights in this area hours after aura has closed on weekends in the last months which had nothing to do with aura. Who should have been blamed for that, people have no answer.

When the aura business is in working hours, we have had security patrolling all the time and that way we have felt safe all the time.

Since the aura has closed, the nuisance level has been topmost. I agree people come down to pay their condolences but it has to be in a peaceful manner, not by playing loud music and revving loud cars. That way the nuisance in the neighbourhood is just getting worse which was resolved when the aura was open, at least that way people were secured and knew that security was always around to help them. Since last couple of weeks, the noise level has been at that extent, that my kids can't even sleep, my wife and I have work in the morning and we cant even sleep for a normal adult sleep period hour.

I would urge the council to give aura the full operating license so that we can have our secure nights once again. The local residents have been complaining a lot in regards to the nuisance caused by the people coming to pay their condolences but have been quite for the sake of respect. Our only hope now is the council. We have many 24/7 shops in the area who get customers early morning. Being a local resident I would not like any business to shut down. We have complained a lot to the police and some councillors as well to get help to resolve the solution but haven't got any reply from them. I had complained to the aura

and got help from them straight away, and now we are working very classify to resolve our issues.



New Mental

Tolk John Start

Respected Authorities

I am a resident of Sudbury, and have been living here since many years

We all know about the incident that happened on Harrow Road. I would like to give my kind regards to the family of those whose are involved. It is a tough time but in these times it is very important to maintain our sense of what is happening. The security of Aura has been great at performing their job. I have seen them work where they go through the checks of their guest in maintaining their security. They have more than required staff to ensure quiet and smooth operations of entry. I have stood outside Aura many times throughout my day-to-day activities on the road and have always seen them follow their duties very well. They have not only followed their basic obligations but they have listened to the community time and again and have solved various issues faced by the community. They have been highly responsive towards the citizens around the club and those who are affected by the club.

I request the authorities to consider my perspective and my opinion to allow Aura to remain working.

Thank You



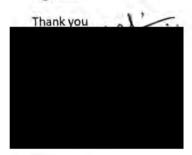
Greetings to everyone,

I have been living in Sudbury since many years.

I have noticed the recent uneasiness on the streets due to the incident of murder on Harrow Road.

I would like to present to you the scenario of the Aura nightclub since the beginning of the new management. I have been in Aura many times. The management of Aura has been great in the matter of security and safety. They ensure that all their guests are checked before their entry and they also control the crowd inside the premises. I have been to other clubs in London and according to me Aura's security is among the best security of the clubs in London. There has been a drastic improvement in activities around the nightclub since the takeover in terms of customers and footfall at shops on the street. The nightclub does not have a detrimental effect but rather supportive and positive effect on the activities in the town.

I strongly request to take into consideration my point of view and allow further licence of Aura nightclub.



Dear Sir/Madam

The unfortunate incident that happens on the street is something out of the ordinary in my opinion, because I have observed and experienced the security and management of Aura to be working hard to make the area safe and secure such that there is a free flow of activities in the area and good control over any out of the ordinary events. Many times, I have passed by Aura and have observed that the customers stand there in an orderly line and are peaceful. The management of Aura have been known to not tolerate any disruptive activities. I believe that the operation of Aura is a boon to the safety and security of the area rather than a disruption.

Additionally, I also see the to be more responsive to the issues of the society as compared to the council or the police, the management has solved issues like parking and free low of traffic as soon as they were approached by me for such issue. They take responsibility very well and make continuous successful efforts to improve the life in the area.

I hope you would understand the importance of Aura and its working for the area and further continue to grant them licence.



To brent authorities, I have been living near to Aura since even before the latest club started. I have to let you know and make it clear that I strongly want the club to work. I have seen much reduction in bad behaviour and bad activities on the street due to the guards at Aura. I know 24 shopkeeper and have seen more customers in their shops after opening of the new place in the place of Aura. I remember coming home late at night and walking on the street used to be scary as there was no one, but after the presence of Aura there are customer, security guards, and other shopkeeper due to the business activities in late hour. It is my strpng request to the authorities to keep the club running.



Respected Sir/Madam.

I have a house in Sudbury since many years. I use to get good services and prices from all the shops in the area

Sudbury, but since the closure of Aura, the business have reduced the offering of goods and services in terms of their variety, this is because there are less customers than before. I also see empty streets pretty early in the night. Previously there use to be more business and public activities till later but after the recent closure of Aura, the business feel the pressure and have not been responding well. I remember when Aura first opened in the area, there was a sudden change in the environment of the area, we could see young people in the streets and shops and their glamour. But after the recent shutdown, we have lost the life and activities of people on the street. I would like that life and light to be back on the street and request the authorities to keep the nightclub Aura running as it supports shops and the life in the city.

Thank You



Dear sir/mam,

I wish to make my representation on the horrific incident in which a young soul lost his life. I have been a resident of Sudbury for a very long time, and we have seen a lot of business trying their level best to survive. The number of businesses which tried to sustain for a living through their businesses failed miserably and eventually had to shut down. It is very hard to fathom the fact that an area such as Sudbury cannot help a business grow in their locality. The only business which has their standards above every other business and was working above par excellence was THE AURA. They have always kept a standard which in hospitality no other business have been able to in our area. I, being a local resident, have visited the venue a lot of times. The standards and service of Mayfair which you get in Sudbury is something one would always awe to have in their neighbourhood.

I remember us residents complaining about nuisance, parking issues, garbage issues etc. We all received letters from councillor Paul Lorber, in which he described all the issues we have been facing and extended saying that it was all caused by the customers who visit the aura. We have written letters to Mr. Paul more than 20 times in total to find solutions for our issue. We have not even heard back from him. After a few weeks, we received one more letter from Mr. Paul which stated the same issues and said to contact him to which he never replies, completely unprofessional. We lost our hopes from him and tried contacting the local councillors for the same issues, but the response was never to be satisfied with.

We finally had to go to the aura ourselves to express our thoughts and issues which we were facing. We were left completely surprised by the way aura management was responsive to us. They reviewed all our complaints and gave us a list of solutions they can provide. Every resident left very happily after the meeting.

The aura management started working on the situation straight away and we saw the change from day 1. There were security guards always patrolling the area, there were surveillance officers asking the neighbours all the time if they were okay. The security was so helpful, sometimes they would come to help us whenever we were walking by street after finishing work late night. They were there to protect us all the time, they always used to make sure all the roads are cleared for parking spaces only available to the residents, they made sure the nuisance was taken care off, they made sure not even the local residents, but even the customers of aura left for their homes safely. We could not have asked for more. We are totally in support of the business as they have helped us at all times even when councillor Mr. Paul Lorber ignored our requests and complaints.

The local business is very happy with aura being open as usual till late night as their business is getting help as well. The residents are very happy and satisfied with the way the aura has been working. The fight which happened in the streets of Sudbury was very horrific, but anything happening on the street cannot be controlled. We local residents think how aura is held responsible here, the same security team which works at their level best cannot help someone who is fighting on the streets with knives. Even if they were aura customers, Sudbury itself has many local gangsters and drug dealers who move around with knives and machetes. The security team that the aura has, had been there since approximately last 10 years which is a very long time and we have seen them at the same venue all the time. As a estimate, when aura security is there we feel safe and secured against the local criminals. We would never want the aura to shut as we are completely with them as their support is all we need after complaining to useless democrats such as Mr. Paul Lorber.

We are entirely in support of aura as a business in our area. We would impulse to the council to let aura run as a Primark business in our Sudbury area.



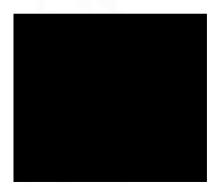
Dear Sir/Madam,

I heard about the incident that happened outside Aura and would like to present my regards to the family of the victim. I have been to Aura many times and have a good experience of the way in which management maintains security. They have very strict and consistent control over the matters in the club and are able to keep everything I check. In my opinion their security is at par if not better then the best clubs in the city. This incident should not cause the club to shut down as the club has excellent security team who are active throughout their operations. Without the club lots of jobs will be lost and Sudbury will loose the best running business of its area.

The club is also highly active in managing any complaints they receive about the issue regarding the operations of the club.

I hope you grant the club to continue to be in operation.

Thank You



Greetings Sir/Madam,

I am living near Aura nightclub since many years.

I have seen the nightclub change the are in a positive way. Previously there use to be little traffic in the area at night and the business had far less customers. With the entrance of Aura management in the area, there have been drastic improvements in the business, safety and security of the area. Sudbury has experienced an elongated period of business operations through the day due to the rise of Aura. The nightclub contributes a lot to the small economy of Sudbury.

Not only that, we have taken the issues of our area to police, various authorities, and the Aura management, but among them the response of Aura was the most extensive in solving the issues of the community. We have seen action being taken by the nightclub in matters of local issues.

I am strongly in favour of further continuation of Aura. It is a request to authorities to ensure that Aura night club stays open for business.

Thank you



Dear Sir/Madam,

I Live at a nd I heard about the incident that happened outside Aura and would like to present my regards to the family of the victim. I have been to Aura many times and have a good experience of the way in which management maintains security. They have very strict and consistent control over the matters in the club and are able to keep everything I check. In my opinion their security is at par if not better then the best clubs in the city. This incident should not cause the club to shut down as the club has excellent security team who are active throughout their operations. Without the club lots of jobs will be lost and Sudbury will loose the best running business of its area.

The club is also highly active in managing any complaints they receive about the issue regarding the operations of the club.

I hope you have understood about the actual scenario of the area and grant the club to continue to be in operation.



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am living in Sudbury on district road. I would like to communicate to the authorities that it is important for me to that Aura nightclub continues to exist.

I have a strong attachment to Aura because it made the area vibrant and bustling. Prior to Aura, the area had very little potential for it but Aura has proved that this area has great potential and we can attract good lively hoods in the area. The club is among the top few clubs, with in a league of its own. Such club gives me hope as it brings business and young blood in the area. The sales as a result of this club had brought new life and has improved the overall plethora of products and services on the street.

I strongly urge to allow this club to work as this club has improved the value of the area and its

Thank You



Dear all,

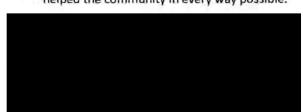
We have residents in this area for a very long time at the work when we seen businesses come In and go almost every year. The stable business in the town, also a very known place in London, THE AURA has been an extravagant restaurant and place where all of their customers including us, love spending time. Since last 15 days we have been getting letters from a councillor name PAUL LOBRER putting some completely nonsense allegations against the place and trying to brain wash people who are very happy for the business to stay.

We just want to clear out our views to the council that we are completely happy with aura being a stable business in our area and one of the most vibey places around the town. We are grateful to have such a wonderful restaurant at our doorsteps, and we want the aura to stay open as usual.



Dear All,

We hereby wanted to share some thoughts on how the aura has benefited the whole Sudbury community. We have been residents since a fair long time now, and we have witnessed how the aura has grown in the past couple years. To have a lounge in our area which is been visited by tons of celebrities, including national level football players, international actors, various sporting icons and international models is something not every area has a benefit of. We agree that the tragic incident that happened on the street outside Wenzel's was horrific, and we feel sorry for the family who have lost a son, but boycotting aura for something which they were not a part of is not right. We are completely in support of aura and will continue supporting them till the end. They have helped the community in every way possible.



Dear Sir/ mam

Hope you are doing well. We wanted to raise our concerns with what has been going on in Sudbury area, harrow road. We live at Since the closure of The aura, there has been a very negative atmosphere going around in the area. The people have been spreading around loads of rumours and made up stories of how the crime has been happening in the area and it has spread widely due to the aura. We just wanted to share our views on how we are totally in support for The aura to run as a business.

Recently all the neighbours have been getting letters from councillors spreading around defamation and negative proclamations. According to them hospitality businesses should not be allowed in residential areas especially in Sudbury. We as residents are totally happy with the way aura has been operating and have no issues against them. In fact, aura has been very supportive to the local community since the start. They have actually helped us in many ways. They have been very professional and skilful.

They have also supported the local community by giving out free food and drinks to the needy. Such pure hearted and generous acts gel the community strongly. We consider The aura as a very big part of the Sudbury community and will continue to do so. We strongly urge the council and the councillors to let work run as before.



I live in Sudbury Town, at about why I think Aura should continue to have its licence. As a proud resident of Sudbury, I take pride in the existence of such world class place of entertainment in our area. I take my guests and relatives in the restaurant and they are astonished by the presence of such club in my neighbourhood. Not only that, the restaurant also keeps the business activities busy and results in increased span of period of business activities on the street. Without the club, the business will not get high class customers and opportunity of long business hours. The club brings eyes of young people and works as a centre where people from outside the area come and spend their money. Having a such property in the area also results in appreciation of the property values in our area. I think that I have made my position clear about the club. I ask the authorities to keep the club working.



Dear Authorities, I have been living in Sudbury town since many years at According to me, Aura is a part of the culture of Sudbury, there are celebrations and lively activities in Aura. Aura has been able to create a bond in their customers and brings life and an element of community to the area. After the arrival of the new management of Aura there has been drastic improvement in my mental wellbeing as I am able to enjoy my achievements in life and process the stress that I face due to work. Aura has been a paradise of a place to meet new friends, conduct business meetings and birthday parties. Without Aura life would become boring and dull, even the community on the street gets a positive boost due the presence of Aura. I would strongly urge the authorities to keep the club running as it is the reason for life and happiness on the street.



Dear Authorities,

I have been living at 5

The town use to be dead and abandoned especially at night before the arrival of Aura nightclub.

It use to be a challenge to walk at night as there would be presence of no souls on the streets, but since the arrival of Aura, we see people on the streets and feel safe and secured, the management of Aura has been very co-operative of our issues and have resolved any issues we faced. They have made the street alive and secure at night. They quickly report any out of the ordinary criminal activities and also helps the neighbours feel safe. They conduct their activities with the consent of the locals and keeping them in confidence. They also bring lots of happiness in the area as young people come to the areal. The club has also been a place of visit for many celebrities which gives recognition to the area. The business that the club brings increases the sales of all the business on the street and as a result appreciates the value of property in the area.

Thank You



Hello everyone

As the local residents of Sudbury area, we would like to raise our concerns about how a very well known restaurant in London, which is known as The Aura which is in our local area, has been getting defamed by a couple of families which led to a closure of 2 weeks for the business. We feel really sorry for the young male who died few days ago in a fight on the streets but we do not see any reason for blaming aura for the murder. We have been hearing a lot of people talk bad about the business as people think they were the reason due to which the young male died, we also urged them to not interfere in the lounge's business as nothing has been confirmed by any official law bodies or even the police. A place which has been a spot for many well known celebrities around London and a very safe and secure place to visit in our local area is being defamed which is something we local residents are against. The closure of aura for 2 weeks has affected a lot of local businesses and also local community. We would like the council to let aura stay open as usual as it is one of the best places in London right now.



Hello

As the local residents of the Sudbury area, we are writing this in support of the aura. The whole community in Sudbury area are well aware of how they have been grateful of the aura since last 9-10 months. Needy people in the area have been benefited by the aura as they were provided free food and drinks in a charity act by the business. They have been providing food to the need at regular intervals. We have witnessed how helpful they have been to the community, also the security team have been utmost helpful when securing not just their premises but also the neighbourhood area. Local residents are completely in support of the aura and we are insisting the council to let the business stay open as usual.



Dear all,

Hope you are well. We as residents of Sudbury area near harrow road wanted to share some thoughts to you and shed some light on how some people are trying to defame our local go to place know as The Aura. We have been receiving baseless letters from councillors and some residents to sign a petition against the aura as they are the reason for nuisance, parking issues and trash issues. We never signed any such letters as we do not have problems against the venue. In fact, we have been GRATEFUL to have aura as a part of our community. They have played a major role in upbringing the name of SUDBURY area. We are fully in support of the aura.



Respected Sir/ Madam,

I am a local resident in Sudbury town near The Aura lounge in harrow road, I was facing a lot of problem as the customers used to park their cars in front of my house and used to block the way. I had complaint about this to the management of The Aura and they immediately look into this matter and resolved my issue. Also they make sure that customers don't park in front of my house. I don't have any problem with the place and I want them to run continue. Requesting you to approve the license for them.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am residing in Sudbury Town since many years at

I recently came to know about the issue of Aura licence due to an unfortunate event on Harrow Road.

I believe that the management of Aura has made commendable efforts since the beginning of their management. They have made sure that the community is a safe place to live even at night. I remember returning from work or my personal meetings and finding the security of Aura orchestrating their guests and the people in that area. They do not fail to quench any uncivilised activity in the area. They interact with the passer by and make sure they are well and help them if needed and also ensure that bad actors are kept in check. They are very friendly and active part of the community. They also listen to the citizens around the club and solve the issues within their preview.

I request the authorities to keep the club operational and consider contribution of the management to the community.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I read the news about the murder outside Aura, I would like to speak about the performance of aura management in the matter of security and safety that their history is very clean and their working is very helpful for me and all the citizens in Sudbury. We have remained in contact with the management of Aura through various redressals which have been entertained and solved by the management at a very quick pace. The management have always been accommodating and have been very active in securing their area and keeping their activities civilised. They have a good command over every situation in the past. I believe that the management should be allowed to continue to run Aura.

I have experience of other clubs but consider that the management of Aura does a better job at security.



Respected Sir/Madam

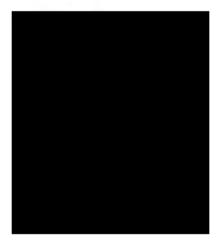
I have been keeping up with the event on the harrow road about the murder of a young man.

I would like to say that events like these keep on occurring but I want to provide my personal observation of the security at Aura. They function in good collaboration and co-ordination with the community, they make sure to consider the view of public in the matters of entry and access to their establishment. This makes their security a part of the community driven effort to keep the streets of Sudbury safe. Without Aura it would be difficult to ensure compliance to security in the community. With them being located at the centre of the area, they act as a central deterrent to any anti-civil activity. Without the presence of Aura, Sudbury will lose a major actor, on the streets of Sudbury, who played a vital role in reducing crime.

Aura is not only ensuring security on the streets but it also provides business to all the stores on the high street who operate at night. The pool of customer of Aura is much wider than any other business in Sudbury, people come to Aura from far and wide and as a result they bring funds from outside the area to the local businesses.

I would like to appeal to the authorities to consider contribution of Aura to the economic and security aspects of Sudbury, which in themselves are enough to make us strongly consider the idea to further allow the licence of Aura to continue.

Thank You



Dear Authorities,

I am resident of Sudbury Town, who have been living here since many years at



I have recently seen lots of activities on the harrow road regarding the incident of murder that happened on the road.

I want to be testament to the security of Aura over the past years. The guard of the Club have been performing their duty without any breach of security and they have played a vital role in preventing many crimes on the street of Sudbury town. They maintain security of the club over the operating hours of the club. The citizens of the town safe while passing outside Aura due to the presence of the security team. The security also knows most of the local troublemakers and makes sure that they are not granted entry into the club. I have seen them at work where thy help out locals in their activities around the club. They make sure that the people passing by are not in any trouble by making casual greetings to them.

Moreover, the management of Aura is also an important part of the life in Sudbury. The management keeps rolling the money cycle of Sudbury. So, I urge the council to consider the importance of Aura management and not to make negative restriction on the license.



Respected Authorities,

Sudbury tow has been my place of residence since many years.

I read about the recent incident that occurred on Harrow ROAD outside Aura. My condolences to the family of the dead young man but I believe that we are scapegoating the wrong entity here. The enrage of the murder is being taken to the wrong direction and innocent management of Aura is being blame. Aura management has addressed many issues of the area and they hear the community and have a good trac record in the matter of security and operations. Over the years the staff members, particularly the security has been a crucial part of the community in the area. Aura also provides employment to lots of people and if the management changes, then the employees will lose their job in this time of high inflation where jobs are difficult to come by.

It is a request to everyone who is looking into this matter to consider my request to allow Aura to run.



Dear Authorities,

I am resident of Sudbury Town at who have been living here since many years.

I have recently seen lots of activities on the harrow road regarding the incident of murder that happened on the road.

I want to be testament to the security of Aura over the past years. The guards of the Club have been performing their duty without any breach of security and they have played a vital role in preventing many crimes on the streets of Sudbury town. They maintain security of the club over the operating hours of the club. The citizens of the town are safe while passing outside Aura due to the presence of the security team. The security also knows most of the local troublemakers and makes sure that they are not granted entry into the club. I have seen them at work where thy help out locals in their activities around the club. They make sure that the people passing by are not in any trouble by making casual greetings to them.

Moreover, the management of Aura is also an important part of life in Sudbury. The management keeps rolling the money cycle of Sudbury. So, I urge the council to consider the importance of Aura management and not to make negative restrictions on the license.

Thank you



Respected Authorities.

I am a resident of Sudbury since many years.

I feel sorry for the murder that happened outside Harrow Road. I think that Aura club done its best throughout the years to maintain the peace in the area of Sudbury. The security procedure of Aura is undoubtable. They check each and every quest that enters their premises and also makes sure that the guests are in a single line outside the venue. They keep the area safe from people who are out of control and cause nuisance in the area. They are the first ones to report incidents on the streets to the police. I have found the Aura marshals to have a positive effect on the peace of the community. There is a whole new economy that has developed in the town because of the crowd that Aura draws in. The people of Sudbury depend on the business provided by Aura. The nightclub under new management is a living and active part of the town.

It is my humble request to the authorities to support further operation of the club. I hope you would understand the importance of the club for the stakeholders of Sudbury.

Thank You.



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am residing in Sudbury Town since many years

I recently came to know about the issue of Aura licence due to an unfortunate event on Harrow Road.

I believe that the management of Aura has made commendable efforts since the beginning of their management. They have made sure that the community is a safe place to live even at night. I remember returning from work or my personal meetings and finding the security of Aura orchestrating their guests and the people in that area. They do not fail to quench any uncivilised activity in the area. They interact with the passer by and make sure they are well and help them if needed and also ensure that bad actors are kept in check. They are very friendly and active part of the community. They also listen to the citizens around the club and solve the issues within their preview.

I request the authorities to keep the club operational and consider contribution of the management to the community.

Thank You.



I recently became aware of the incident that occurred on harrow road involving guests of Aura.

I would like to make it clear that the security record of Aura in my opinion is of a very high standard and without a doubt I believe that Aura management has been performing their duty since the beginning. I say it out of my personal experience with the staff of Aura as they have been crucial in addressing the complaints I have had regarding any issue in the area. I have observed a positive effect on the safety and security of the area due to the activities of Aura management. They are very quick to solve any issue that occurs on the street and supress uncivilised behaviour. I have seen them handle multiple situations in past and can give my assurance to anyone that the management is make best of their efforts to maintain peace. Without Aura there was a significant rise in activities from bad elements of the society. In my opinion Aura management is now a necessity for the security of the area.

I request all the authorities to consider my strong appeal to allow Aura to be functional at this location.

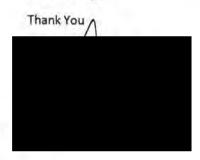
Respected Sir/Madam

I am residing in Sudbury from past many years on V

I am following the recent incident that have happened on harrow road where a guest of Aura was killed. I think that the council and the people are being misguide. The management of Aura has a good security team who have tried their best to prevent such situation from happening. This incident happened outside their premises, away from the zone of control by Aura, I believe that Aura management has performed their duties to the best and have done everything in their control to deescalate the situation. I have seen them operate since many years and can say with surety that their presence makes the streets safer. I believe that if any other establishment comes to this place, we will lose a highly functioning and effective business which improves the safety of the area.

I request any authority and citizen to let Aura function in the area to the full extent as this is in favour of the community of the area.

being the closest neighbour to aura.. I am writing this email to the authorities know about why I think Aura should continue to have its licence. As a proud resident of Sudbury, I take pride in the existence of such world class place of entertainment in our area. I take my guests and relatives in the club and they are astonished by the presence of such club in my neighbourhood. Not only that, the club also keeps the business activities busy and results in increased span of period of business activities on the street. Without the club, the business will not get high class customers and opportunity of long business hours. The club brings eyes of young people and works as an centre where people from outside the area come and spend their money. Having a such property in the area also results in appreciation of the property values in our area. The security at aura has been always on point and they have been providing surveillance in the streets of Sudbury at daily intervals. We feel safe and secured due to their presence. We are totally in support of aura. I think that I have made my position clear about the club. I ask the authorities to keep the club working.



Respected Sir/Madam

I am living in Sudbury Town since many years

My sympathy with the family of the victim of the ungodly occurrence at Harrow Road.

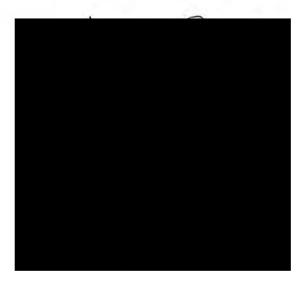
In this matter I would like to let it out that the Aura has highest standards of safety and security. I have observed them over many years, they manage their guests and perform security checks in a very effective manger. I have never seen anyone able to pass by the security without being inspected and checked. They have an impeccable record and impressing intensity of grasp on the matter of security. I have not observed any lapse in their security throughout the time I have seen them. I can vouch for the consistency of the security to be at a better level than required. The club has one of the best security practices in whole of London

The club keep the area safe during the time of its operation. I also report incidents to the police and ensures that appropriate measures are taken. The security also helps the local people in matters of smooth operations.

I hope that you would have understood my point by now and I urge the council to let the club continue to run.







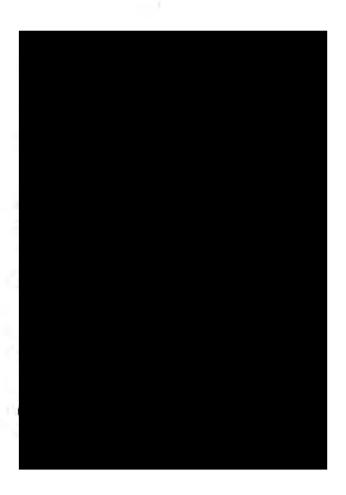
I have lived at 8

I would like to express my opinion about the Aura licence due to the incident on Harrow Road.

I have no doubt about the effectiveness of the staff and security of Aura nightclub. The club has good practices in regards to security in and outside the club for its guests as well as the community around Aura. I those responding against Aura are enraged based on emotions and I have also come across many contradicting accounts of the incident which are yet to be cleared by the authorities. Aura has been phenomenal at maintaining pace and civility on the street and inside the club. Moreover, Aura also feeds many households through employment directly to the employees and through payments made to the inputs. I know that Aura treats their staff in a really well manner and supports the community. If Aura is shutdown, then many people will lose their work and the area will lose a successfully thriving business.

I request authorities to separate the incident from the management of Aura and consider my strong appeal to keep the club running.

Thank You

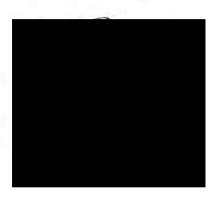


The incident on Harrow Road was an unfortunate occurrence and I would like the family of the victim to be at peace.

I have been living at the security of Aura in all their matters is at the highest level. They are serious about their job and are dedicated to providing a safe environment to their customers and the area around the club. They have been responsive to all their stakeholders and have made fast and appropriate response to any communication made by the community. The security team makes us feel safe and their measures are more than adequate to ensure safety. I feel that there has been some lack of understanding which has cause such an outrage. I have made myself highly informed and have gone through lots of information before making this conclusion. I believe that Aura management functions at highest standards and in my experience have seen them follow protocol necessary for safety.

I urge the council and everyone else to consider my perspective and ensure that the club Aura continues to run further.

Thank you



We are residents at a would like to express my thoughts about the aura running as a business. I feel sorry about the tragic incident that happened in the Sudbury parade and my sincere and deepest condolences to the family and friends. As the word is spreading around that aura as a venue is not safe, I want to say that aura has been one of the safest venues around NW London and their security has always been on point. Being a local resident, I have visited the venue a lot of times and have never felt unsafe on any occasion inside the aura.

As per my understanding of the tragic incident, the guest visited aura but incident in question took place outside the aura restaurant involving a group if people fighting on the streets which makes it a police matter.

Blaming a business for this incident which did not even take place in their premises is brutal and for a business which is actually doing its best to sustain themselves in this harsh economy. There are tragic incidents taking place throughout Sudbury, Wembley, harrow, and all other places in London but closing restaurants and pubs for the violence is not the solution. Business is already suffering losses in their operation and by spreading such words and contemplating on revoking their license is wrongful judgement.

Aura being the best place to go in the area, I would urge the council to let aura stay open as usual.



BUSINESSES

We operate a business named section with the Aura as a business. They have been operating very professionally and the whole team in general is very generous. We as a business are thankful to aura for their help in previous times.



To,
The Review Committee,
I am writing on behalf of the

We are a

Grocery store open till late night.

The Aura have been very helpful and supportive towards our business as all their daily amenities are bought from our store. We have mutual agreement of local business discount which has helped us to keep a good relation between business. Our daily footfall consists of 60% locals, 10% outsiders and 30% Aura customer coming in. the following footfall from Aura have increased our daily sales significantly. It would not just be shame but a huge lose to the local business around if we were to lose the venue. Please feel free to contact me for any further information. Regards,



Writing to you as a supporting business of The Aura, we are a charge substitute business called . Our involvement with The Aura is that we provide a luxury driving experiences for the VIP customers at The Aura.

We have been partnered with The Aura for 2 years and in the time of this partnership we have never encountered any issues.

In light of the recent events we would like to express our concerns. From our business we would like to share our deepest condolences to the family for their loss. As a business we sympathise with The Aura for the claims which have been made against them.

As a business owner it is extremely sad to see the harsh treatment which The Aura has received. The incident which took place was dealt with the customers safety taken as their number one priority. With this in mind I cannot express how important it is to understand that The Aura did everything within their capacity to ensure the safety of their customers.

We would like you to know that we are in support of The Aura and anything we can do to help with this case please call us at



To, Whom it concerns

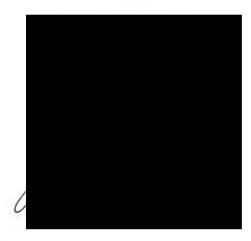
I am the owner of the !

I can't stress enough to how much The Aura have helped my business grow.

They accommodate diverse customers who come from various parts of UK and show interest going to the local store around the venue. The Aura is a big part of our local business community and have shown positive attitude ad contribution in our area.

Since their company have open my shop have shown an increase in sales of around 25% every month. I cant be grateful enough of the support they have shown me. If there is anything I can help with please don't hesitate to contact me.

Regards,



Dear sir/mam

We as a business would like to express our thoughts on The Aura as a business. We are working on harrow road since last 10-15 years. We wanted to share our thoughts on The Aura as a business in the local community. The aura as a business has been operating very well, and we had many reviews from our own customers about aura as well. We had many customers coming to us saying that they went to Aura after our venue was closed late night and they really enjoyed their time over there. It was clearly visible by the customers answers that they had a enjoyable time keeping in mind that they were local to the area as well.

Being competitors in the business, we are happy the way the aura has been operating in a very well performed manner. The view from our side had always been positive for AURA as a business.



I am a business owner on harrow road. Our business is at a

Since aura had closed our sales have gone down completely. The last 6 weeks have been our worst week since we have opened. Our customers which we used to get after 1AM have almost gone down to zero since the closure of aura. We would like to appeal to the council to let aura stay open as usual so that us, and the other businesses which benefit from aura can stay open as usual. The advantages that businesses have had from The Aura is a lot. We never had any issues from them previously and would request the council to let them stay open as before.





Trust this letter finds you well.

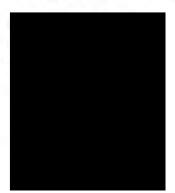
I am writing in regards to the recent events and would like to express my thoughts.

I am a regular customer at The Aura and in the years I have been coming to The Aura my experience has been nothing but fantastic. The members of staff have always ensured that the service and my safety has been their number one priority, this is evident through their thorough ID checks prior to entering the establishment, through to their friendly customer service.

The Aura has made my experiences special through their unique ways of celebrating birthdays through to their amazing events. The music, drinks and food is unmatched and the atmosphere has never disappointed. I come to Aura 4 times a week with family, friends and even clients.

Now in regards to the recent events, my deepest condolences goes out to the family. I understand the pain they must be going through, however I have full belief that the security have done the utmost to protect their customers and have no doubt that they followed their processes to ensure the safety of all customers/ staff in the establishment. Given that I was present that evening what I had witness that all the customers were having an amazing evening. At some point in the night security had announced that we should remain on the premise for our own safety due to a conflict which took place on Harrow Road. This evoked a sense of assurance for all customers as our safety was placed at the forefront of their priority.

I trust you take my thoughts into considerations when making any decisions in regards to the service that Aura provides. Please do not hesitate to contact me if any further assistance is needed, my contact number



Dear to whom this may concern,

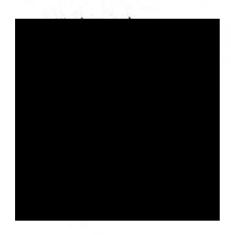
In light of the recent events I would like to convey my thoughts.

Aura had been like home for me since my first experience here. There has never been an instance where my safety has been compromised. So with the recent events I would encourage you to take my experiences into consideration as a regular customer.

It has been tragic what has happened, however as a customer who has been coming to The Aura regularly I cannot express that the claims made against them have; 1. Not been confirmed by the police, 2. Are in line with my experience as well as the experience of many other customers too.

In no way am I trying to downplay this incident, however the statistics of stabbings in London are very high and has occurred outside shop, bars, establishments and however I cannot understand why such aggressive claims are being made against Aura. I would understand that if all stabbings have resulted in multiple companies shutting down, but this is not the case and I don't believe that this should be the case for Aura.

I urge you to take my thoughts into consideration when making any decisions on The Aura. If you have any queries in regards to my thoughts, do not hesitate to contact me at



Writing to you to communicate my thoughts on the tragic event and my views on The Aura.

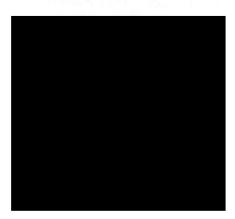
It is extremely sad what has happened and I express deepest sympathies to the family.

I was present the night of the incident and I cannot explain how safe and protected the security made me feel. From the beginning of the night prior to entering security conducted a full search with a wand. The same intensity of security was carried on throughout the night. This can be seen through the announcement made by the security when an incident occurred on Harrow Road and we had been told to stay on premise for our safety.

I am a regular customer here and have never had anything but an amazing experience. The events The Aura host are absolutely fantastic and have never ceased to amaze me and my friends.

If there is anything you take from my thoughts please take that The Aura provide impactable service and have always ensured that their customers are safe.

If there is anything I can do to support, please call me at I



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Dear Team,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I would first like to start by introducing myself. My name is and I have been coming to The Aura for the past 3 years. In my time coming to The Aura my experience has been unequalled to any other. From the atmosphere through to their dining experiences, their services are 5 stars.

In regards to the recent incident which took place on Harrow Road I would like to communicate my opinion. I have only had positive feedback to give to The Aura and would express that the staff and security have always taken my safety into their consideration.

The Aura holds a dear place in my heart and it aches me to see the claims made against them.

If there is anything I can do to help please contact me at



STAFF

We are employees at THE AURA on harrow road, Wembley. We had a few questions about the allegations that have been made against the business by councillor PAUL LOBRER. Most of the employees that work at the business have families to feed, kids to look after and expenses to pay in order to survive themselves. As Mr. Paul wants THE AURA to shut down, we just had a few questions for him.

As you know it's the year ending period and to find a sustainable job in these times is very tough, especially in the hospitality business. As per allegations made by Mr. Paul, if The aura had to be shut, would he be providing us with our basic necessities which the The Aura does. We were concerned if he will be providing us with the exact same wages which The Aura does and with which we are happy. To fully make you aware, we are quite happy with our wages rate at The Aura and also the extra benefits which we used to get with job, such as extra commission, monthly planned team trips, staff party meetings etc.

We all are very happy and satisfied working at The Aura and do not have complaints with the business or in the way it is being operated. With The Aura being shut, as per the councillors allegations, it is going to be a very complex situation for us. During these hard times we have had the privilege to get time to time pay rise and extra incentives provided to us by The Aura just to have some extra funds and benefits. With most of us being very experienced in hospitality business, we never had the same payment satisfaction and extra benefits which The Aura provides.

Every employee that works within the business have always felt that The Aura is like a home to us. We all work together as a family, and we have been fairly disappointed by how the questions were raised by Mr. Paul Lorber against the business. Some of our colleagues have been working here since more than 3 years and they feel very satisfied with their jobs, especially the energy we have seen within the team since last 9 months.

Our questions which we raised to Mr. Paul Lorber have been discussed among ourselves and as it's a difficult time for us, we would be eagerly waiting for Mr. Paul to reply. We will be writing letters to him to help us pay the same amount of money which The Aura does as he will be the reason for nearly 50 of us being unemployed in the most difficult and complex times.

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Thank you Page 265