



## **MUSICIANSHIP EXAMINATION SYLLABUS**

This syllabus has been designed to be used either in conjunction with or independently of the St. Cecilia Grade Practical Examinations syllabuses for all instruments and voice. It fulfils a need for teachers who wish to develop their candidates' aural perception and reading skills. The syllabus allows for choice in strengthening the focus on particular aspects of musicianship e.g. extra focus on sight-reading OR listening skills OR both.

Basic ear-tests are already included in the St. Cecilia Beginner, Junior and Preliminary grade examinations. This Musicianship syllabus provides a more extensive examination from grades one to eight.

Teachers are advised to carefully and thoroughly prepare candidates in every aspect of the course over a 12-month period. As the course is developmental, omitting or skipping grades is not advisable. As always, preparing candidates in an imaginative and creative way will ensure a positive outcome.

Candidates who successfully complete the Musicianship examination will receive a written report as well as a Certificate. This will be in addition to reports and certificates issued for practical and theoretical examinations.

# GRADE ONE

## **VOCABULARY TO BE USED:**

Notation:	Minims, crotchets
Time signature:	2/4
Pitch:	4 notes. D ( <i>above middle C</i> ) to G inclusive
Volume:	<i>forte, piano</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c.55-60
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## **RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a two-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. (10 marks)
- (b)\* The same test will be played three times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time. (10 marks)

## **PITCH RECOGNITION:**

- (a) Four notes will be played consecutively by the examiner within the range of the above vocabulary. The candidate will sing, hum or play the same four notes in the same order. The examiner will name the starting note. (10 marks)
- (b)\* After the examiner has played the notes three more times, the candidate will notate the same four notes using semibreves on the provided manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (10 marks)

## **VOLUME RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a simple melody twice either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state the correct answer. (2 marks)

## **TONALITY:**

- (a) The examiner will play a major scale OR a chromatic scale twice. The candidate will state which scale has been played. (3 marks)

## **PRECISION READING OPTION:**

The candidate may select to sight-read sections (b)\* above as a precision reading test. This will therefore replace the written notation component. (20 marks)

# GARDE TWO

## **VOCABULARY TO BE USED:**

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, crotchets
Time signature:	2/4
Pitch:	6 notes. Middle C – A inclusive
Volume:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c.55-60
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## **RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a two-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. (10 marks)
- (b)\* The same test will be played three times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (10 marks)

## **PITCH RECOGNITION:**

- (a) Six notes will be played consecutively by the examiner within the range of the above vocabulary. The candidate will sing or hum the same six notes in the same order. The examiner will name the starting note. (10 marks)
- (b)\* After the examiner has played the notes three more times, the candidate will notate the same six notes using semibreves on the provided manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (10 marks)

## **VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state the correct answer. The examiner will play the same melody twice more with a crescendo or decrescendo included. The candidate will state which of the two has been included. (5 marks)

## **TONALITY:**

- (a) The examiner will play a major scale OR a harmonic minor scale OR a chromatic scale twice. The candidate will state which scale has been played. (5 marks)

## **PRECISION READING OPTION:**

The candidate may select to sight-read sections (b)\* above as a precision reading test. This will therefore replace the written notation component. (20 marks)

# GRADE THREE

## VOCABULARY TO BE USED:

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, dotted minims, crotchets
Time signature:	2/4 and 3/4
Pitch:	8 notes. Middle C – C inclusive
Volume & Style:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo, staccato, legato</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 60 - 66
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:

(a) The examiner will play a four-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. (10 marks)

(b)\* The same test will be played three more times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (10 marks)

## MELODIC RECOGNITION:

(a) A two-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played three times by the examiner. The candidate will sing or hum the melody. The examiner will name the starting note. (10 marks)

(b)\* After the examiner has played the melody three more times, the candidate will notate the same melody on the provided manuscript. The examiner will state the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. (10 marks)

## VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:

(a) The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state the correct answer. The examiner will play the same melody twice more with a crescendo or decrescendo included. The candidate will state which of the two has been included. The examiner will play the melody once more and ask the candidate whether the piece was played *staccato* or *legato*. (5 marks)

## TONALITY:

(a) The examiner will play one of the following scale forms twice only: *major, harmonic minor, chromatic, whole tone*. The candidate will state which scale has been played. (5 marks)

## PRECISION READING OPTION:

The candidate may select to sight-read sections (b)\* above as a sight-reading test. This will therefore replace the written notation component. (20 marks)

# GRADE FOUR

## **VOCABULARY TO BE USED:**

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, dotted minims, crotchets, quavers
Time signature:	2/4, 3/4 and 4/4
Pitch:	8 notes. Middle C – C inclusive
Volume & Style:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo, staccato, legato, accent</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 60 - 66
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## **RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a four-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. (10 marks)
- (b) The same test will be played three more times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (15 marks)

## **MELODIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) A four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played three times by the examiner. The candidate will sing or hum the melody. The examiner will name the starting note. (10 marks)
- (b) After the examiner has played the melody three more times, the candidate will notate the same melody on the provided manuscript. One note will be accented and the candidate will indicate this with the accent sign (>). The examiner will state the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. (15 marks)

## **VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state the correct answer. The examiner will play the same melody twice more with a crescendo or decrescendo included. The candidate will state which of the two has been included. The examiner will play the melody once more and ask the candidate whether the piece was played *staccato* or *legato*. After a final playing, which will include accented notes, the candidate will be asked to identify how many notes were accented. (10 marks)

## **TONALITY:**

- (a) The examiner will play two of the following scale forms twice: *major, harmonic minor, chromatic, whole tone, melodic minor*. The candidate will state which scales have been played. (10 marks)

**PRECISION READING:** *(30 marks)*

An eight bar (two or four phrases) piece of music, suited to the candidate's instrument or voice will be presented to the candidate as a quick-learning, precision-reading test.

The candidate will be given 30 seconds for a first reading which will not be assessed. After an additional 30-second period, the candidate will perform the music to the best of their ability. Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- Accurate and even rhythm
- Accurate notation
- Correct tempo and style
- Observation and accurate interpretation of signs, volume markings, basic directions

# GRADE FIVE

## **VOCABULARY TO BE USED:**

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, dotted minims, crotchets, dotted crotchets, quavers
Time signature:	2/4, 3/4 and 4/4
Pitch:	All notes within C Major scale. 2 octaves from G below Middle C.
Volume & Style:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo, staccato, legato, accent, fermata</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 66
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## **RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a four-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. (10 marks)
- (b) The same test will be played three more times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (15 marks)

## **MELODIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) A four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played three times by the examiner. The candidate will sing or hum the melody. The examiner will name the starting note. (10 marks)
- (b) After the examiner has played the melody three more times, the candidate will notate the same melody on the provided manuscript. One note will be accented and the candidate will indicate this with the accent sign (>). Another note will be paused (fermata). The candidate will indicate this note with the pause sign. The examiner will state the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. (15 marks)

## **VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state the correct answer. The examiner will play the same melody twice more with a crescendo or decrescendo included. The candidate will state which of the two has been included. The examiner will play the melody once more and ask the candidate whether the piece was played *staccato* or *legato*. After a final playing, which will include accented notes and fermata, the candidate will be asked to identify how many notes were accented and paused. (10 marks)

## **TONALITY:**

- (a) The examiner will play two of the following scale forms twice: *major, harmonic minor, chromatic, whole tone, melodic minor, pentatonic major*. The candidate will state which scales have been played. (10 marks)

**PRECISION READING:** *(30 marks)*

An eight bar (two or four phrases) piece of music, suited to the candidate's instrument or voice will be presented to the candidate as a quick-learning, precision-reading test.

The candidate will be given 30 seconds for a first reading which will not be assessed. After an additional 30-second period, the candidate will perform the music to the best of their ability. Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- Accurate and even rhythm
- Accurate notation
- Correct tempo and style
- Observation and accurate interpretation of signs, volume markings, basic directions



# GRADE SIX

## **VOCABULARY TO BE USED:**

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, dotted minims, crotchets, dotted crotchets, quavers
Time signature:	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8
Pitch:	All notes within C Major and G Major Scales. 2 octaves from G below Middle C.
Volume & Style:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo, staccato, legato, accent, fermata</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 66-72
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## **RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a four-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. (10 marks)
- (b) The same test will be played three more times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (15 marks)

## **MELODIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) A four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played three times by the examiner. The candidate will sing or hum the melody. The examiner will name the starting note. (10 marks)
- (b) After the examiner has played the melody three more times, the candidate will notate the same melody on the provided manuscript. Two notes will be accented and the candidate will indicate these with the accent sign (>). Another note will be paused (fermata). The candidate will indicate this note with the pause sign. The examiner will state the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. (15 marks)

## **VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state the correct answer. The examiner will play the same melody twice more with a crescendo or decrescendo included. The candidate will state which of the two has been included. The examiner will play the melody once more and ask the candidate whether the piece was played *staccato* or *legato*. After a final playing, which will include accented notes and fermata, the candidate will be asked to identify how many notes were accented and paused. (10 marks)

## **TONALITY:**

(a) The examiner will play two of the following scale forms twice: *major, harmonic minor, chromatic, whole tone, melodic minor, pentatonic major, pentatonic minor*. The candidate will state which scales have been played. (10 marks)

## **PRECISION READING: (30 marks)**

A 12-bar (two, three or four phrases) piece of music, suited to the candidate's instrument or voice will be presented to the candidate as a quick-learning, precision-reading test.

The candidate will be given 30 seconds for a first reading which will not be assessed. After an additional 30-second period, the candidate will perform the music to the best of their ability. Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- Accurate and even rhythm
- Accurate notation
- Correct tempo and style
- Observation and accurate interpretation of signs, volume markings, basic directions

# GRADE SEVEN

## **VOCABULARY TO BE USED:**

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, dotted minims, crotchets, dotted crotchets, quavers, semiquavers
Time signature:	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8
Pitch:	All notes within C, G, F Major and A Minor Scales. 2 octaves from G below Middle C.
Harmony:	Tonic, Submediant and Dominant chords.
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 66-72
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## **RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a four-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. *(10 marks)*
- (b) The same test will be played three more times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. *(15 marks)*

## **MELODIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) A four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played three times by the examiner. The candidate will sing, hum or play the melody. The examiner will name the starting note. *(10 marks)*
- (b) After the examiner has played the melody three more times, the candidate will notate the same melody on the provided manuscript. Two notes will be accented and the candidate will indicate these with the accent sign (>). Another note will be paused (fermata). The candidate will indicate this note with the pause sign. The examiner will state the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. *(15 marks)*

## **HARMONY:**

- (a) After first naming the key and sounding the key chord, the examiner will play twice a short passage of music which includes a Perfect Cadence or an Interrupted Cadence. The candidate will name the cadence. A second test will then be played. *(10 marks)*

## **TONALITY:**

(a) The examiner will play two of the following scale forms twice: *major, harmonic minor, chromatic, whole tone, melodic minor, pentatonic major, pentatonic minor, blues scale*. The candidate will state which scales have been played. (10 marks)

## **PRECISION READING: (30 marks)**

A 16-24 bar piece of music, suited to the candidate's instrument or voice will be presented to the candidate as a quick-learning, precision-reading test.

The candidate will be given 30 seconds for a first reading which will not be assessed. After an additional 30-second period, the candidate will perform the music to the best of their ability. Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- Accurate and even rhythm
- Accurate notation
- Correct tempo and style
- Observation and accurate interpretation of signs, volume markings, all directions

# GRADE EIGHT

## **VOCABULARY TO BE USED:**

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, dotted minims, crotchets, dotted crotchets, quavers, semiquavers, dotted quavers, triplets, duplets.
Time signature:	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, 9/8
Pitch:	All notes within C, G, F Major and A, D Minor Scales. 2 octaves from G below Middle C.
Harmony:	Tonic, Submediant, Subdominant and Dominant chords.
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 66-72
Frequency:	Each test will be played by the examiner three times unless otherwise indicated.

## **RHYTHMIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) The examiner will play a four-bar rhythm using the above vocabulary. The candidate will tap or clap the rhythm once. *(10 marks)*
- (b) The same test will be played three more times by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. *(15 marks)*

## **MELODIC RECOGNITION:**

- (a) A four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played three times by the examiner. The candidate will sing, hum or play the melody. The examiner will name the starting note. *(10 marks)*
- (b) After the examiner has played the melody three more times, the candidate will notate the same melody on the provided manuscript. Two notes will be accented and the candidate will indicate these with the accent sign (>). Another note will be paused (fermata). The candidate will indicate this note with the pause sign. The examiner will state the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. *(15 marks)*

## **HARMONY:**

- (a) After first naming the key and sounding the key chord, the examiner will play twice and short passage of music which includes a Perfect Cadence, Plagal Cadence or an Interrupted Cadence. The candidate will name the cadence. A second test will then be played. *(10 marks)*

## **TONALITY:**

(a) The examiner will twice play two of the following scale forms ascending: *major, harmonic minor, melodic minor*. On the provided manuscript the candidate will accurately notate the scales which have been played. Key-signatures or accidentals may be used at the candidate's choice. (10 marks)

## **PRECISION READING: (30 marks)**

A piece of music no less than 16 bars and suited to the candidate's instrument or voice will be presented to the candidate as a quick-learning, precision-reading test.

The candidate will be given 30 seconds for a first reading which will not be assessed. After an additional 30-second period, the candidate will perform the music to the best of their ability. Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- Accurate and even rhythm
- Accurate notation
- Correct tempo and style
- Observation and accurate interpretation of signs, volume markings, all directions