



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 students' 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. The complexity of each test increases with each grade level.

Teachers are advised to carefully and thoroughly prepare their students in every aspect of the course over a 6 to 12 month period depending on the grade chosen. As the course is developmental, omitting or skipping grades is not advisable. Much of the value of the course is in the repetitive nature of the preparation. Teachers are always encouraged to find imaginative and creative ways of introducing the various aural concepts to their students.

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.

Syllabus Valid from April 2019

Musicianship Examination Fees and Time Allocation are the same as the current 2019 practical grade examinations.

GRADE ONE

VOCABULARY TO BE USED:

Notation:	Minims, crotchets, semibreves
Time signature:	4/4
Pitch:	5 notes. Middle C to G inclusive
Volume:	<i>forte, piano</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c.55-60
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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. There will be two separate tests. *(10 + 10 marks)*

(b)* The same tests will be replayed twice each by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time. *(10 + 10 marks)*

PITCH RECOGNITION:

(a) Four minims 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. There will be two separate tests. *(10 + 10 marks)*

(b)* Both tests will be re-played twice each by the examiner. The candidate will notate each test using minims on the provided manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. *(10 + 10 marks)*

VOLUME RECOGNITION:

The examiner will play a simple melody once only either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state which of the two is correct. There will be two separate tests. *(5 + 5 marks)*

TONALITY:

The examiner will play a major scale OR a chromatic scale once only. The candidate will state which scale has been played. There will be two separate tests. *(5 + 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.

GRADE TWO

VOCABULARY TO BE USED:

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, crotchets
Time signature:	4/4
Pitch:	6 notes. Middle C – A inclusive
Volume:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c.60-70
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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. There will be two separate tests. *(10 + 10 marks)*
- (b)* The same tests will be replayed twice each by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time. *(10 + 10 marks)*

PITCH RECOGNITION:

- (a) Six crotchets 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. Two separate tests will be given. *(10 + 10 marks)*
- (b)* Both tests will be re-played twice each by the examiner. The candidate will notate each test using crotchets on the provided manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. *(10 + 10 marks)*

VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:

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

TONALITY:

The examiner will play a major scale OR a harmonic minor scale OR a chromatic scale once only. The candidate will state which scale has been played. Two separate tests will be given. *(5 + 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.

GRADE THREE

VOCABULARY TO BE USED:

Notation:	Semibreves, minims, dotted minims, crotchets
Time signature:	4/4 and 3/4
Pitch:	8 notes. Middle C – C inclusive
Volume & Style:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo, staccato, legato</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 60-70
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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. There will be two separate tests. (10 + 10 marks)
- (b)* The same tests will be replayed twice each by the examiner and the candidate will notate the rhythm on the supplied manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time. (10 + 10 marks)

MELODIC RECOGNITION:

- (a) A two-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played twice by the examiner. The candidate will sing or hum the melody. The examiner will name the starting note. A second test will be given. (10 + 10 marks)
- ((b)* Both tests will be re-played twice each by the examiner. The candidate will notate each test on the provided manuscript. The candidate may commence writing at any time during or after the first playing. (10 + 10 marks)

VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:

The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state which of the two is correct. The examiner will play the same melody once 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 + 5 + 5 marks)

TONALITY:

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.

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 - 70
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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 twice more 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 four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played twice 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 twice more, 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. (10 marks)

VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:

The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state which of the two is correct. The examiner will play the same melody once 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. (5 + 5 + 5 + 5 marks)

TONALITY:

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 + 10 marks)

PRECISION READING: *(5 + 5 + 5 + 5 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. 66-76
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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 twice more 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 four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played twice 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 twice more, 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. (10 marks)

VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:

The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state which of the two is correct. The examiner will play the same melody once 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. (5 + 5 + 5 + 5 marks)

TONALITY:

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 + 10 marks)

PRECISION READING: (5 + 5 + 5 + 5 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, dotted quavers, semiquavers
Time signature:	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8
Pitch:	All notes within C Major, G Major and D Major Scales. 2 octaves from G below Middle C.
Volume & Style:	<i>forte, piano, crescendo, decrescendo, staccato, legato, accent, fermata</i>
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 66-78
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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 twice more 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 four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played twice by the examiner. The candidate will sing or hum the melody. The examiner will name the starting note and the key. (10 marks)
- (b) After the examiner has played the melody twice more, 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 and the key. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. (10 marks)

VOLUME & STYLE RECOGNITION:

The examiner will play once a simple melody either *forte* or *piano*. The candidate will state which of the two is correct. The examiner will play the same melody once 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. (5 + 5 + 5 + 5 marks)

TONALITY:

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 + 10 marks)

PRECISION READING: (5 + 5 + 5 + 5 marks)

A 12-16 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, dotted quavers, semiquavers
Time signature:	2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, 9/8
Pitch:	All notes within C, G, F Major and A Minor Scales. 2 octaves from G below Middle C.
Harmony:	Tonic, Subdominant, Dominant and Submediant chords.
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 66-78
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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 twice more 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 four-bar melody within the range of the above vocabulary will be played twice by the examiner. The candidate will sing, hum or play the melody. The examiner will name the key and the starting note. *(10 marks)*
- (b) After the examiner has played the melody twice more, 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 key and the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. *(10 marks)*

HARMONY:

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, Plagal Cadence or an Interrupted Cadence. The candidate will name the cadence. A second test will then be played. *(5 + 5 marks)*

TONALITY:

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. (5 + 5 marks)

PRECISION READING: (10 + 10 + 10 + 10 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 35 seconds for a first reading which will not be assessed. After an additional 35-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, 5/4, 6/8, 9/8
Pitch:	All notes within C, G, F Major and A, D, E Minor Scales. 2 octaves from G below Middle C.
Harmony:	Tonic, Submediant, Subdominant, Dominant, Dominant 7 th , Diminished 7 th chords.
Tempos:	Crotchet = c. 66-80
Frequency:	Each test will be played twice by the examiner 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 twice more 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 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 key and 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 key and the starting note. The candidate may commence writing at anytime during or after the first playing. *(10 marks)*

HARMONY:

After first naming the key and sounding the key chord, the examiner will play twice a passage of music containing a Perfect, Plagal, Imperfect or Interrupted Cadence. The candidate will name the cadence. A second test will then be played. Next, the examiner will twice play either a Diminished 7th OR Dominant 7th chord. The candidate will be asked to identify which of the two chords was played. *(10 marks)*

TONALITY:

The examiner will name the starting note and play twice two of the following scale forms (ascending only): *major, harmonic minor, melodic minor, pentatonic major and blues*. On the provided manuscript the candidate will accurately notate, using semibreves, the scales which have been played. Key-signatures or accidentals may be used at the candidate's choice.
(5 + 5 marks)

PRECISION READING: (10 + 10 + 10 + 10 marks)

A piece of music no less than 24 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 40 seconds for a first reading which will not be assessed. After an additional 40-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