

GRADING CRITERIA & DEFINITIONS

Graded Examinations

| PERFORMANCE PIECES | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| BANDS OF ATTAINMENT / MARK RANGE | | | | | |
| Attainment Band | Distinction | Merit | Pass | Below Pass 1 | Below Pass 2 |
| Mark Range | 18–20 | 15–17 | 12–14 | 6–11 | 0–5 |
| Command of Instrument | Consistently clear production of sound and even tone quality throughout | Mostly clear production of sound and even tone quality overall | Some clear production of sound and generally even tone quality | Sound produced is unclear with uneven quality of tone produced | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Sync or Pulse | Performance consistently synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance mostly synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance sometimes synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance not synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Accuracy & Understanding | All of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated throughout. Understanding of musical structure shown all of the time. | Most of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated overall. Understanding of musical structure shown most of the time. | Some of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills generally demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure shown some of the time. | Written music not accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure not evidenced. | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Style & Expression | Consistently convincing projection of the music. | Mostly convincing projection of the music. | Some convincing projection of the music. | Music convincingly projected. | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |

| TECHNICAL EXERCISES | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| BANDS OF ATTAINMENT / MARK RANGE | | | | | |
| Attainment Band | Distinction | Merit | Pass | Below Pass 1 | Below Pass 2 |
| Mark Range | 13–15 | 11–12 | 9–10 | 4–8 | 0–3 |
| Command of Instrument | Consistently clear production of sound and even tone quality throughout | Mostly clear production of sound and even tone quality overall | Some clear production of sound and generally even tone quality | Sound produced is unclear with uneven quality of tone produced | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Sync or Pulse | Performance consistently synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance mostly synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance sometimes synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance not synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Accuracy & Understanding | All of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated throughout. Understanding of musical structure shown all of the time. | Most of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated overall. Understanding of musical structure shown most of the time. | Some of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills generally demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure shown some of the time. | Written music not accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure not evidenced. | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |

SIGHT READING / IMPROVISATION & INTERPRETATION / QUICK STUDY PIECE

BANDS OF ATTAINMENT / MARK RANGE

| Attainment Band | Distinction | Merit | Pass | Below Pass 1 | Below Pass 2 |
|--------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| Mark Range | 9–10 | 7–8 | 6 | 3–5 | 0–2 |
| Command of Instrument | Consistently clear production of sound and even tone quality throughout | Mostly clear production of sound and even tone quality overall | Some clear production of sound and generally even tone quality | Sound produced is unclear with uneven quality of tone produced | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Sync or Pulse | Performance consistently synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance mostly synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance sometimes synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance not synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Accuracy & Understanding | All of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated throughout. Understanding of musical structure shown all of the time. | Most of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated overall. Understanding of musical structure shown most of the time. | Some of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills generally demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure shown some of the time. | Written music not accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure not evidenced. | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |

EAR TESTS

BANDS OF ATTAINMENT / MARK RANGE

| Attainment Band | Distinction | Merit | Pass | Below Pass 1 | Below Pass 2 |
|--------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| Mark Range | 9–10 | 7–8 | 6 | 3–5 | 0–2 |
| Accuracy & Understanding | All of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated throughout. Understanding of musical structure shown all of the time. | Most of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated overall. Understanding of musical structure shown most of the time. | Some of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills generally demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure shown some of the time. | Written music not accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure not evidenced. | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |

GENERAL MUSICIANSHIP QUESTIONS (GMQS)

BANDS OF ATTAINMENT / MARK RANGE

| Attainment Band | Distinction | Merit | Pass | Below Pass 1 | Below Pass 2 |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Mark Range | 5 correct responses | 4 correct responses | 3 correct responses | 2 correct responses | 0–1 correct responses |

Performance Certificates

| PERFORMANCE PIECES | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| BANDS OF ATTAINMENT / MARK RANGE | | | | | |
| Attainment Band | Distinction | Merit | Pass | Below Pass 1 | Below Pass 2 |
| Mark Range | 18–20 | 15–17 | 12–14 | 6–11 | 0–5 |
| Command of Instrument | Consistently clear production of sound and even tone quality throughout | Mostly clear production of sound and even tone quality overall | Some clear production of sound and generally even tone quality | Sound produced is unclear with uneven quality of tone produced | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Sync or Pulse | Performance consistently synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance mostly synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance sometimes synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | Performance not synchronised to the music, or an internal pulse maintained | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Accuracy & Understanding | All of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated throughout. Understanding of musical structure shown all of the time. | Most of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated overall. Understanding of musical structure shown most of the time. | Some of the written music accurately performed or equivalent skills generally demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure shown some of the time. | Written music not accurately performed or equivalent skills demonstrated. Understanding of musical structure not evidenced. | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |
| Style & Expression | Consistently convincing projection of the music. | Mostly convincing projection of the music. | Some convincing projection of the music. | Music convincingly projected. | No attempt and/or incomplete performance |

Definitions

| DEFINITIONS | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Command of Instrument | The quality of the sound produced from the instrument, including the consistency of sound/tone, control of sound/tone commensurate with grade. |
| Sync or Pulse | Alignment of the performance to backing track, metronome or applied to a solo performance, observing notation markings. For unaccompanied pieces candidates should maintain a secure internal pulse and adjust the pulse where instructed within the music. |
| Accuracy & Understanding | Representing the written notation accurately, except by instruction through performance notes, or interpreting the written part with equivalent skills demonstrated. Secure understanding of musical structure evidenced through transitions of phrases, bars and sections. |
| Style & Expression | An expressive and commanding performance of the notated material dictated by the demands of the performance piece. |