

# MTB Grade 2 Contemporary Guitar

## Section One: Recital (75 marks)

Select Three pieces from the following list (25 marks each)

As an alternative to the pieces below, candidates may perform up to 3 free choice pieces. For guidance on free choice [click here](#). Contemporary syllabuses cover a range of styles including Rock, Pop, Jazz, Latin etc.

| Composer/Artist     | Title                                          | Book/Cat. Ref                        | Publisher/ Buy Here                               |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Primrose            | St James Infirmary Blues                       | Tomplay                              | Currently Unavailable                             |
| Richard Cobby       | Blues No. 1                                    | 25 Graded Pieces for Plectrum Guitar | Hampton                                           |
| Ingram              | Simple Studies No.2                            | 25 Pieces for Plectrum Guitar        | Hampton                                           |
| Peter Nuttall       | The Gypsy Violin On the Prairie                | Moving On - Early Solos for Guitar   | Countryside Music - <a href="#">Purchase here</a> |
| Metallica           | Fade to black                                  | Easy Guitar Edition cat. ref: 83376  | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| Santo and Johnny    | Sleepwalk                                      | Easy Guitar Edition cat. ref: 23243  | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| Bryan Adams         | Summer of 69                                   | Easy Guitar Edition cat. ref: 3058   | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| The Champs          | Tequila                                        | Easy Guitar Edition cat. ref: 23244  | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| Simon and Garfunkel | The Sound of Silence                           | cat. ref: 86718                      | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| Ralf McTell         | Streets of London (chordal accompaniment only) | cat. ref: 40625                      | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| DuBose Heyward      | Summertime (solo guitar)                       | cat. ref: 180370                     | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| John Prine          | Paradise (chordal accompaniment only)          | cat. ref: 405085                     | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |
| Jason Mraz          | I'm Yours (chordal accompaniment only)         | cat. ref: 67714                      | <a href="#">sheetmusicdirect.com</a>              |

Tomplay pieces often include accompaniments and can be purchased individually using the link next to each piece or via a discounted subscription for MTB teachers/learners. To learn more about Tomplay and the subscription [click here](#).

## Technical Exercises (25 marks)

Prepare all the technical exercises required for this grade which can be downloaded from the website (syllabus page) - [see next page](#)

# Technical Exercises

## Technical Exercise 1

This may be presented with or without an audible click/metronome. This may be played with plectrum or fingers.

Hold D major chord

♩ = 60

Guitar

Guitar

T

A 2 3 2 3

B 0 0 2 0 2 4 0 2 4 0 2

Gtr.

Gtr.

4 0 2 4 0 2 0 0 2 0 2 0 2 3 2 0 3 2 0

Gtr.

Gtr.

3 2 0 3 2 0 2 2 0 2 0 2 0 4 2 0 4 2 0

## Technical Exercise 2

This chord sequence is to be played with or without an audible click or metronome. The repeat is to be played, 16 bars in all.

This is to be "strummed" with either thumb, fingers or plectrum. The strum pattern indicated is for guidance.

♩ = 75

Guitar

Guitar

T

A

B

G

Em

cont.

C

D

Dsus4

D

3 3 3 3 3

0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 0

2 2 2 2 2

3 3 3 3 3

0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 0

2 2 2 2 2

0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 0

1 1 1 1 1

0 0 0 0 0

2 2 2 2 2

3 3 3 3 3

2 2 3 3 2

3 3 3 3 3

2 2 2 2 2

0 0 0 0 0

Gtr.

Gtr.

Am

Aadd9

Am

D

Dadd9

D

Am

Aadd9

Am

0 0 0 0 0

1 1 1 0 1

2 2 2 2 2

0 0 0 0 0

2 2 0 2

3 3 3 3

2 2 2 2

0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0

1 1 1 0 1

2 2 2 2 2

0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 0

1 0 1

0 0 2

2 2 2

0 0 0

Gtr.

Gtr.

D

1.

2.

G

2 2 2 2 2

3 3 3 3 3

2 2 2 2 2

0 0 0 0 0

2 2

3 3

2 2

0 0

3

0 0

0 0

2 3

### Technical Exercise 3

This study features dynamic changes, hammer-ons, pull-offs, slides and movements up and down the neck of the guitar.

The tablature positions are to be followed for the power chord positions. This may be played with or without an audible metronome/click. This is to be played with either the fingers or plectrum.

M.Pleass

$\text{♩} = 85$

Guitar

*p* *mp*

Guitar

T  
A  
B

7 5 3 5 7

H P

0 2 0 2 0 2

Gtr.

*mf*

Gtr.

H P

0 2 0 2 0 2

9 7 5 7 9 7 5

Gtr.

*mf* *mp*

P P P P

3 0 3 0 2 4 4 2 0 2 0 2

5 7 9 9 7 2 4 4 2 0 2 0 2

## Syllabus Guidance

- The teacher is encouraged to speak to the candidate during the exam to put them at ease or to help them understand what is being requested. For more guidance on conducting/taking the exam [click here](#).
- The recording should not be turned off at any point during the exam until all elements of the assessment have been completed. For more recording advice [click here](#).
- For Practical Grades follow the above syllabus requirements. To learn about Performance Grade requirements please [click here](#).
- To learn more about how our exams are marked visit our Marking Criteria Page [here](#).

### Recital Guidance - Practical & Performance Grades:

- Repeats are optional for MTB Exams, however, they are encouraged as they are often structurally important and can offer opportunities to display greater dynamic and expressive variation.
- All D.C. and D.S. marks should be observed (unless the syllabus specifies otherwise).
- The candidate should introduce each piece they are about to perform by stating its title.
- The teacher may help the candidate tune up before the exam begins. This should be done before starting the recording.
- Recorded accompaniments are acceptable as an alternative to a live accompanist. Make sure it is played on a different device to the one recording the exam.
- The composer's dynamics, phrasing etc should be observed in the pieces. Any editorial markings may be altered to allow for a personal interpretation. Where a piece contains no, or only limited, dynamic and expressive markings, the candidate is encouraged to include their own additional dynamic or expressive elements.
- Where a candidate presents Free Choice repertoire these must be of the correct grade standard. If such pieces fall below the required grade standard then examiners may reflect this in their marking. Free Choice Guidance can be found [here](#).
- Candidates wishing to submit 2 or more pieces with Jazz improvisation may do so as part of our free choice options, these will be marked by a Jazz specialist who will normally specialise in that section of instruments (i.e. Wind, Brass etc).

### Technical & Musicianship Guidance - Practical Grades:

- The tempi given for the technical section exercises (scales from memory/technical exercises etc.) are minimum speed requirements.
- There are no unprepared elements in an MTB exam. All Technical and Musicianship elements should be practised by the candidate prior to taking the exam.
- If the Listening Skills fall outside of the candidate's vocal range, they may be transposed. However, all exercises within a test must be transposed by the same interval.
- For the duet option, the teacher part may be performed by the teacher, another pupil or any suitable player on any instrument from the same family (wind/brass/strings etc) with octave transpositions made as necessary. Alternatively, a recording can be used for the teacher part during the exam.
- Duets set in the Musicianship section cannot to be used as recital pieces.

***Note: In contrast to other MTB syllabuses, 'Section Three: Musicianship Section' (Reading Skills, Listening Skills and Duet) does not feature in Contemporary syllabuses***