

Section One: Recital (75 marks)

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

Pieces in this selection must all be accompanied. The candidate may accompany themselves on any instrument or use a live or pre-recorded backing track/
accompaniment.

As an alternative to the pieces below, candidates may perform up to 3 free choice pieces. Please note that the editions quoted in this syllabus are appropriate for the standard of this grade. However, other editions of the same pieces exist at harder or easier levels and these would not be suitable for this grade. However, they may be used for different grades if of the appropriate grade standard. 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/Source
Coldplay	Clocks	Tomplay	tomplay.com
George Michael	Careless Whisper	Tomplay	tomplay.com
Jobim	The Girl From Ipanema	Tomplay	tomplay.com
Bobby Gentry	Ode to Billy Joe	86045	Sheet Music Direct (Backing Track widely available)
Tina Turner	River Deep Mountain High	80499	Sheet Music Direct (Backing Track widely available)
Taylor Swift	Shake It Off	119305 (Backing Track 170422)	Sheet Music Direct (Backing Track)
Frank Sinatra	New York, New York	13827	Sheet Music Direct (Backing Track widely available)
Queen	Don't Stop Me Now	34451	Sheet Music Direct (Backing Track widely available)
Adele	Someone Like You	106562	Sheet Music Direct (Backing Track widely available)
ABBA	The Winner Takes It All	111938 (Backing Track 34521)	Sheet Music Direct (Backing Track)
ABBA	Honey Honey (Mamma Mia!)	Published Separately	Alfred Music
ABBA	Slipping Through My Fingers (Mamma Mia!)	Published Separately	Alfred Music

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

For the exam perform all of the 3 exercises below

Exercise 1 - The Major Scale, Dorian Mode & Intervals

Sing the following with the accompaniment using any suitable syllable or vowel sound. The starting note should be given.

♩ = 50

Voice

Accompaniment



Exercise 2 - Rhythm Skills

Sing the following rhythms on any single note using any suitable syllable or vowel sound. The counts may be provided by the teacher or the candidate.

♩ = 85

(Count in)



♩ = 85

(Count in)



Exercise 3 - Singing A Cappella

This is an opportunity to showcase your singing skills in an a cappella or unaccompanied setting. You may choose to perform a section of a song and this may be from your recital choices, another piece of a similar standard or a song that you have composed yourself. Candidates are welcome to have a metronome/click and starting note immediately before the a cappella performance but after that the singing must be unaccompanied. For this section please sing between 30 seconds and 1 minute.

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](#).
- Unless otherwise specified, vocal repertoire may be transposed into any key suitable for the candidate's range.

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