

Section One: Recital (60 marks)

Select three pieces from the following list (20 marks each)

As an alternative to the pieces below, candidates may perform up to 3 free choice pieces.
For guidance on selecting and approving free choice pieces please [click here](#)

Composer/Artist	Title	Book/Cat. Ref	Publisher/ Buy Here
Coming Soon	Do You Like Camping? This is Intense.	MTB Handbook	MTB Exams
Coming Soon	Crazy Too	MTB Handbook	MTB Exams
Coming Soon	Easy Four?	MTB Handbook	MTB Exams
Coming Soon	Fifteen, Not Out.	MTB Handbook	MTB Exams
Dave Hassell	#45 – 5/4 Jazz	Graded Course for Drum Kit – Book 2	Woodsmoor Press
Dave Hassell	#46 – 7/4 Rock	Graded Course for Drum Kit – Book 2	Woodsmoor Press
Dave Hassell	#47 – 5/8 Rock	Graded Course for Drum Kit – Book 2	Woodsmoor Press
Dave Hassell	#48 – 7/8 Rock	Graded Course for Drum Kit – Book 2	Woodsmoor Press
Nils Rohwer	Muffle Shuffle– single or double pedal version	Drum Play Along – Book 2	Coda Music
Nils Rohwer	Ramba Samba – single or double pedal version	Drum Play Along – Book 2	Coda Music

Section Two: Technical (25 marks)

Technical

Technical Exercises:

Perform all the technical exercises required
for this grade

[Pages 3-5](#)

Section Three: Musicianship (15 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

Musicianship Option 1

Reading Skills:

Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

[Pages 7-8](#)

PLUS

Listening Skills:

Sing the prepared aural tests for this grade

[Page 9](#)

Musicianship Option 2

Reading Skills:

Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

[Pages 7-8](#)

PLUS

Duet:

Perform one of the duets for this grade

[Page 6](#)

Syllabus Guidance can be found on [Page 10](#)

Technical Exercises

Technical Exercise 1

Single Strokes in quarter notes, eighth note triplets, 16th notes, quintuplet 16th notes, sextuplet 16th notes, 32nd notes and double quintuplet 32nd notes. Five, seven and nine stroke rolls.

Left handed players may wish to reverse the sticking patterns indicated. This is to be presented played to an audible click or metronome.

♩ = 70

Technical Exercise 1 consists of seven staves of drum notation. Each staff begins with a half note, followed by a quarter note, and then a triplet of eighth notes. The patterns progress from quarter notes to eighth note triplets, 16th notes, quintuplet 16th notes, sextuplet 16th notes, 32nd notes, and double quintuplet 32nd notes. The exercise is marked with *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *ff* (fortissimo) dynamics.

Grade 8 Technical Exercise 2

The first two bars are to be played as notated with the repeat, 4 bars in all. The notated ride cymbal is the bell of the cymbal, the snare is a rimshot, the small note in parentheses is a ghost snare. Following this, a 4 bar development in character with solo/fills and stylistic use of voices is to be given.

♩. = 90

Grade 8 Technical Exercise 3

A development within the style and character of the notated groove is to be given for the repeat. A variety of fills should be presented. The solo is an opportunity to showcase a creative approach and this remains the responsibility of the candidate. The elements of fills and solo are to display individual stylistic awareness and expression.

$\text{♩} = 100$

Fill / solo

Solo on cymbals and hi hat whilst maintaining bass and snare as notated

Continue solo

Duets

Select and perform one duet from below.

Candidate to play on snare drum, teacher to play on floor tom or on an instrument of contrasting sound. All duets to be played at Mezzo-Forte and at tempo indicated.

♩ = 110

Duet one

Candidate

Teacher

♩ = 110

Duet two

Candidate

Teacher

♩ = 100

Duet three

Candidate

Teacher

Reading Skills

Candidates should practise the six clapping exercises below as part of their preparation to take this grade.

For the exam itself, the candidate should perform all six exercises in the order below at the indicated tempi. The candidate part should be clapped and the lower part should be provided using either the MTB Reading Skills recording for this grade, which can be downloaded [here](#), or a metronome (not clapped).

1

♩ = 244

candidate

metronome

2

♩ = 80

3

♩ = 104

♩ = 200

4

Musical notation for a 4-measure exercise in 7/8 time at 200 bpm. The exercise consists of two staves. The top staff has a whole rest in the first measure, followed by eighth and sixteenth notes. The bottom staff has a continuous eighth-note pattern. The exercise ends with a double bar line.

♩ = 90

5

Musical notation for a 5-measure exercise in 4/4 time at 90 bpm. The exercise consists of two staves. The top staff features triplets and quintuplets of eighth notes. The bottom staff has a continuous eighth-note pattern. The exercise ends with a double bar line.

♩ = 62

6

Musical notation for a 6-measure exercise in 9/4 time at 62 bpm. The exercise consists of two staves. The top staff has dotted half notes and eighth notes. The bottom staff has dotted half notes. The exercise ends with a double bar line.

Listening Skills

[Click here to find the MTB
Listening skills recordings in
Treble Clef](#)

[Click here to find the MTB
Listening skills recordings in
Bass Clef](#)

The candidate should practise all the exercises on this sheet with the accompanying Listening Skills recording as part of their preparation for the exam. The exam can be conducted either with the candidate responding to the recording or the teacher can deliver them using this sheet.

Only the teacher should have this sheet in front of them during the exam. For each test, select either the treble or the bass clef exercises as appropriate to the range of the candidate's voice.

Test 1 - Singing notes from a chord.

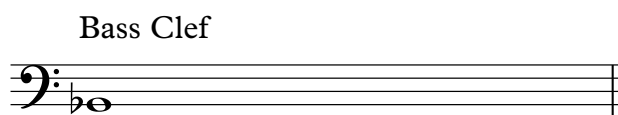
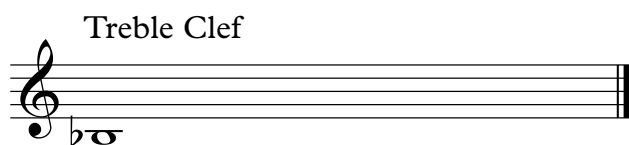
I will play a 4 note chord and you will sing back **all** of the notes, starting with the highest. We shall do this for 4 chords.



Test 2 - Scales

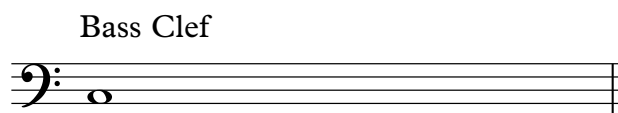
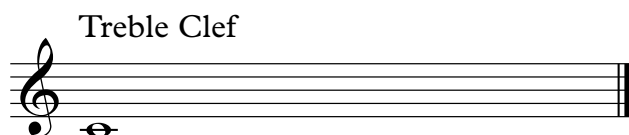
I shall ask you to sing a whole tone scale up and down after giving you the starting note.

Then, I shall ask you to sing a melodic minor scale up and down after giving you the same starting note again.



Test 3 - Triads

I shall give you the starting note, and then you shall sing the major, minor, diminished and augmented triads in root position all starting on that same note. The starting note will be given before you sing each of the 4 triads.



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.