MTB Grade 7
Viola

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
Haydn	Divertimento	Solos for Young Violists Vol 3 (Barbara Baber)	Alfred
J.S. Bach	Gamba Sonata 1 in G Major 1st and 2nd Movt	N/A	Baerenreiter
C Stamitz	Viola Concerto in D Op.1 2nd Movt	N/A	G. Henle
Händel	Harmonious Blacksmith Air and variations	Set no.5 arr. Forbes	OUP
Hoffmeister	Concerto in D 2nd Movt: Adagio (without Cadenza)	N/A	Comus
Telemann	Fantasia no.10 Presto	12 Fantasias for Viola	IMSLP
Brahms	No.1 D minor	Hungarian Dances	Peters
Bridge	Souvenir	10 Pieces for Viola, Vol 2	Thames
Clarke	Passacaglia on an Old English Tune	Young Violists Barbara Barber	Summy- Birchard
Fauré	Pavane Op.50	N/A	Schott
Sitt	Romance Op.72 G minor	N/A	Schott
Schumann	Fantasy Pieces Op.73 no.1	N/A	IMC
Ernst Naumann	Fantasy Op.5 no.3: Allegro con Fuoco	N/A	Amadeus Verlag
Wallner	Danse Melancolique	Suite Polonaise	Amadeus Verlag
Patsy Gritton	No.4 Viva Barcelona!	4 Character Pieces E minor	SJ Music

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MTB Grade 7
Viola

Section Two: Technical (25 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

Technical Option 1

Technical Exercises:
Perform all the technical exercises required for this grade

Page 3

PLUS

Scales from Memory:
Perform the scales from memory required for this grade from the sheet

Page 4

Technical Option 2

Technical Exercises:
Perform all the technical exercises required for this grade

Page 3

PLUS

Alternative to Scales from Memory:
Perform the alternative to scales from memory required for this grade from the sheet

Page 6

Section Three: Musicianship (15 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

Musicianship Option 1

Reading Skills:
Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

Page 8

PLUS

Listening Skills:
Sing the prepared aural tests for this grade

Page 10

Musicianship Option 2

Reading Skills:
Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

Page 8

PLUS

Duet:
Perform the duet for this grade

Page 11

Syllabus Guidance can be found on page 13

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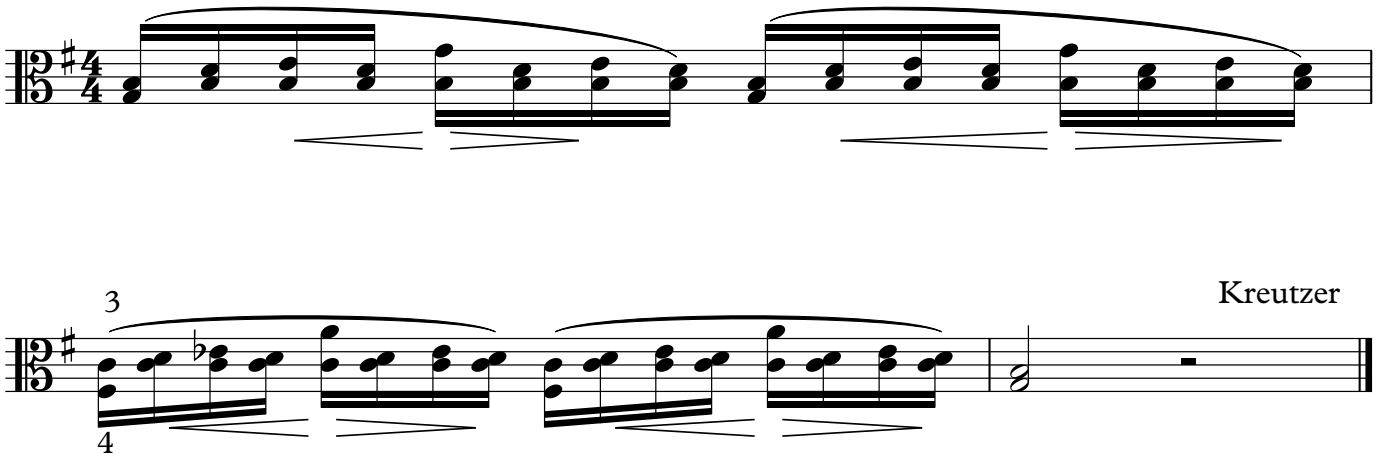
MTB Technical Exercises

Viola

MUSIC TEACHERS' BOARD

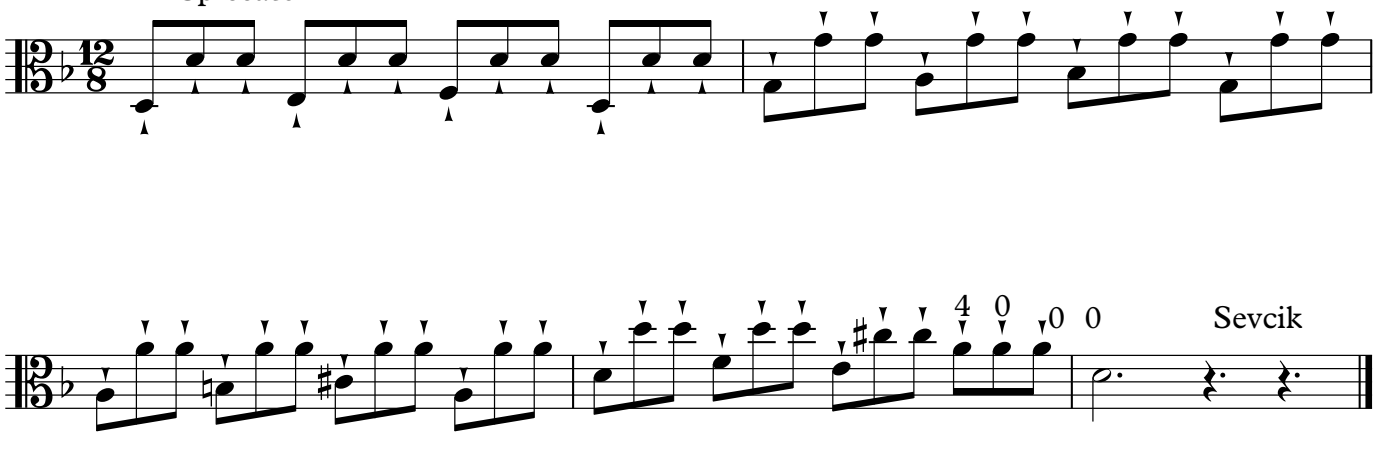
Grade 7

Exercise 1 ♪=60

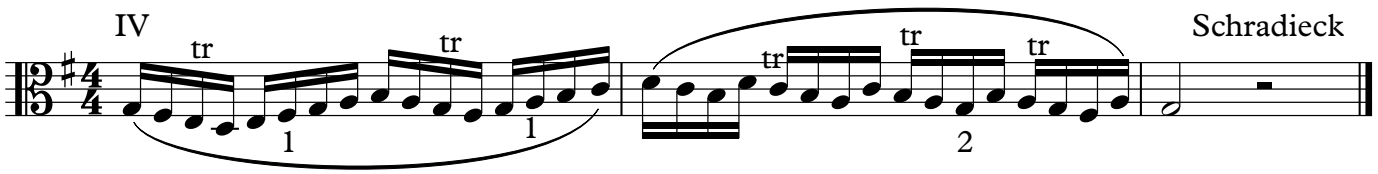


Exercise 2

♩=126 Spiccato



Exercise 3 ♩=90



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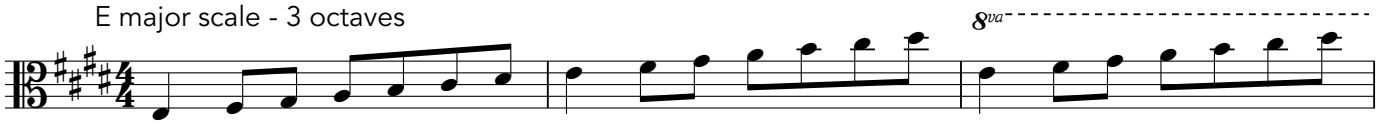
Scales & Arpeggios from Memory

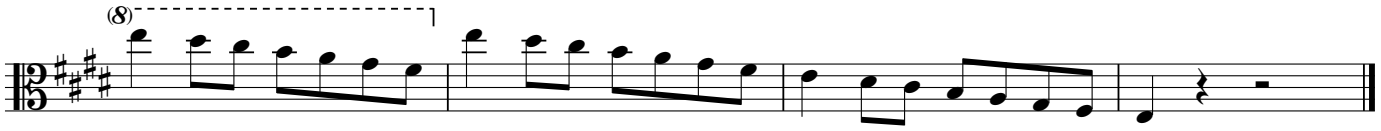
For the examination, the candidate should be asked to perform all the following scales and arpeggios from memory. They should perform each scale and arpeggio with separate bows or slurred as requested by the teacher. The teacher should aim for an even distribution of articulations.

(See MTB Viola Scale Bowing Patterns on page 12)

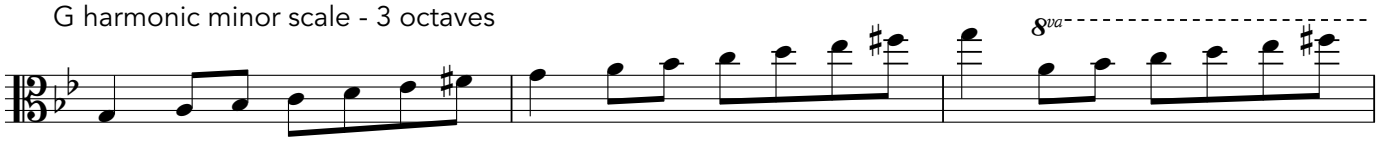
♩ = 80

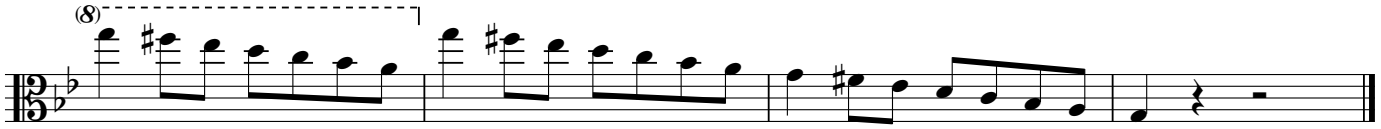
E major scale - 3 octaves



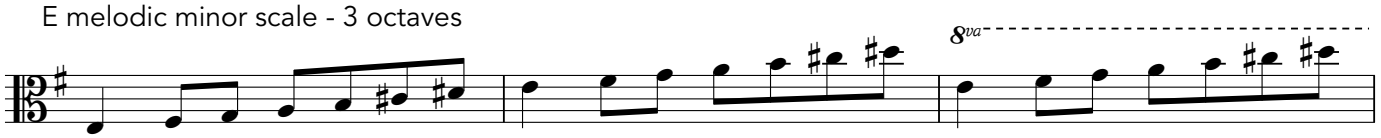


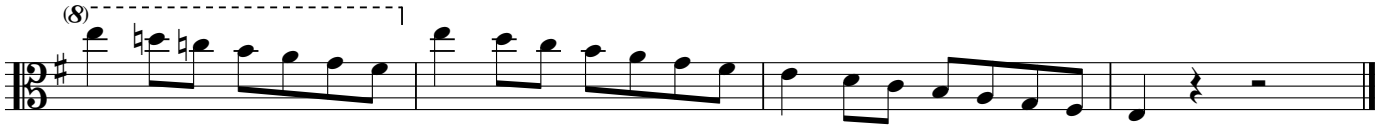
G harmonic minor scale - 3 octaves





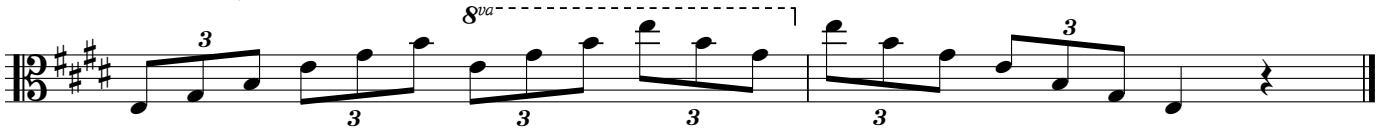
E melodic minor scale - 3 octaves



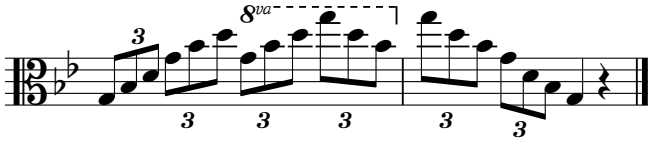


♩. = 37

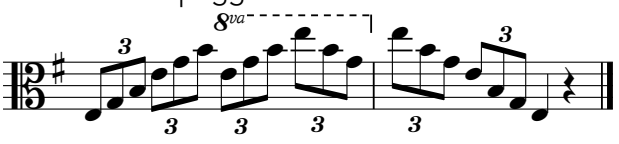
E major arpeggio - 3 octaves



G minor arpeggio - 3 octaves



E minor arpeggio - 3 octaves



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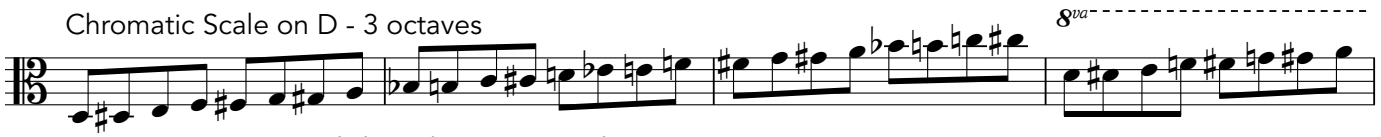
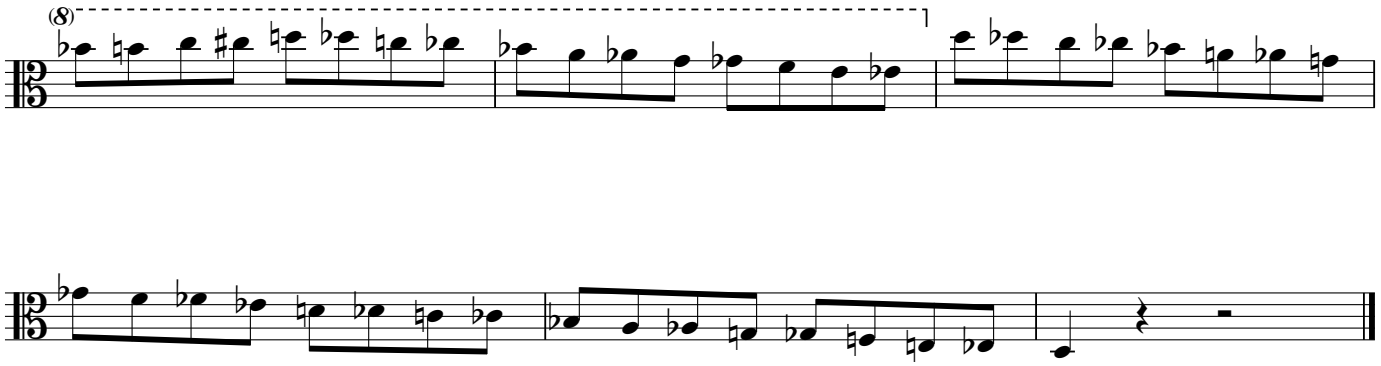
♩ = 92

Chromatic Scale on D - 3 octaves

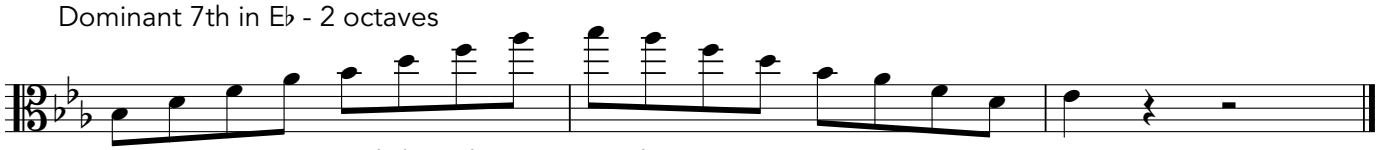


Bowing: separate and slurred 4 notes to a bow



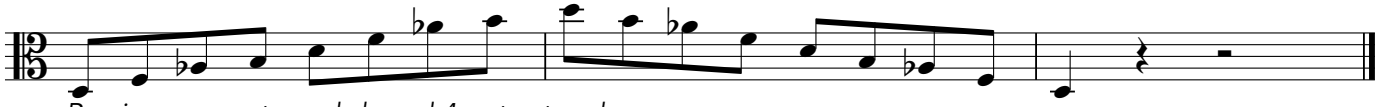
♩ = 68

Dominant 7th in E♭ - 2 octaves



Bowing: separate and slurred 4 notes to a bow

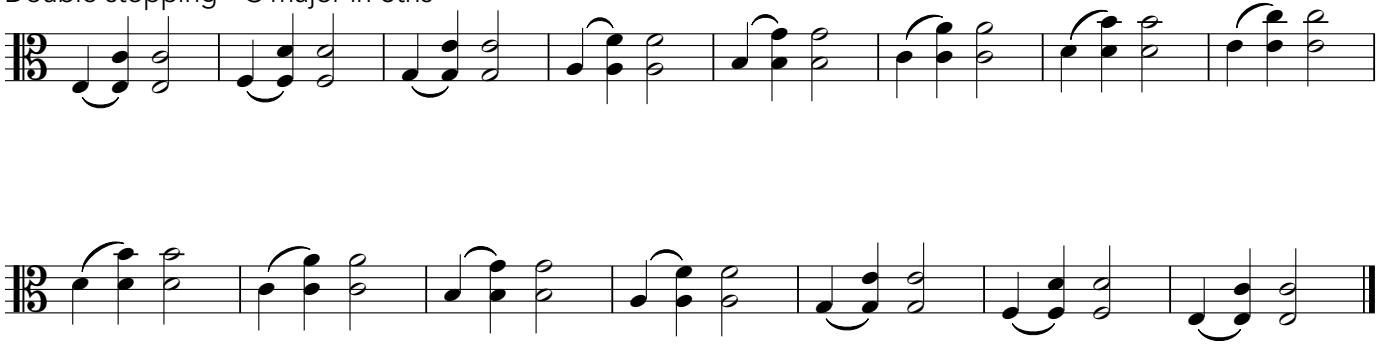
Diminished 7th on D - 2 octaves



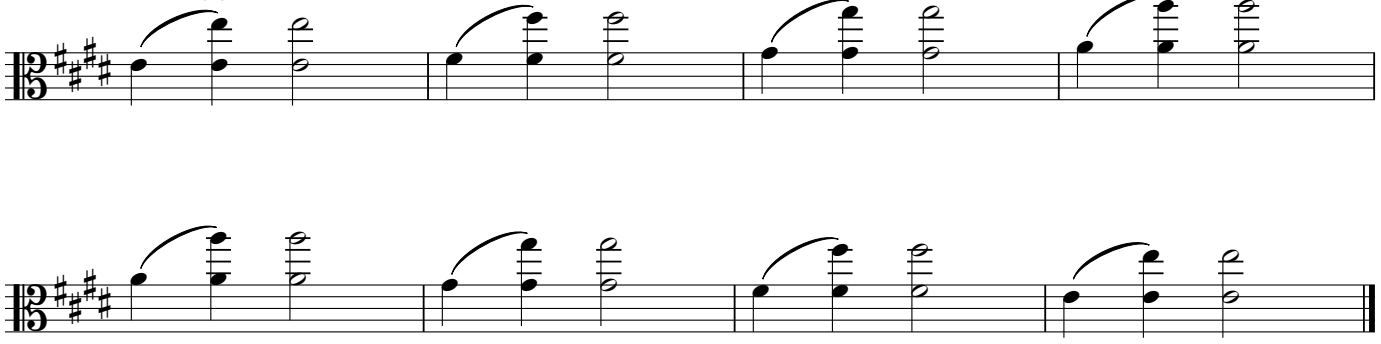
Bowing: separate and slurred 4 notes to a bow

♩ = 84

Double stopping - C major in 6ths



Double stopping - tetrachord E major in octaves



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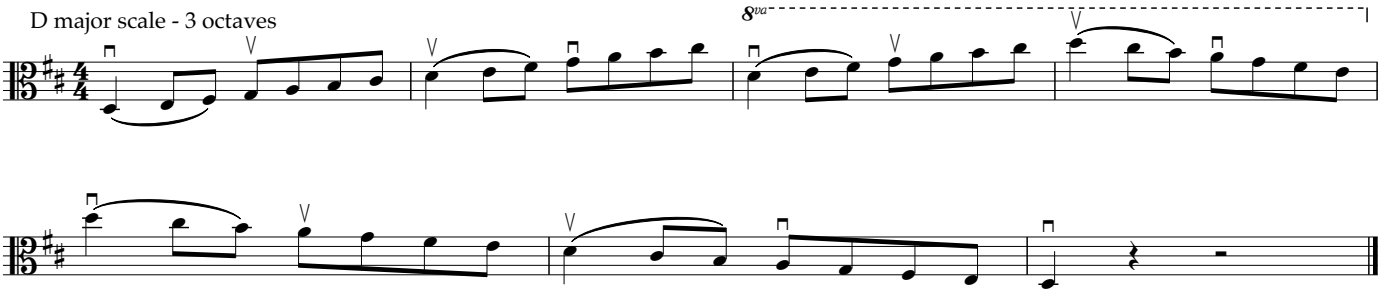
Alternative to Scales from Memory

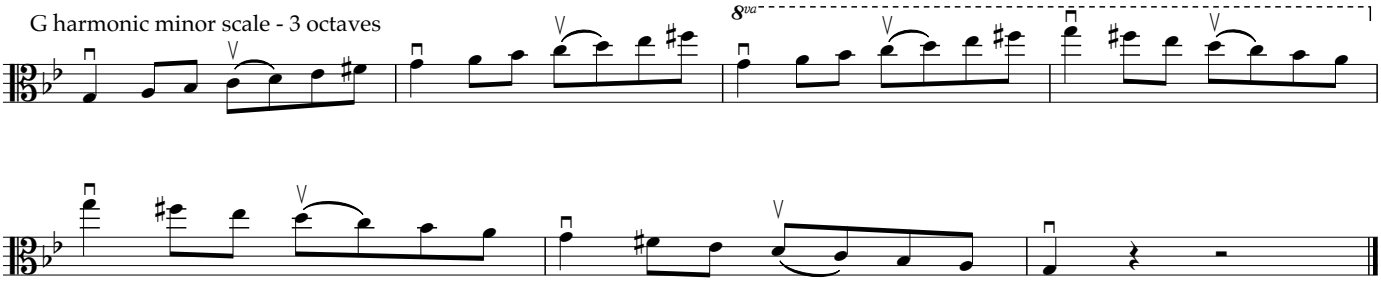
The following do not need to be played from memory. For the examination, perform *all* the following.

Scales ♩=80

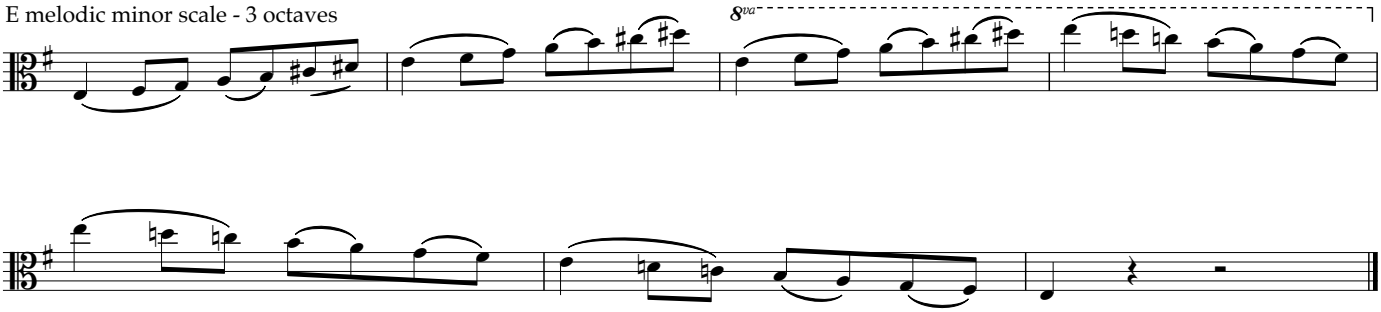
D major scale - 3 octaves



G harmonic minor scale - 3 octaves

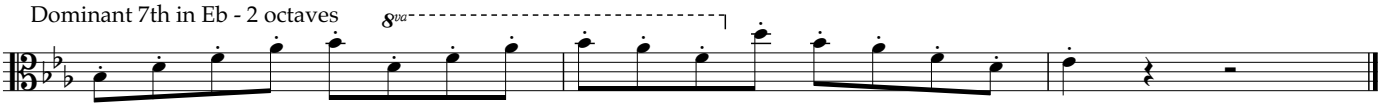


E melodic minor scale - 3 octaves

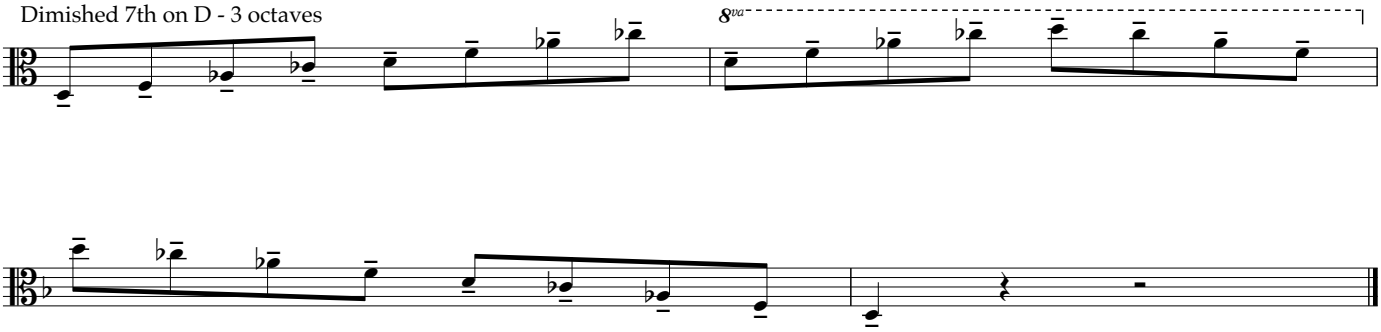


♩ = 68

Dominant 7th in Eb - 2 octaves



Dimished 7th on D - 3 octaves



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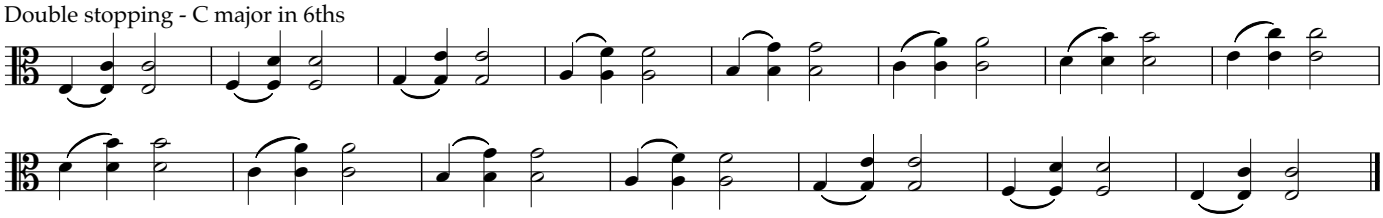
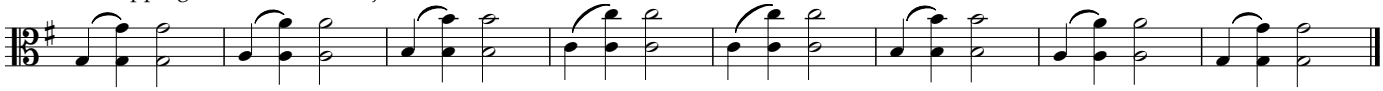
♩ = 84

Double stopping - C major in 6ths

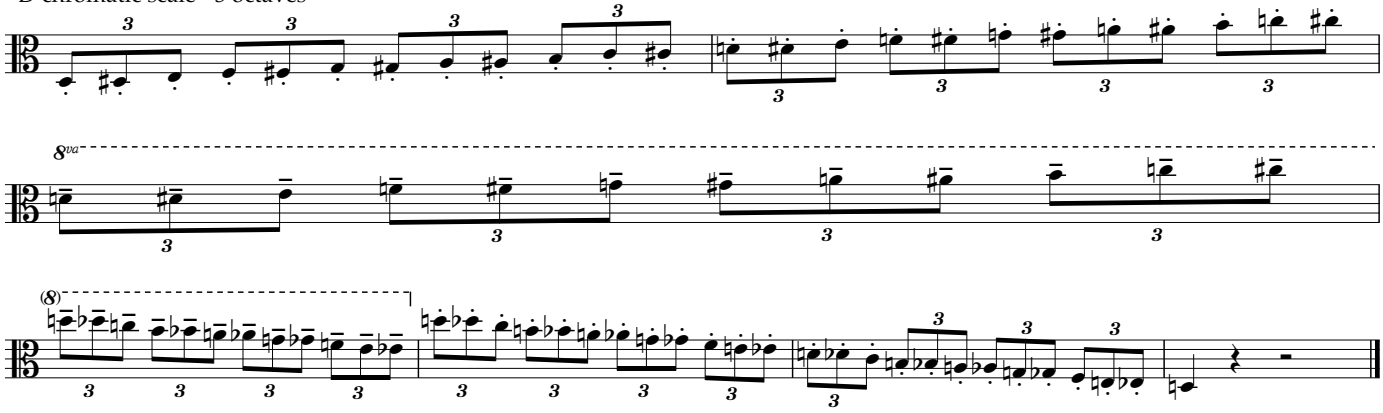


Double stopping - tetrachord G major in octaves



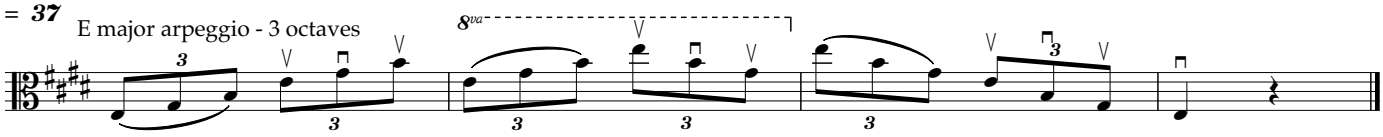
♩ = 92

D chromatic scale - 3 octaves

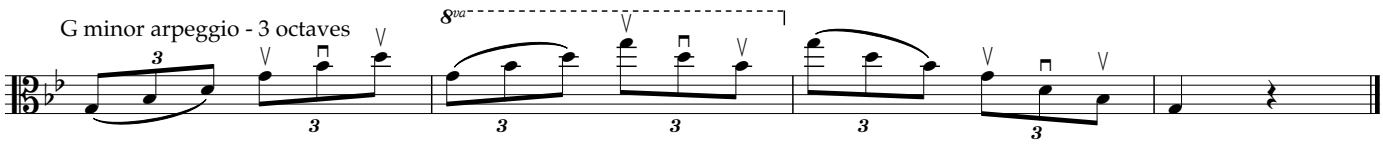


♩. = 37

E major arpeggio - 3 octaves



G minor arpeggio - 3 octaves



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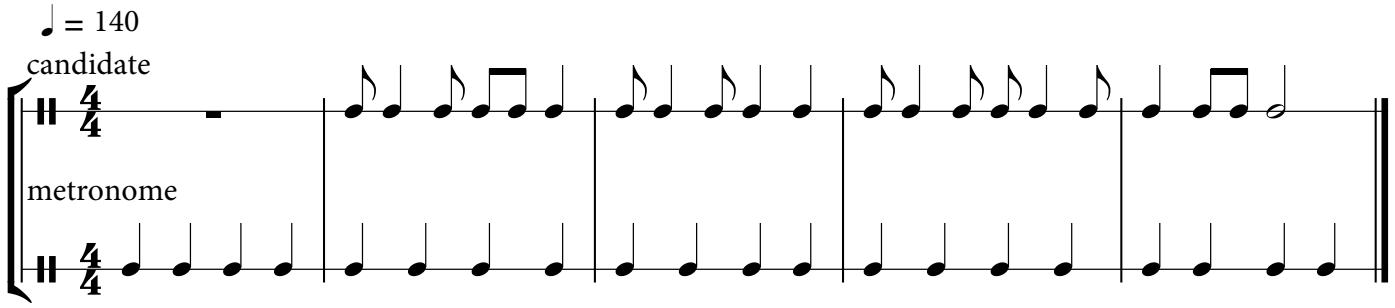
Reading Skills

Click here for Reading Skills recordings

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



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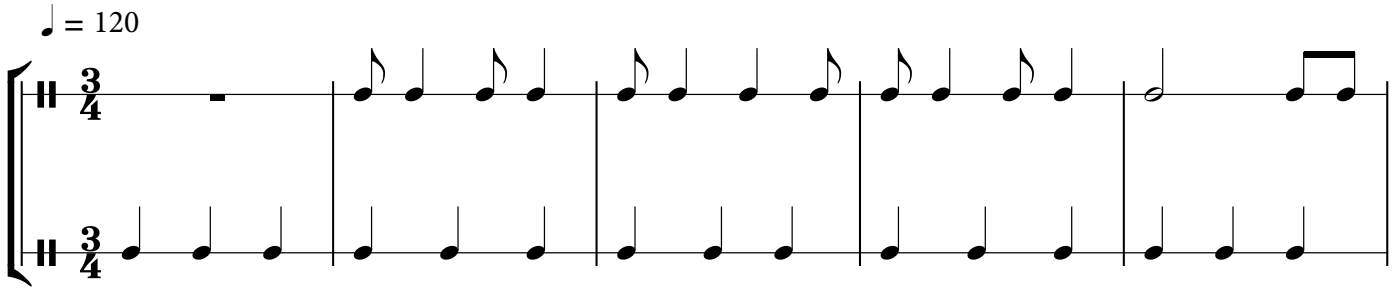
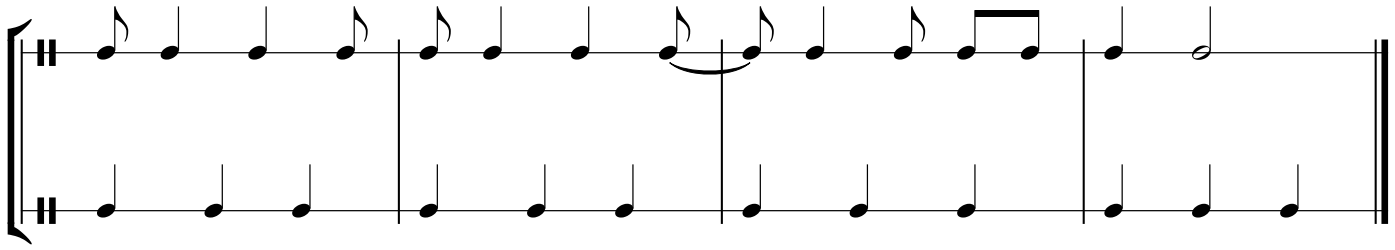
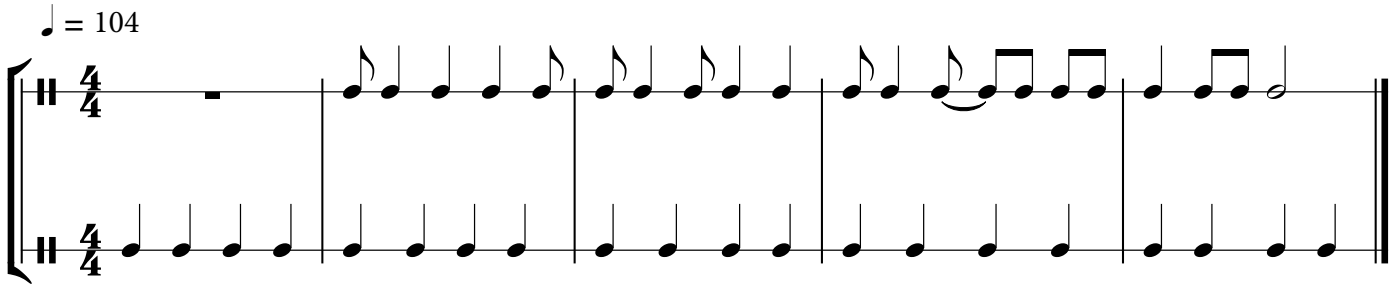




3



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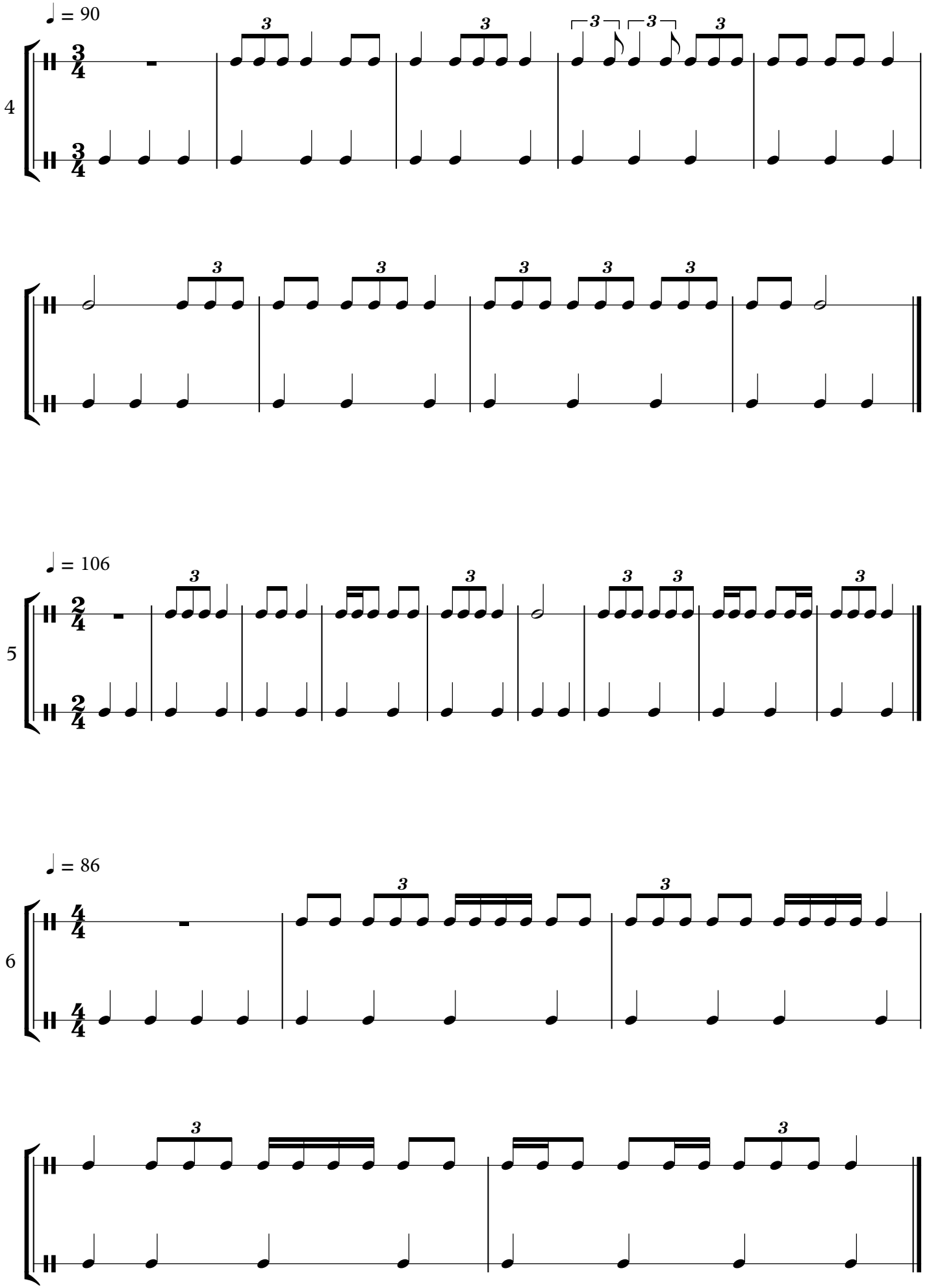

♩ = 90
4
♩ = 106
5
♩ = 86
6

Click here to find Listening Skills recordings in Treble Clef

Click here to find Listening Skills recordings in Bass Clef

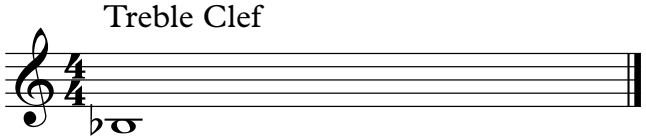
MTB Exams - Listening Skills (Aural tests) Grade 7

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.

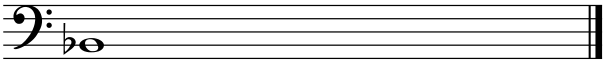
Only the teacher should have this sheet in front of them during the exam.
For each test, select *either* the treble *or* the bass clef exercises as appropriate to the range of the candidate's voice.

Test 1 - Scales.
I shall ask you to sing an ascending major scale, after I give you the starting note.
And then I shall ask you to sing an ascending harmonic minor scale, after I give you the same starting note again.

Treble Clef

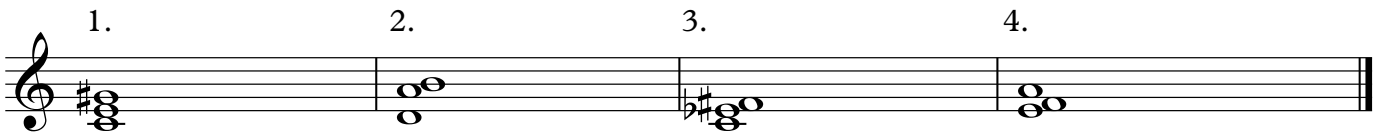


Bass Clef

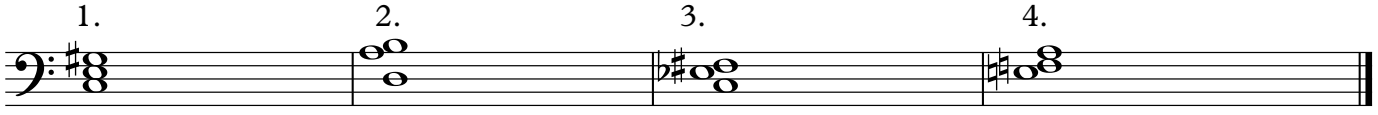


Test 2 - Singing back notes
I shall play a 3 note chord and then you will sing back the highest, middle, then lowest notes.
We shall do this for 4 chords.

Treble Clef

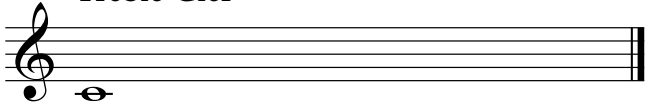


Bass Clef

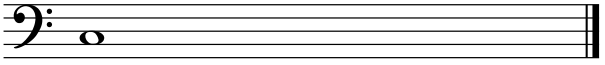


Test 3 - Dominant & Diminished 7ths
I shall ask you to sing the first 4 notes of an ascending dominant 7th arpeggio in root position after giving you the starting note.
I shall then ask you to sing the first 4 notes of an ascending diminished 7th arpeggio after giving you the same starting note again.

Treble Clef



Bass Clef



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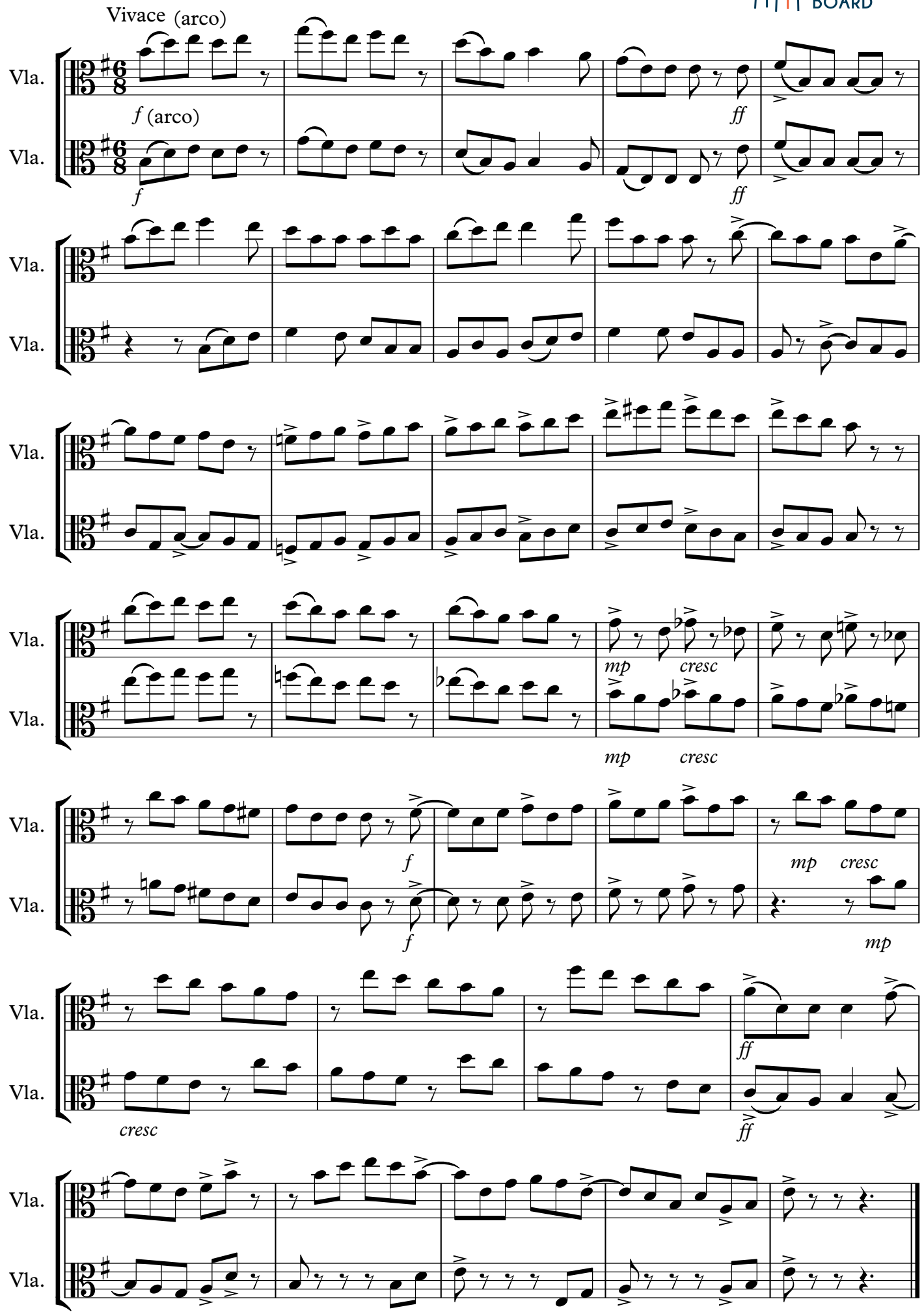
Click here for duet recordings in practice speed

Click here for duet recordings in exam speed

MTB Exams Duet - *Viola*

Grade 7 - Reel Deal!

MUSIC TEACHERS' BOARD



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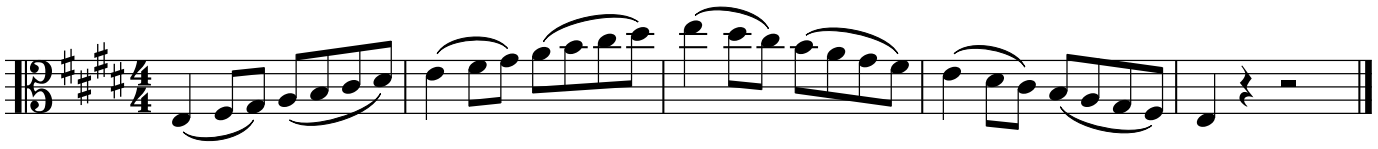
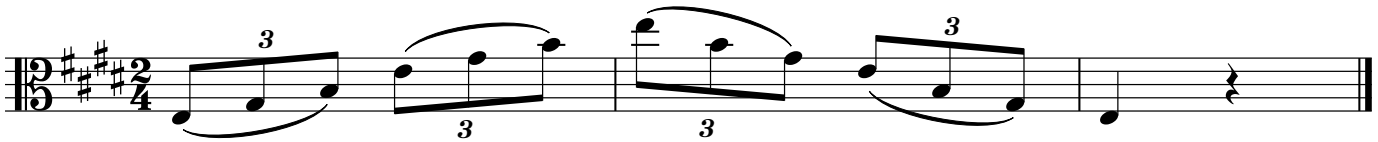
MTB Exams
Strings Bowing Patterns

Grade 7

Long tonics. separate & slurred two bows per octave



Arpeggios separate, even and slurred in 3s



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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.
- Any suitable fingerings may be used for pieces and scales. However, any marked fingerings should be used for the technical exercises.
- Suitable use of vibrato is expected from Grade 5 onwards.

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.

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