

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
Raffaele Calace	Amor Si Culla	KM2115	Pan Verlag
Christopher Grafschmidt	Animacao	Aproximacao	Trekel
Simon Mayor	Parcel of Rogues	New Celtic Mandolin	Acoustics Records
Yoshida	Cross Section I for Solo Mandolin	Cross Section I/II T6194	Trekel
Leone	Sonata No. 2, 1 st or 3 rd Movt. (With Guitar accompaniment)	Sonata No.2 V&F 4004	Vogt & Fritz
Giovanni Hoffmann	Sonata in G, 1 st Movt. (With Guitar accompaniment)	Sonata in G V&F 5003	Vogt & Fritz
Raffaele Calace	Rondo Op. 127 (With Guitar accompaniment)	Rondo, Romanza & Tarantella (mandolin & guitar) by R. Calace am514-14	Astute Music
Norton	Sturdy Build (With Guitar accompaniment)	Coming Soon	Boosey and Hawkes
Hummel	Concerto for Mandolin in G, 1 st or 3 rd Movt. (With Piano accompaniment)	Concerto for Mandolin in G	Heinrichshofen
Gervasio	Sonata IV, 1 st Movt. (With Basso continuo)	ORPH-MAN6	Ut Orpheus Edizione
Vivaldi	Concerto for Mandolin in C, 1st or 3 rd Movt. (With Basso continuo)	ZM18200	Zimmerman

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

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PLUS

Scales from Memory:

Perform all starred scale from memory exercises plus any other two scale exercises for this grade from the sheet

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Technical Option 2

Technical Exercises:

Perform all the technical exercises required for this grade

[Page 3](#)

PLUS

Alternative to Scales from Memory:

Perform all starred alternative to scales from memory exercises plus any other two exercises for this grade from the sheet

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Section Three: Musicianship (15 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

Musicianship Option 1

Reading Skills:

Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

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PLUS

Listening Skills:

Sing the prepared aural tests for this grade

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Musicianship Option 2

Reading Skills:

Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

[Page 10](#)

PLUS

Duet:

Perform the duet for this grade

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Technical Exercises

Exercise 1

after Beriot

mf *p* *f* *p*

Exercise 2

simile

mf

Exercise 2

$\text{♩} = 100-120$

f *mp* *tast* *nat* *f*

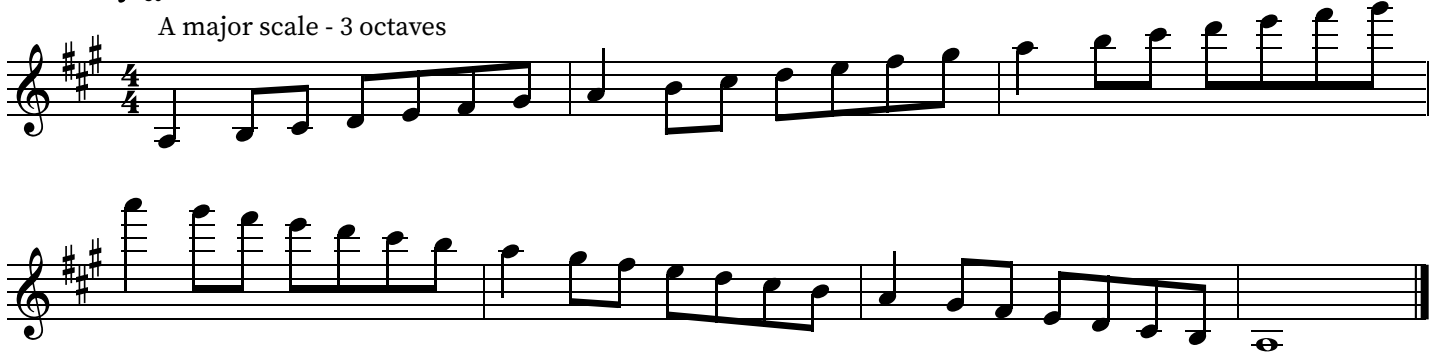
Scales from Memory

For the examination, the Candidate should be asked to play all the following scales and arpeggios from memory.

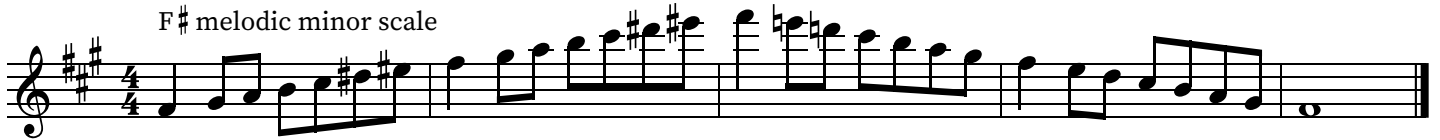
The Candidate should play each scale/arpeggio with the plucking pattern requested by the teacher (see "Mandolin Plucking Patterns"). The teacher should aim for an even distribution of plucking patterns. All tempi given are minimum speeds.

$\text{♩} = 80$

A major scale - 3 octaves



F# melodic minor scale

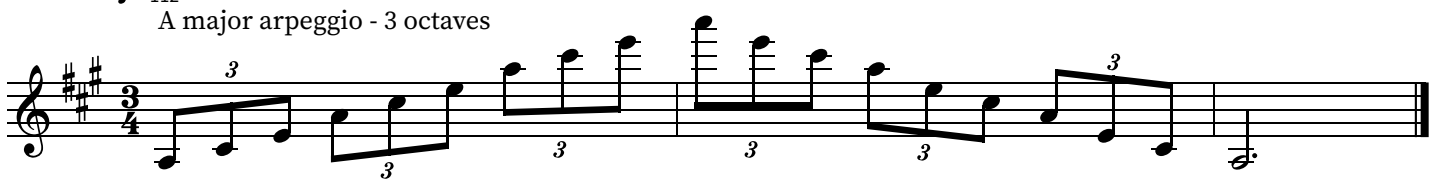


G harmonic minor scale - 3 octaves

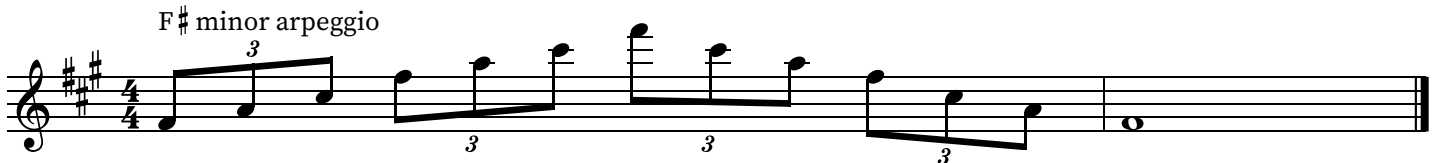


$\text{♩} = 112$

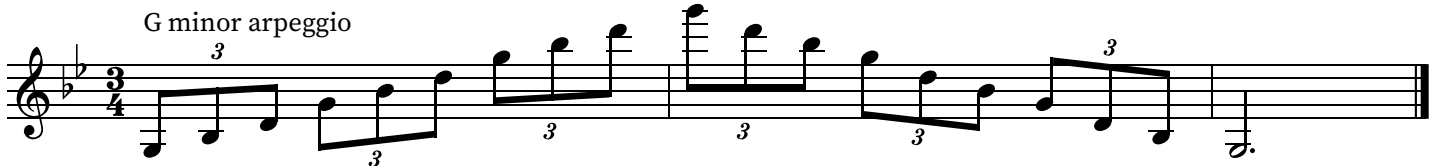
A major arpeggio - 3 octaves



F# minor arpeggio



G minor arpeggio



Grade Seven

$\text{♩} = 80$

A chromatic scale - 3 octaves

Three staves of musical notation for an A chromatic scale spanning three octaves. The first staff is in 3/4 time, the second in 2/4, and the third in 4/4. The scale starts on A4 and ends on A7, covering all 24 chromatic steps.

Dominant 7th in B♭ - 2 octaves

One staff of musical notation for a dominant 7th scale in B♭, spanning two octaves. The scale is in 4/4 time, starting on B♭4 and ending on B♭6.

Diminished 7th on A - 2 octaves

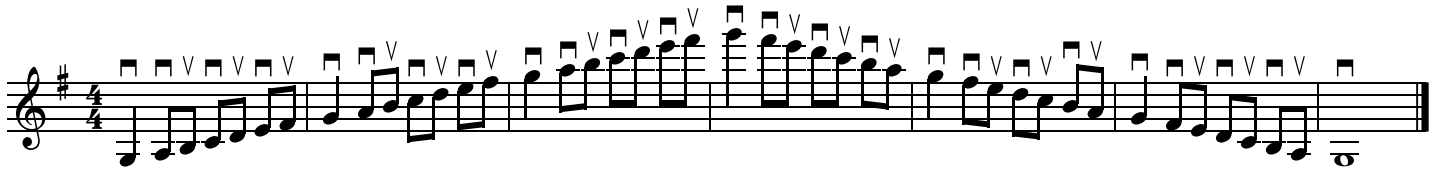
One staff of musical notation for a diminished 7th scale on A, spanning two octaves. The scale is in 4/4 time, starting on A4 and ending on A7.

Double stopping - G major in 6ths

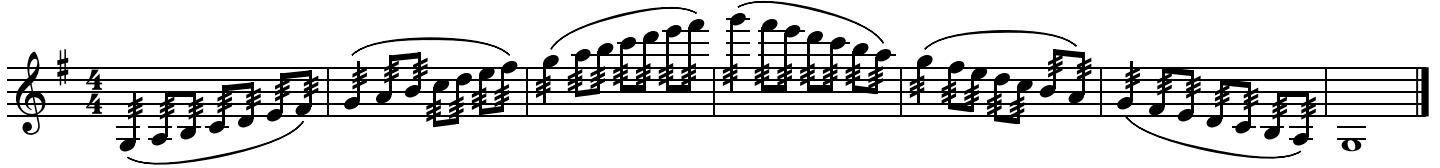
Two staves of musical notation for double stopping in G major, spanning two octaves. The first staff is in 4/4 time, and the second is in 2/4. The notes are played in sixths.

Plucking Patterns

Scales - long tonic, either in single notes plucked as follows



OR in tremolo as shown

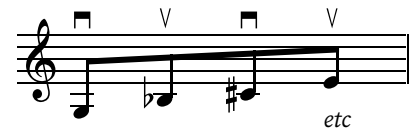
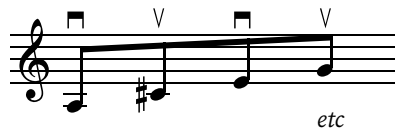
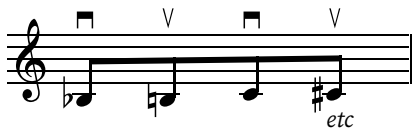


Arpeggios even quavers,
EITHER in single notes with any
sensible pattern of down and up strokes, e.g. ...

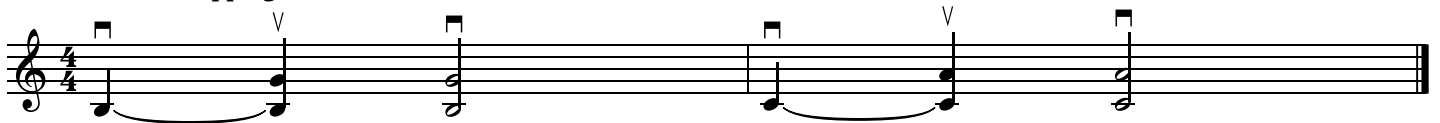
OR in tremolo as shown



Chromatic, dom 7, dim 7 -
single notes, alternate strokes



Double stopping exercises - as shown



Alternative to Scales from Memory

These do not need to be performed from memory.

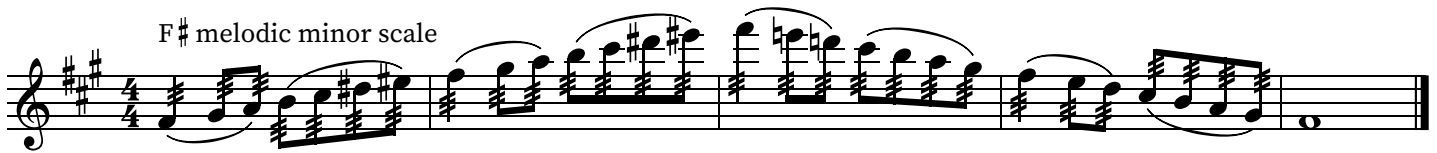
For the examination, play all the following. All tempi given are minimum speeds.

$\text{♩} = 80$

A major scale - 3 octaves



F# melodic minor scale

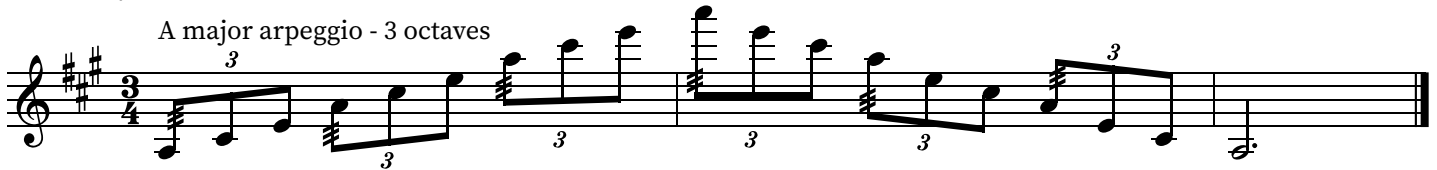


G harmonic minor scale - 3 octaves

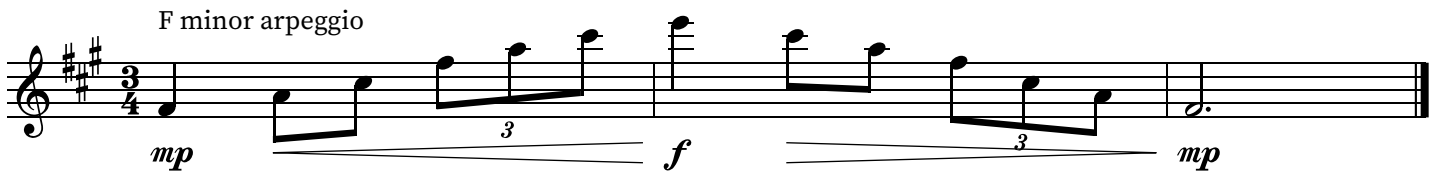


$\text{♩} = 112$

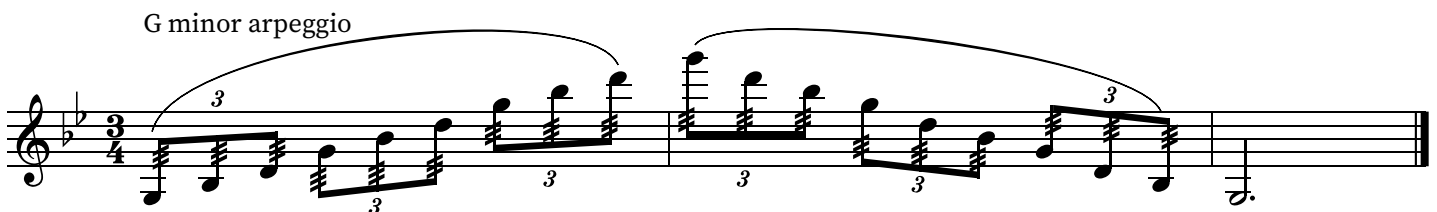
A major arpeggio - 3 octaves



F minor arpeggio



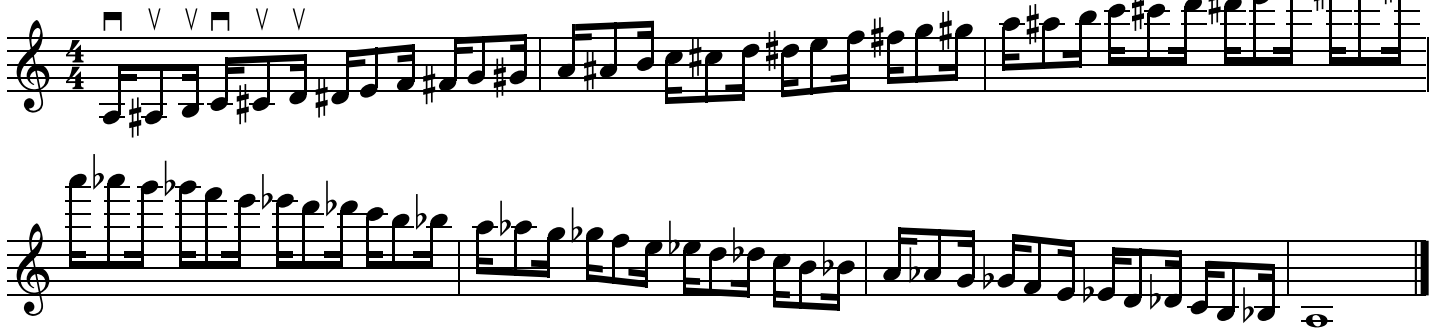
G minor arpeggio



Grade Seven

♩ = 80

A chromatic scale - 3 octaves



Dominant 7th in B♭ - 2 octaves



Diminished 7th on A - 2 octaves



Double stopping - G major in 6ths - sustain the lower note in each pair



Duet

Reel Deal!

[Click here to find
exam speed duet
recordings](#)

[Click here to find
practice speed
duet recordings](#)

Vivace

Slurs are optional, and may played as hammer-ons or pull-offs with the left hand

The musical score is written for two mandolins, labeled 1 and 2. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The tempo is marked 'Vivace'. The score consists of seven systems of two staves each. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *ff* (fortissimo), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *cresc* (crescendo), and *ff* (fortissimo). Slurs and accents are used throughout the piece. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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).

♩ = 140

1

candidate

metronome

♩ = 120

2

♩ = 104

3

Grade Seven

♩ = 90

4

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

♩ = 106

5

3

3

3

3

3

3

♩ = 86

6

3

3

3

3

Listening Skills

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.

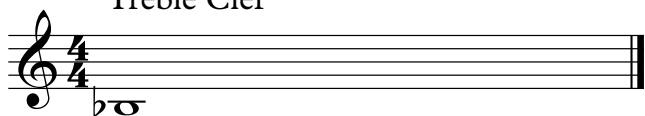
For each test, select either the treble or the bass clef exercises as appropriate to the range of the candidate's voice.

Test 1 - Scales.

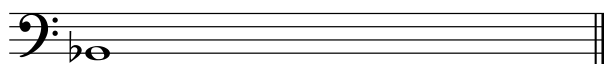
I shall ask you to sing an ascending major scale, after I give you the starting note.

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

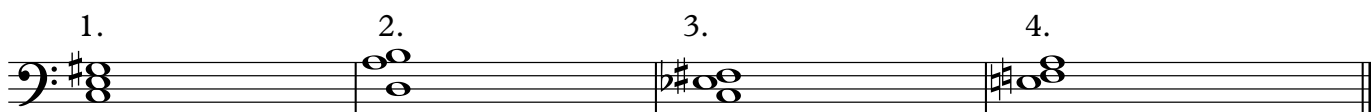
I shall play a 3 note chord and then you will sing back the highest, middle, then lowest notes.

We shall do this for 4 chords.

Treble Clef



Bass Clef

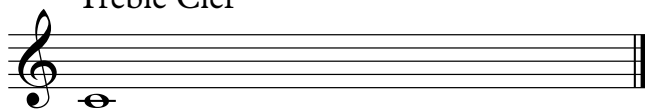


Test 3 - Dominant & Diminished 7ths

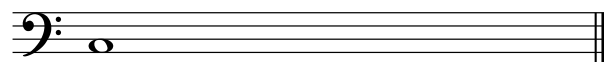
I shall ask you to sing the first 4 notes of an ascending dominant 7th arpeggio in root position after giving you the starting note.

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



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.