

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
Chris Acquavella	Serenade for Ali	am514/35	Astute Music
Raffaele Calace	Piccola Gavotta	KM 2112	Pan Verlag
Riggieri	La Fustemberg, Theme & Variations 1, 3, 8, 9, & 10	072	Edizioni Santabarbara
Juan Carlos Munoz	El Duende No. 8	Estampes KM 2053	Pan Verlag
Takashi Ochi	Fantasia No.1	ZM 18010	Schott Music
Carlo Munier	Aria Variata No. II	Fantasia di Concerto per mandolino solo am514-29	Astute Music
Raffaele Calace	Papillons dans le Jardin, Op. 21	02104-00	federmandolino.it
A.R. Capponi	Sonata da Camera No.12: Choose 1 Slow and 1 Fast Movt. (With Guitar Accompaniment)	V&F 4049	Vogt & Fritz
G.B. Gervasio	Sonata da Camera, 1 st Movt. (With Guitar Accompaniment)	V&F 4042	Vogt & Fritz
Gabrielle Leone	Sonata No.6, Any Movt. (With Guitar Accompaniment)	Sonata No.6 V&F 5051	Vogt & Fritz
Friedrich Zehm	Sonatine 1 st Movt. (With Guitar Accompaniment)	Sonatine GA474Q4981	Schott Music
G.B. Gervasio	Sonata VI 1 st Movt. (With Basso continuo)	ORPH-MAN8	Ut Orpheus Edizione
Eileen Pakenham	Fantasy (With Piano Accompaniment)	Fantasy am514-40	Astute Music
Armin Kaufmann	Mitoka Dragomirna (With Piano Accompaniment)	Burletta and Mitoka Dragomirna 1702A	Heinrichshofen

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

[Page 7](#)

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 13](#)

PLUS

Listening Skills:

Sing the prepared aural tests for this grade

[Page 15](#)

Musicianship Option 2

Reading Skills:

Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

[Page 13](#)

PLUS

Duet:

Perform the duet for this grade

[Page 9](#)

Technical Exercises

Exercise 1

♩ = 100

Odell

Exercise 1, measures 1-4. The music is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/4 time signature. The first measure starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The melody consists of half notes with dotted stems, and the accompaniment consists of quarter notes. Measures 1 and 2 are bracketed together, as are measures 3 and 4. The piece ends with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

Exercise 2

♩ = 50

Exercise 2, measures 1-12. The music is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 50. The first measure starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The melody consists of eighth notes, and the accompaniment consists of quarter notes. Measures 1-2 are marked with a 'V' and 'mf'. Measures 3-4 are marked with a 'V' and 'mf'. Measures 5-6 are marked with a 'V' and 'mf'. Measures 7-8 are marked with a 'V' and 'mf'. Measures 9-10 are marked with a 'V' and 'mf'. Measures 11-12 are marked with a 'V' and 'mf'. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Exercise 3

♩ = 80

Exercise 3, measures 1-8. The music is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 3/8 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 80. The first measure starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The melody consists of eighth notes, and the accompaniment consists of quarter notes. Measures 1-2 are marked with a 'V' and 'f'. Measures 3-4 are marked with a 'V' and 'f'. Measures 5-6 are marked with a 'V' and 'f'. Measures 7-8 are marked with a 'V' and 'f'. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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.

♩ = 92

B♭ major scale - 3 octaves



G# melodic minor scale - 3 octaves

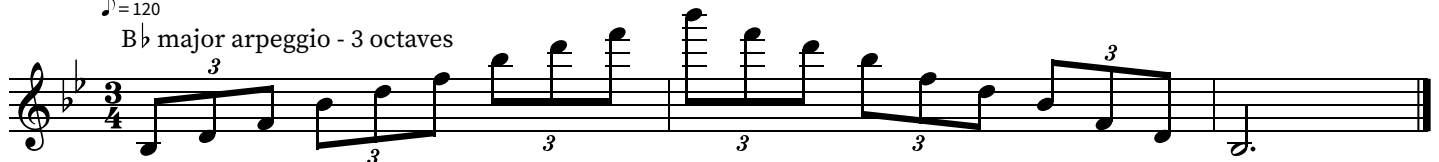


A harmonic minor scale - 3 octaves

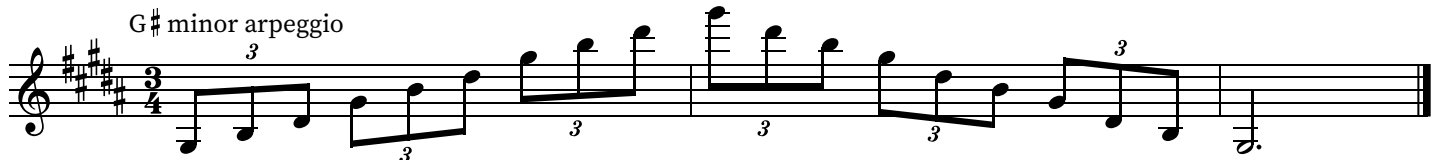


♩ = 120

B♭ major arpeggio - 3 octaves



G# minor arpeggio



♩ = 92

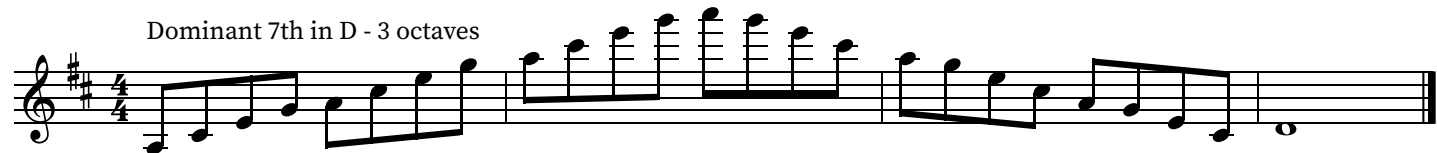
A♭ chromatic scale - 3 octaves



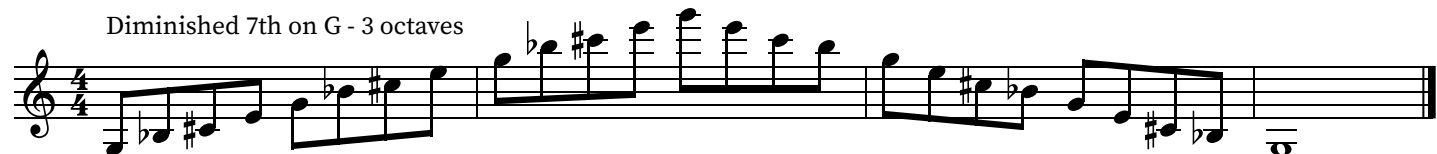
Grade Eight



Dominant 7th in D - 3 octaves



Diminished 7th on G - 3 octaves



Double stopping - B major in octaves

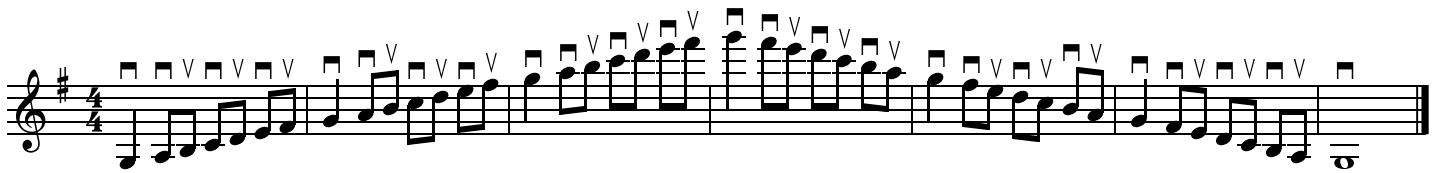


Double stopping - B major in 3rds



Plucking Patterns

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



OR in tremolo as shown

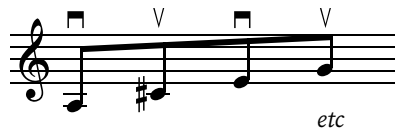
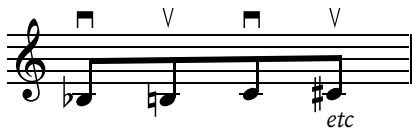


Arpeggios even quavers,
EITHER in single notes with any
sensible pattern of down and up strokes, e.g. ...

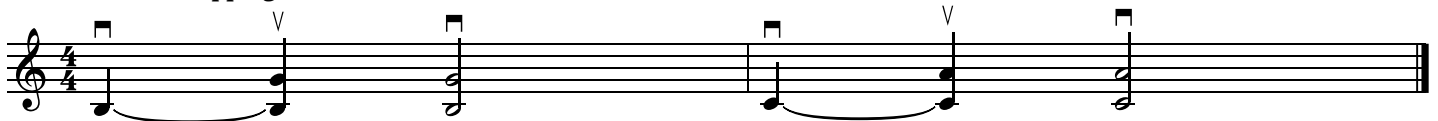
OR in tremolo as shown



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



Double stopping exercises - as shown



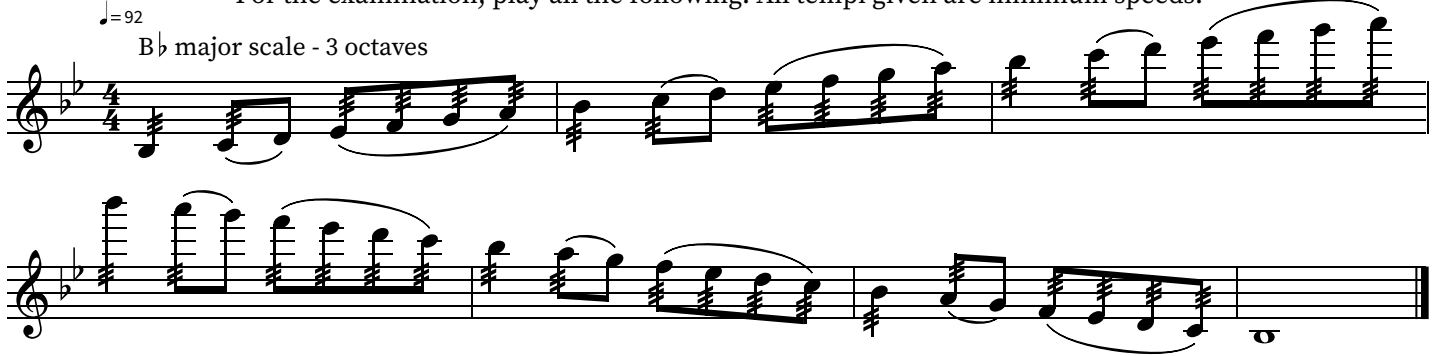
Alternative to Scales from Memory

These do not need to be performed from memory.

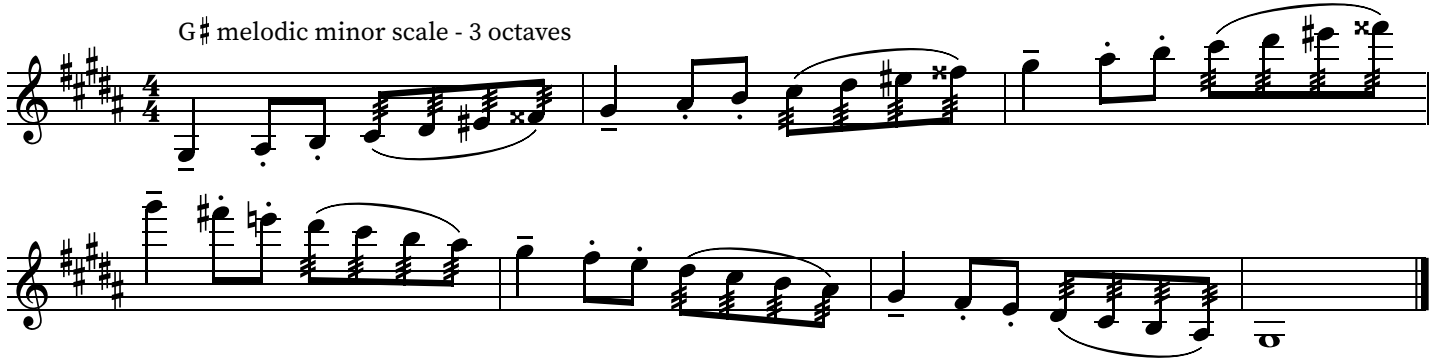
For the examination, play all the following. All tempi given are minimum speeds.

♩ = 92

B♭ major scale - 3 octaves

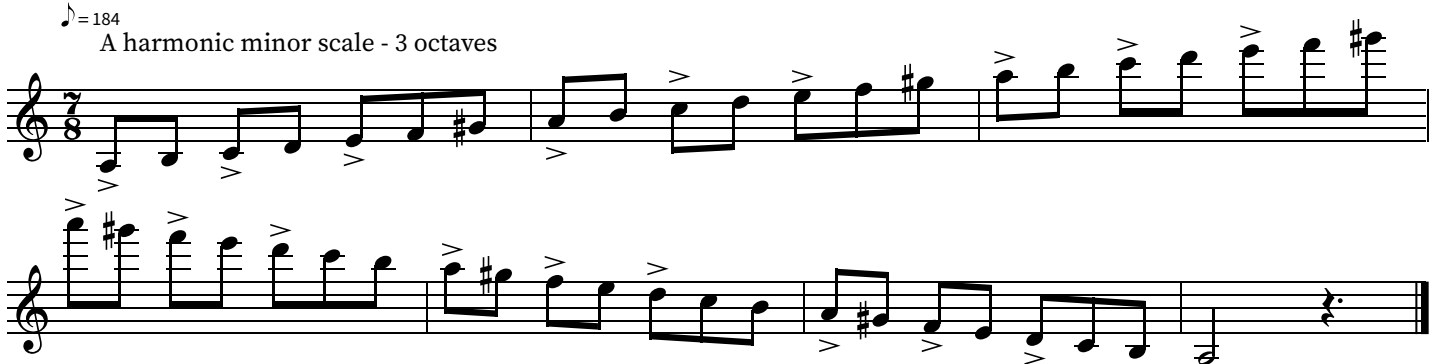


G♯ melodic minor scale - 3 octaves

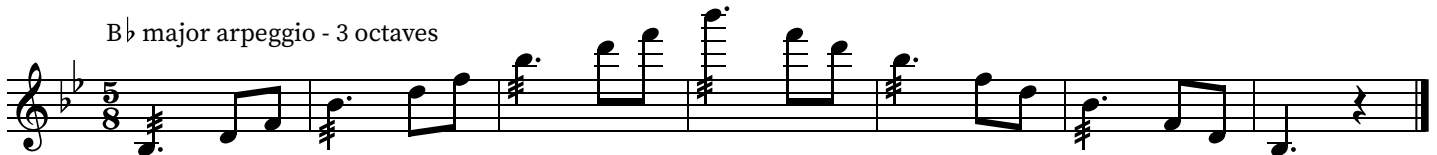


♩ = 184

A harmonic minor scale - 3 octaves

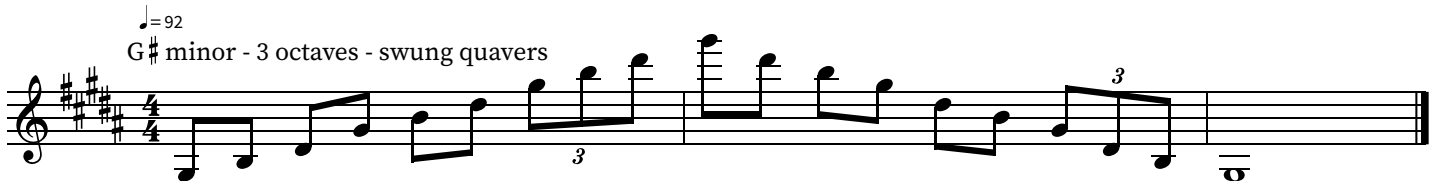


B♭ major arpeggio - 3 octaves



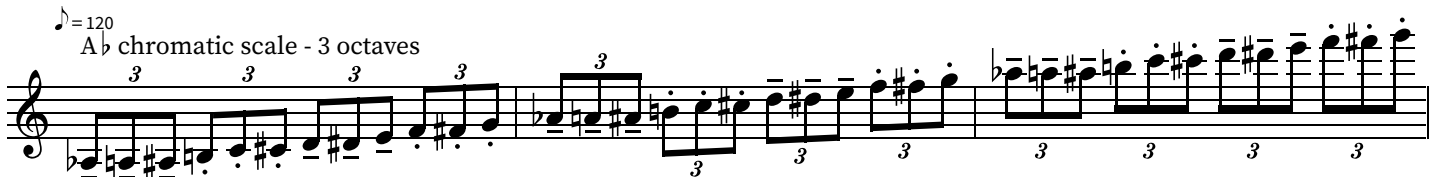
♩ = 92

G♯ minor - 3 octaves - swung quavers



♩ = 120

A♭ chromatic scale - 3 octaves



The first system of the musical score is written on a single five-line staff. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, many of which are beamed together. There are several triplets indicated by a '3' above the notes. The system ends with a double bar line.

Dominant 7th in D - 3 octaves

Diminished 7th on G - 3 octaves
pizz - palm muting

Double stopping - B major in octaves

Double stopping - B♭ major in 3rds

Grade Eight

1 Candidate

2 Select ONE of the following two duets

Duet

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

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

i) Romantic Dream

Andante - Espressivo

The musical score is for a duet in 3/4 time, key of D major. It consists of six systems of two staves each. The first system is marked *mf* and includes a *pizz (palm muting)* instruction for the second staff. The second system features dynamics *mp*, *cresc*, *f*, *mf*, and *cresc*, with a *normal (no pizz.)* instruction for the second staff. The third system includes *dim* and *mp* dynamics. The fourth system is marked *cresc* for both staves. The fifth system is marked *f* for both staves. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and slurs.

Grade Eight

The image shows a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It consists of two staves, both in treble clef and key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The top staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The bottom staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The music is written in a simple, folk-like style. The first staff has a melody that starts with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and then a half note. The second staff has a melody that starts with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and then a half note. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. There are dynamic markings "dim" and "mp" in the second staff. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The music is written in a simple, folk-like style. The first staff has a melody that starts with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and then a half note. The second staff has a melody that starts with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and then a half note. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. There are dynamic markings "dim" and "mp" in the second staff.

Musicianship Duets on the MTB Syllabuses are not acceptable for use as Recital pieces for the same grade. Musicianship Duets are Listening Skills, not another piece and consequently are set at a more straightforward technical level.

Grade Eight

ii) Contra-punkt

Decisively!

f

f

p

cresc

ff

cresc

ff

The musical score is written for mandolin in treble and bass clefs. It consists of five systems of staves. The first system includes dynamics *p* and *f*, and performance instructions *pizz. (palm muting)*. The second system continues the melodic and harmonic development. The third system features a variety of rhythmic patterns and accidentals. The fourth system includes the instruction *p normal (no pizz.)* and a *cresc* (crescendo) marking. The fifth system concludes with a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic. The score is characterized by frequent use of accents, slurs, and dynamic markings to guide the performer.

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

Grade Eight

$\text{♩} = 200$

4

Musical score for Grade 8, 4/8 time, tempo 200. The score consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system has a treble staff with eighth and sixteenth notes and a bass staff with eighth notes. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

$\text{♩} = 90$

5

Musical score for Grade 8, 4/4 time, tempo 90. The score consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system has a treble staff with eighth and sixteenth notes, including triplets and quintuplets, and a bass staff with eighth notes. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

$\text{♩} = 62$

6

Musical score for Grade 8, 9/4 time, tempo 62. The score consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system has a treble staff with eighth and sixteenth notes and a bass staff with eighth notes. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

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 - Singing notes from a chord.

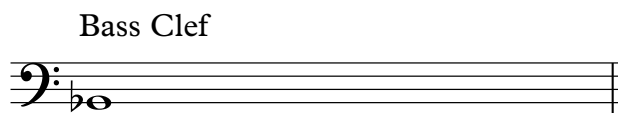
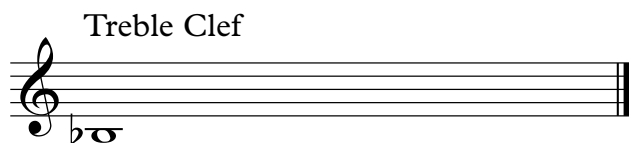
I will play a 4 note chord and you will sing back **all** of the notes, starting with the highest.
We shall do this for 4 chords.



Test 2 - Scales

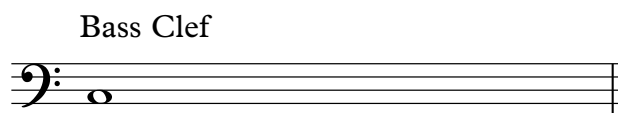
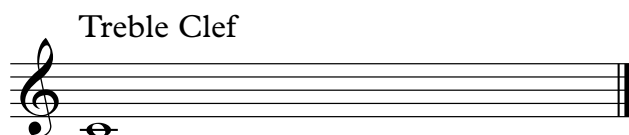
I shall ask you to sing a whole tone scale up and down after giving you the starting note.

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.