MTB Grade 8
Keyboard

MUSIC TEACHERS' BOARD

Section One: Recital (60 marks)

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

If you are using a Keyboard that is not touch sensitive, it is important to use other means to replace dynamics such as different voicing. In pieces with limited or no given registrations, tempo markings, dynamics, voice/fill markings, etc. the candidate must select these as part of their interpretation so as to produce a musically rewarding performance and exploit the potential of their keyboard. Two versions of the same song, with different LH variations may appear. In this event, you may select only **one** version of the song.
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
J.S. Bach	Prelude and Fugue in E major BWV 854	Tomplay	tomplay.com
Duke Ellington	Take the A Train	Tomplay	tomplay.com
Schubert	Impromptu in G Flat major D 899 Op.90	Tomplay	tomplay.com
Schubert	Impromptu in C Minor D 899 Op.90	Tomplay	tomplay.com
Beethoven	Sonata in E flat Op.31 no.3: Scherzo	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Chopin	Waltz in C sharp minor Op.64 no.2	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Brahms	Intermezzo in A Op.118 no.2	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Brahms	Ballade Op.118 no.3	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Debussy	Clair de Lune	Tomplay or Suite Bergamasque	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Debussy	La Cathedrale Engloutie	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Debussy	Arabesque No.1 in E	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Debussy	Arabesque No.2 in G	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Gershwin	Three Preludes (choose any one)	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Joplin	Weeping Willow	Tomplay	tomplay.com or Any reliable edition
Chopin	Prelude Number 15 in D flat: Raindrop	SMD Cat Ref: 52829	sheetmusicdirect.com
Alexis French	Footprints in the Sand	SMD Cat Ref: 446739	sheetmusicdirect.com
J. Williams	Star Wars Main Theme	SMD Cat Ref: 92926	sheetmusicdirect.com
Giovanni Dettori	Lady Gaga Fugue	SMD Cat Ref: 95798	sheetmusicdirect.com
N. Hess	Ladies in Lavender	SMD Cat Ref: 32607	sheetmusicdirect.com
Queen/ Keveren	Bohemian Rhapsody	SMD Cat Ref: 171581	sheetmusicdirect.com
Yiruma	Kiss the Rain	SMD Cat Ref: 152389	sheetmusicdirect.com
A.Gomez	Let it Go (Frozen)	SMD Cat Ref: 154082	sheetmusicdirect.com
J.S,Bach/ P. Keveren	Prelude and Fugue in C Minor BVW 847	SMD Cat Ref: 176487	sheetmusicdirect.com

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.

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MTB Grade 8
Keyboard

MUSIC TEACHERS' BOARD

Composer/Artist	Title	Book/Cat. Ref	Publisher/ Buy Here
Frederic Chopin	Nocturne in B flat minor Op.9 no.1	MTB Piano Book Grade 8	MTB Bookshop
S. Coleridge-Taylor	No.1 Le Caprice De Nannette	MTB Piano Book Grade 8	MTB Bookshop
Domenico Scarlatti	Sonata in B minor	MTB Piano Book Grade 8	MTB Bookshop
Robert Schumann	Scherzino	MTB Piano Book Grade 8	MTB Bookshop
Scott Joplin	Scott Joplin's New Rag	MTB Piano Book Grade 8	MTB Bookshop
George Gershwin	Prelude No.1	MTB Piano Book Grade 8	MTB Bookshop
Scarlatti	Sonata in B minor K.27	N/A	8notes.com
J.S.Bach/Busoni	Ich Ruf Zu Dir, Herr Jesu Christ	Orgel Choralvorspiele, Book 1 No.5	Breitkopf
J.S.Bach	Prelude & Fugue in E Major	Well Tempered Klavier Book 1	Henle-Verlag
J.S.Bach	Prelude & Fugue in Bb Major	Well Tempered Klavier Book 1	Henle-Verlag
J.S.Bach	Partita in Bb no.1 Prelude & Gigue	N/A	Henle-Verlag
Mozart	1st Movt from any Sonata (except K.545)	N/A	Any reliable edition
Beethoven	Sonata in C minor Op.13 no.1: I Grave-Allegro di molto	N/A	Any reliable edition
Haydn	Sonata in Eb HOB 49: I Allegro	N/A	Any reliable edition
Haydn	Sonata in Eb HOB 52: I Allegro Moderato	N/A	Any reliable edition
Leighton	Sonatina No.2: I Allegro or III Allegro Molto	N/A	Lengnick
Clementi	Sonata in G: III Allegro con Spirito	N/A	Henle
Chopin	Sonata in Bb minor Op.5 no.2: II Funeral March	N/A	Any reliable edition
Brahms	Intermezzo Op.118 no.5 Romanze	N/A	Any reliable edition
Chaminade	Idylle or Meditation	Romances sans Paroles Op.76	ISMLP
Schubert	Any Impromptu Op.90	N/A	Any reliable edition
Elgar	In Smyrna from Two Piano Pieces	N/A	Novello
Bartok	Diary of a Fly	Mikrokosmos Volume 6 Boosey and Hawkes	Any reliable edition
Bartok	Any of the Dances in Bulgarian Rhythm	Mikrokosmos Volume 6 Boosey and Hawkes	Any reliable edition
Billy Mayerl	Eskimo Shivers	The Jazz Master	Faber
Joplin	Elite Syncopations	N/A	Any reliable edition
Hengeveld	Prelude from 'Partita Rhythmique'	N/A	Broekmans & Van Poppel
Joe Hisaishi	Spring	N/A	www.gangqinpu.com

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Section Two: Technical (25 marks)

Technical: Keyboard as Piano

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

Page 4

PLUS

Scales from Memory:
Perform all 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 11

PLUS

Listening Skills:
Sing the prepared aural tests for this grade

Page 13

Musicianship Option 2

Reading Skills:
Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

Page 11

PLUS

Duet:
Perform the duet for this grade

Page 7

Please go to page 14 to find syllabus guidance

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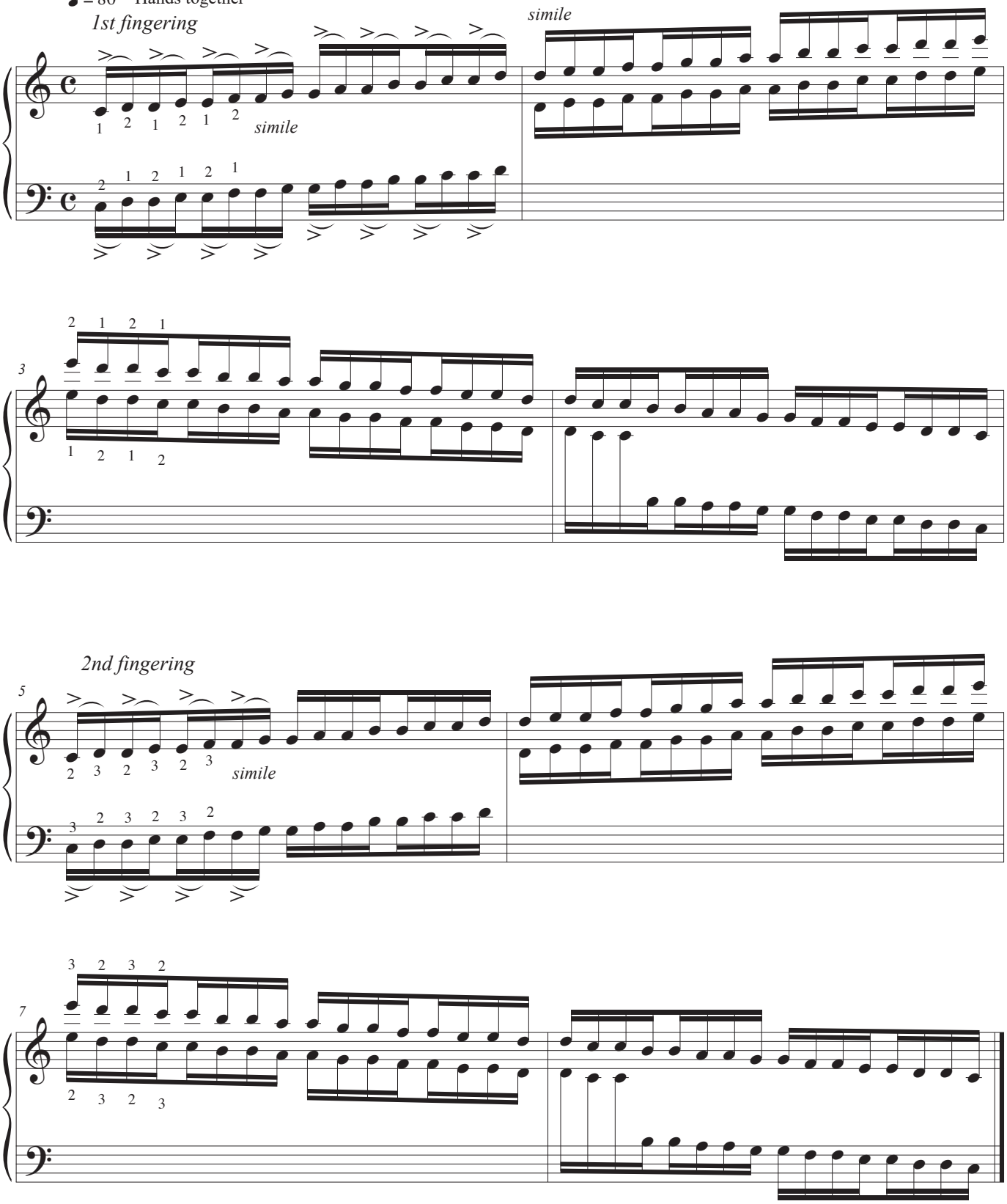
Technical Exercises

C.L Hanon
(from The Virtuoso Pianist)

Exercise 1

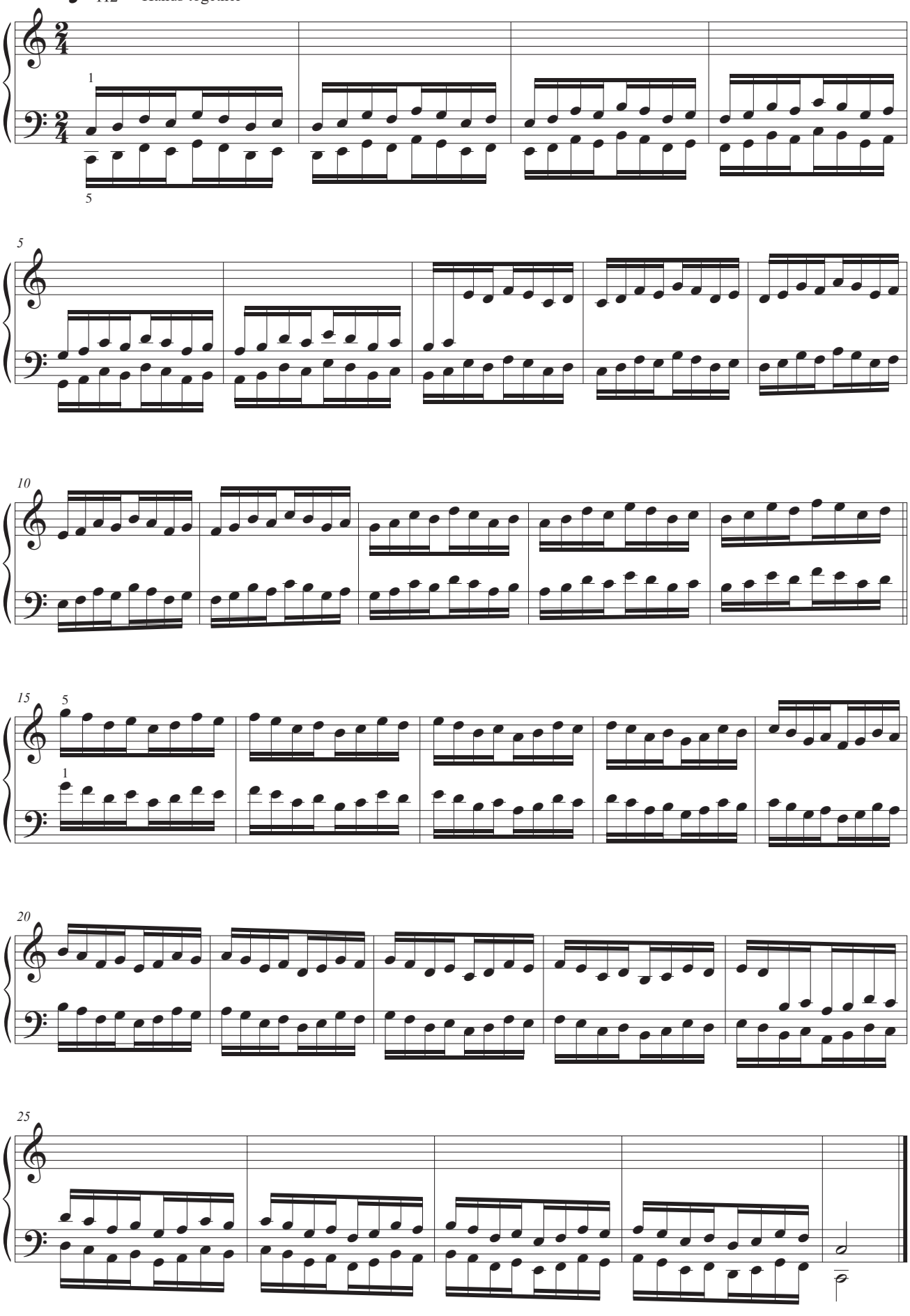
♩ = 80 Hands together

1st fingering



Exercise 2

♩ = 112 Hands together

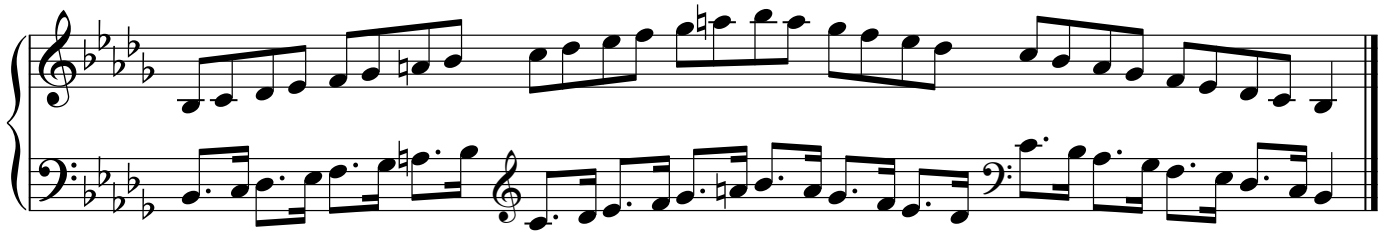


Scales from Memory

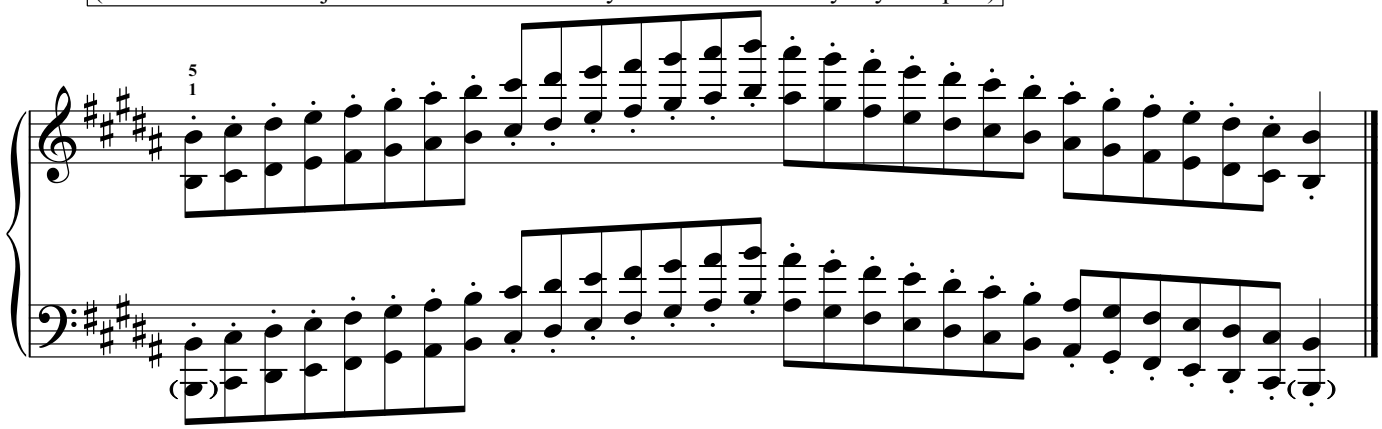
For the examination, play all the scales and arpeggios - legato or staccato as requested

Scales ♩ = 92

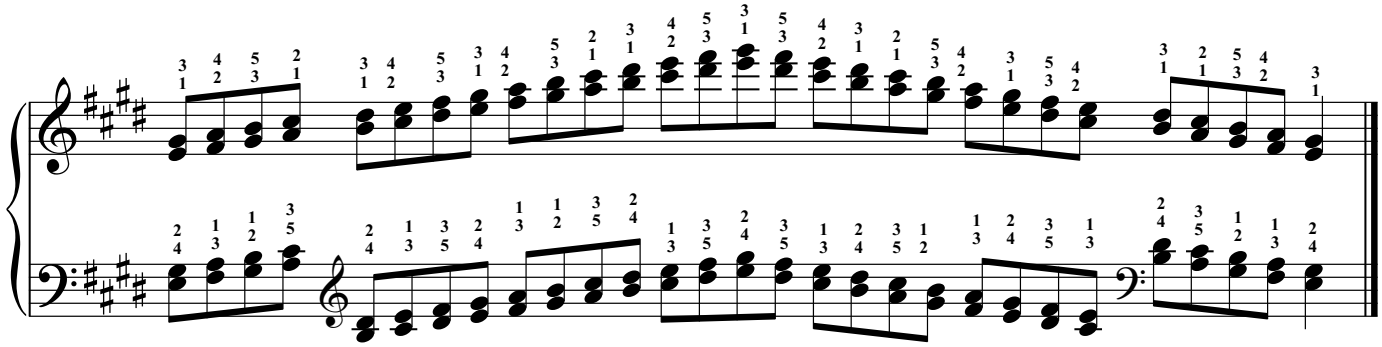
B♭ harmonic minor, two octaves, right hand even, left hand dotted



B major in octaves, two octaves, staccato, with major chord accompaniment
(for small hands a major scale in double 6ths may be substituted in any key except C)



E major double thirds, two octaves, hands separately



Own choice scale, two octaves, legato, suggested tempo: 4 semiquavers = 126

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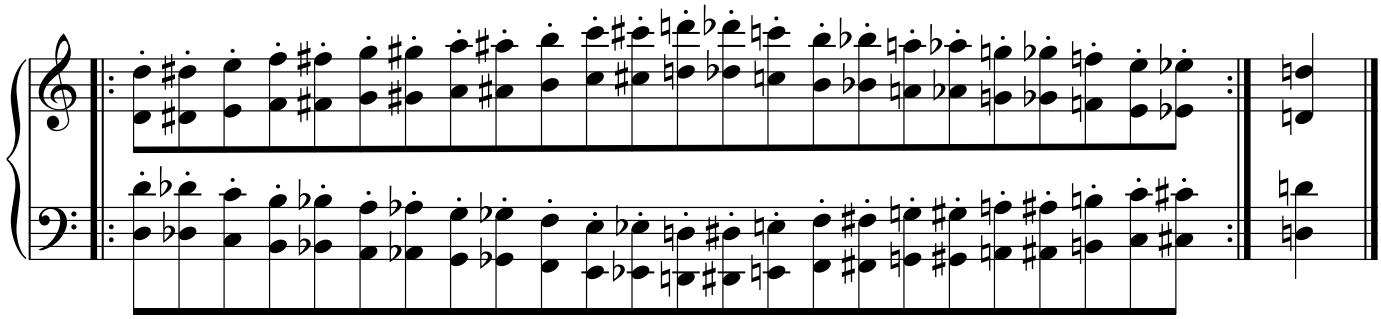
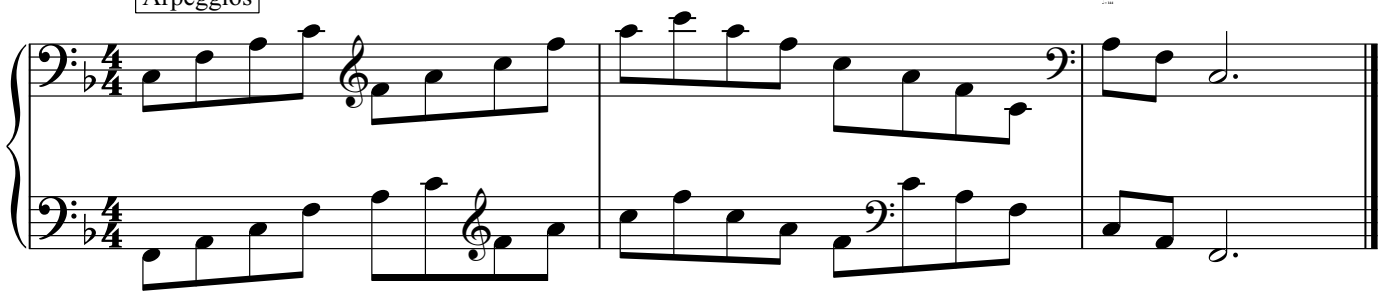
Chromatic Scale

In octaves, contrary motion, one octave beginning on D, Repeated and staccato ♩ = 56
(For small hands please play a chromatic double 3rd starting on D and F)

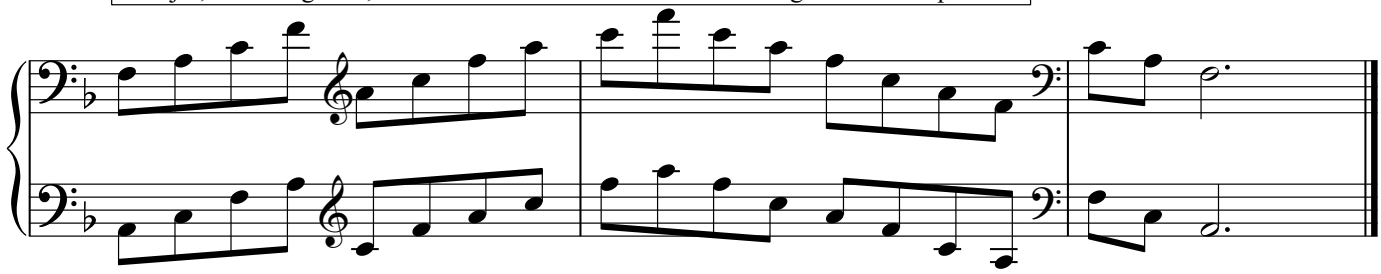


F major, hands together, three octaves: left hand root position/right hand 2nd inversion ♩ = 144

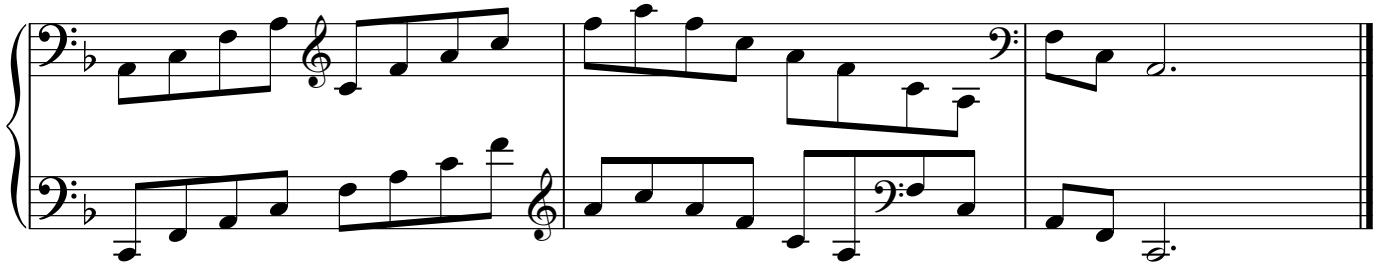
Arpeggios



F major, hands together, three octaves: left hand 1st inversion/right hand root position



F major, hands together, three octaves: left hand 2nd inversion/right hand 1st inversion



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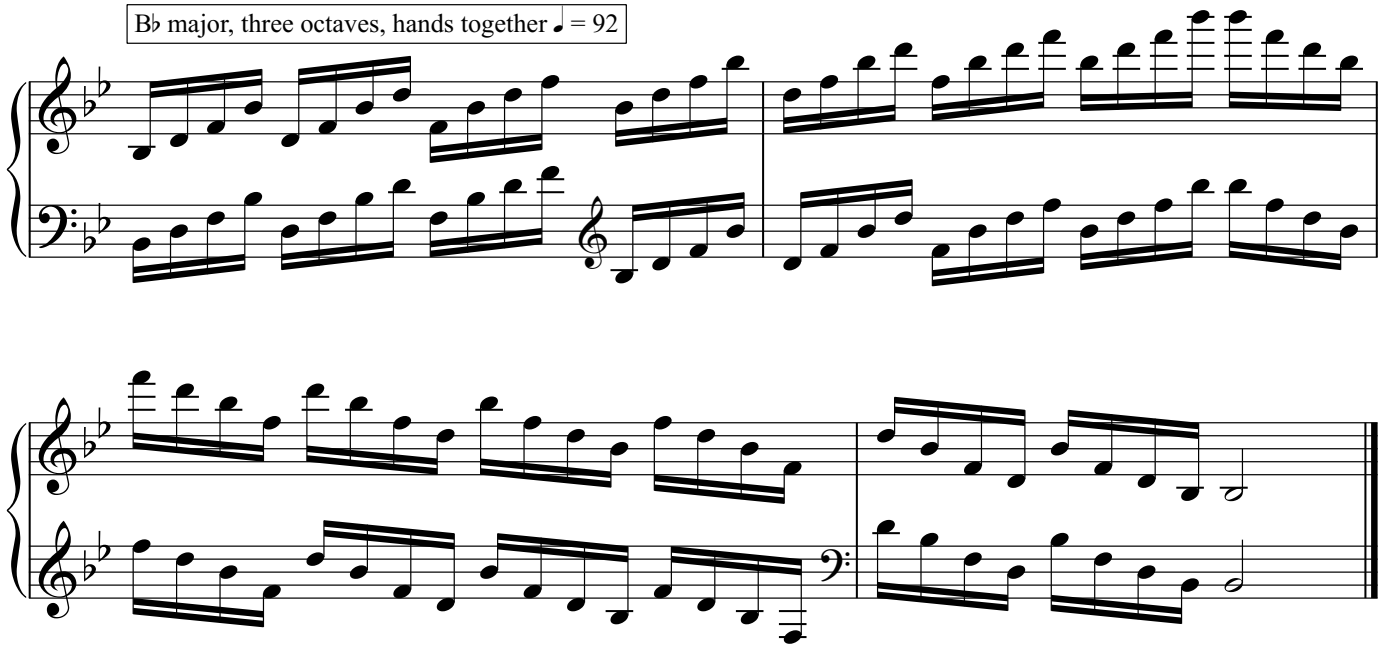
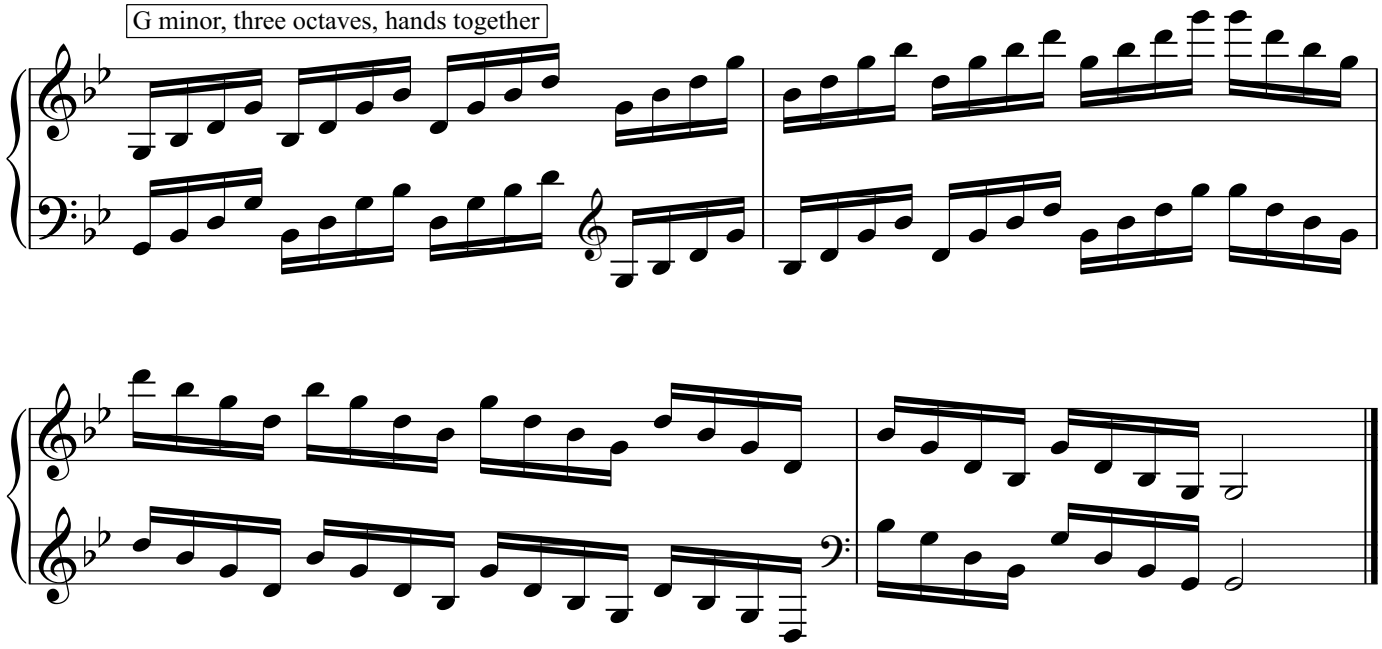
Using the Keyboard as a Piano

Broken Chords

B♭ major, three octaves, hands together ♩ = 92



G minor, three octaves, hands together



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Duet Selection

Waltz No. 6 from Six Waltzes

[Click here to find exam speed duet recordings]

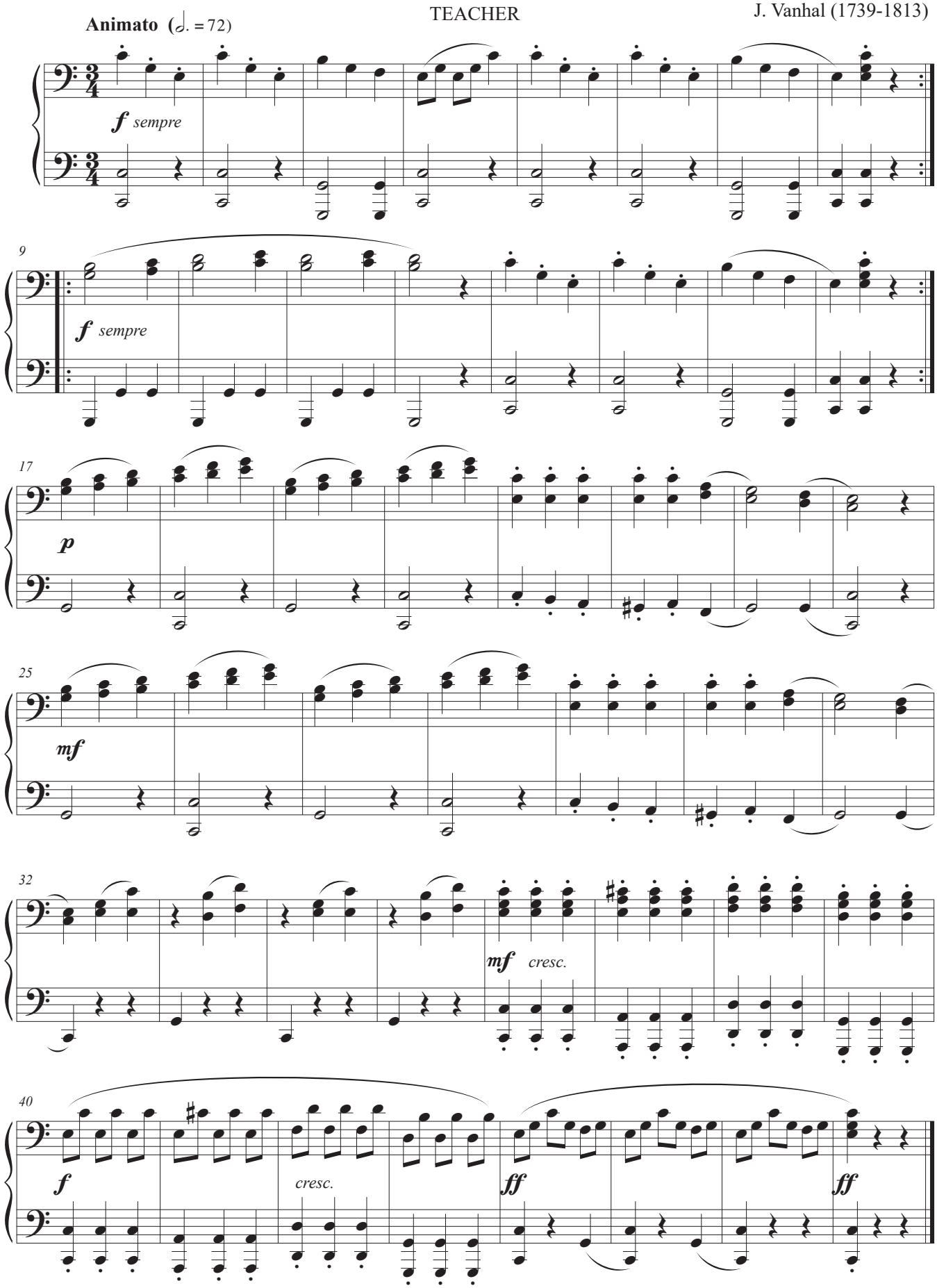
[Click here to find practice speed duet recordings]

The Teacher part should be played on a Piano, or the candidate may use the recordings provided

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.

TEACHER

J. Vanhal (1739-1813)



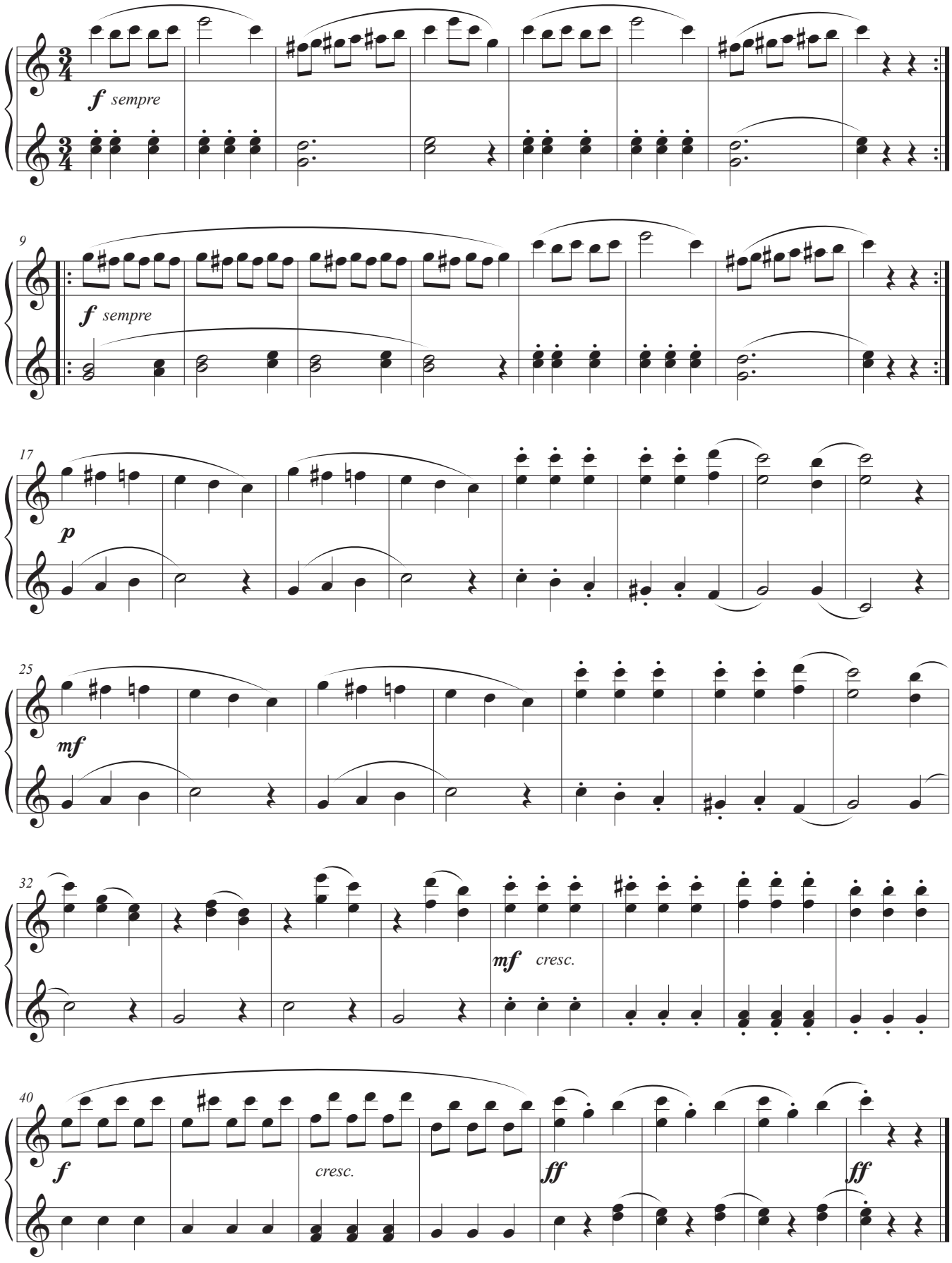
Duet Selection

Waltz No. 6

from Six Waltzes for Piano Duet

J. Vanhal (1739-1813)

PUPIL



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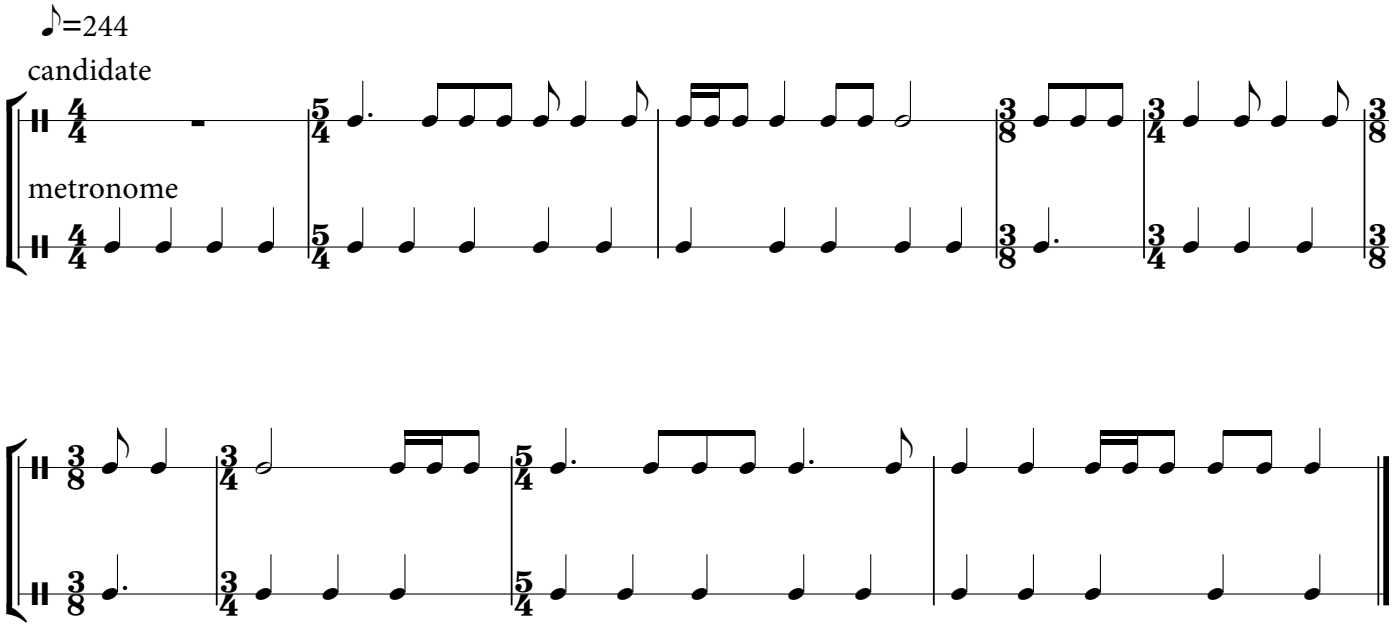
Reading Skills

Click here to find the MTB 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 or a metronome (not clapped).

1



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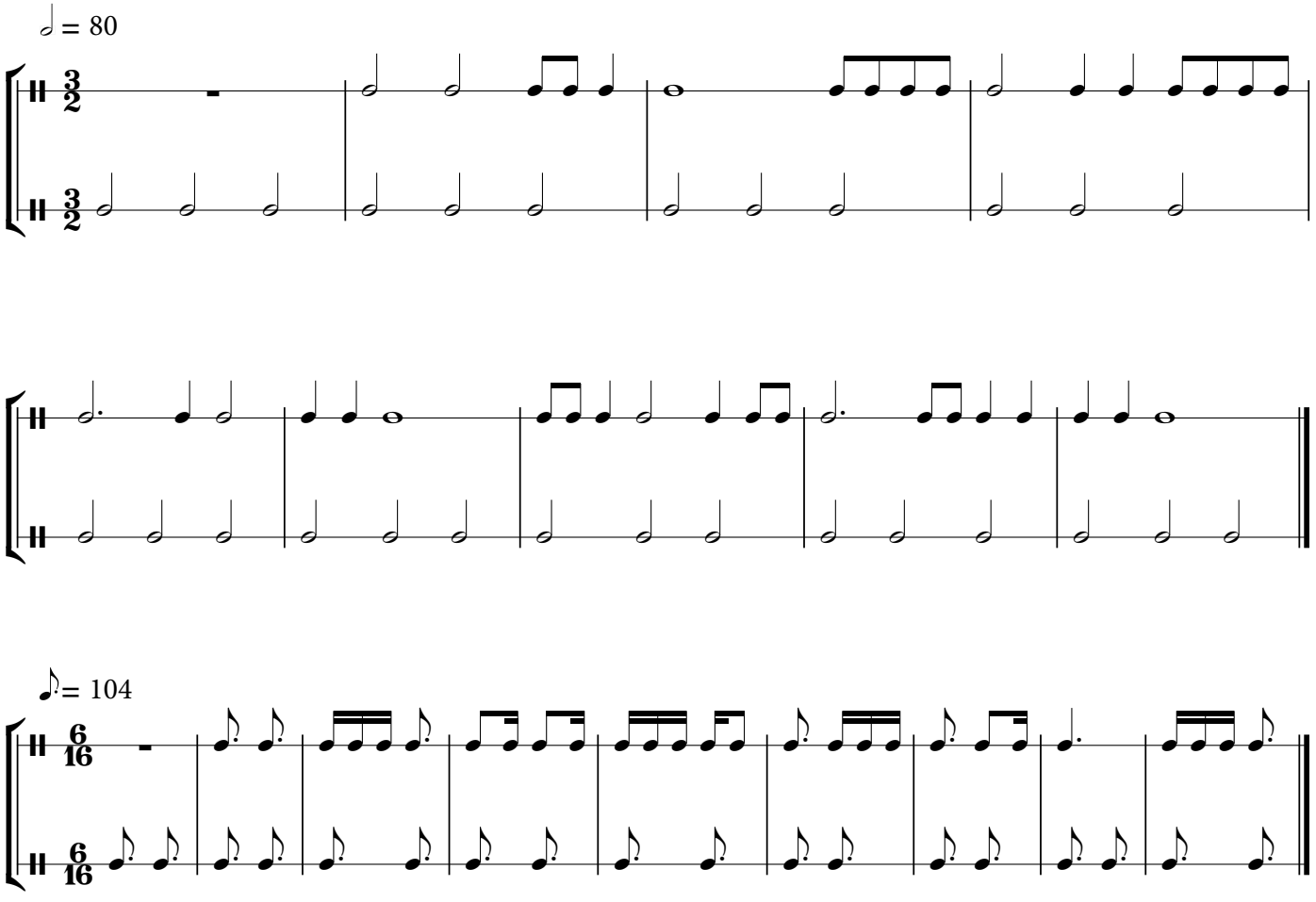

3

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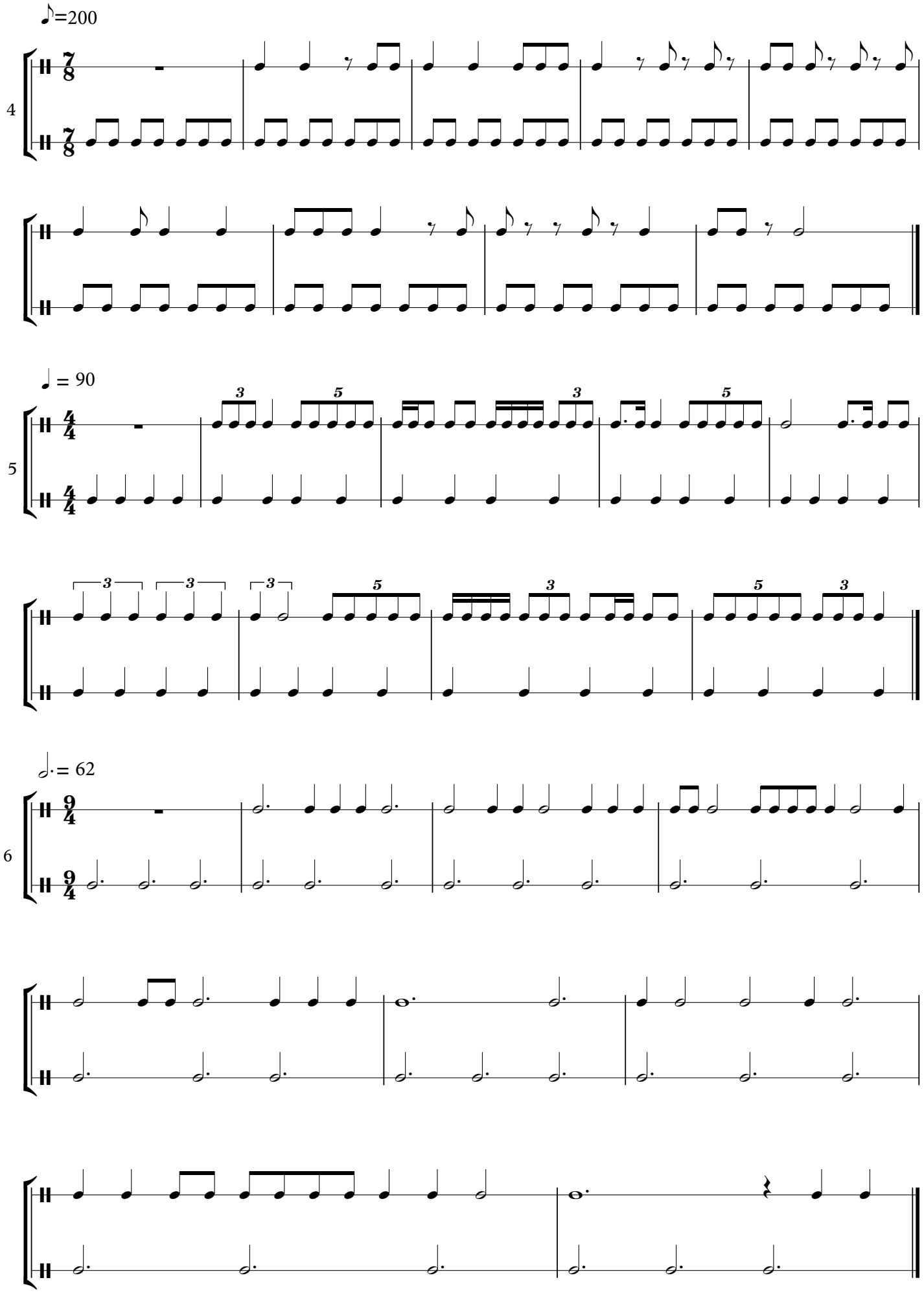
Keyboard Grade Eight



Click here to find the MTB Listening skills recordings in Treble Clef

Click here to find the MTB Listening skills recordings in Bass Clef

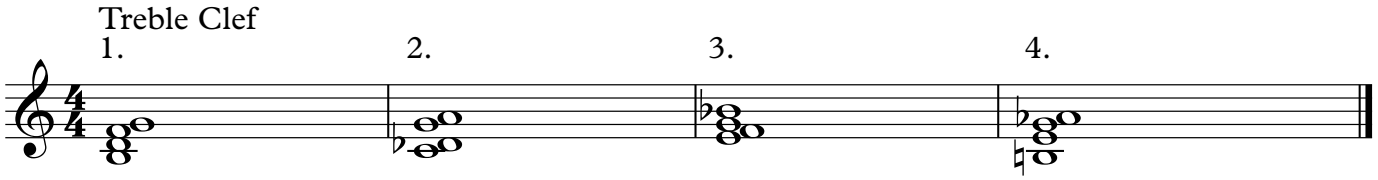
Listening Skills

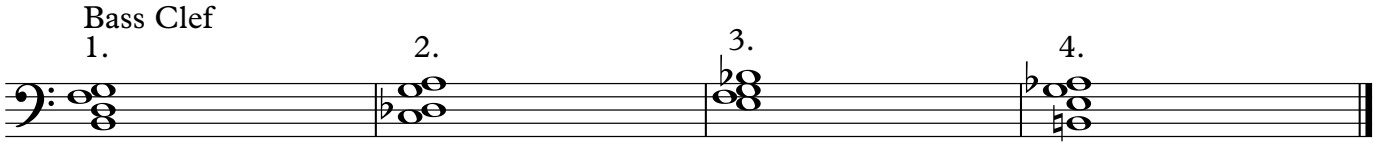
(Aural tests)

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.

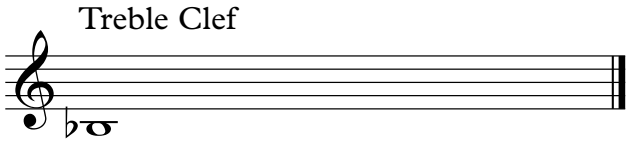
Only the teacher should have this sheet in front of them during the exam.
For each test, select *either* the treble *or* the bass clef exercises as appropriate to the range of the candidate's voice.

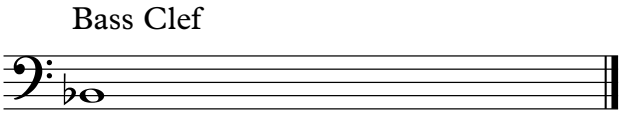
Test 1 - Singing notes from a chord.
I will play a 4 note chord and you will sing back **all** of the notes, starting with the highest.
We shall do this for 4 chords.



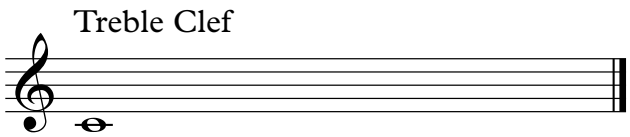


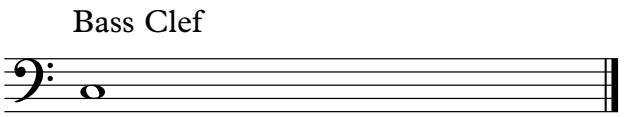
Test 2 - Scales
I shall ask you to sing a whole tone scale up and down after giving you the starting note.
Then, I shall ask you to sing a melodic minor scale up and down after giving you the same starting note again.





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.





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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.

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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