

**N.Z. MODERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC**  
**GUITAR EXAMINATION SYLLABUS**  
**GRADE SEVEN**

**TECHNICAL WORK:** 20 marks

**Scales and Arpeggios for Guitar Book**

To be played from memory.

**Scales:** mm ♩ 108

**Major Scales of B and F#**  
**Harmonic Minor Scale of E**  
**Melodic Minor Scale of G**

Two octaves, ascending and descending.

**Blues Scale of C**

Position VIII, string 6

Two octaves, ascending and descending.

**Major Scale of A in sixths**

One octave, ascending and descending.

**Arpeggios:** mm ♩ 96

**B and F# Major**  
**E and G Minor**  
**E Diminished seventh.**

Two octaves, ascending and descending.

**AURAL:** 10 marks

- To clap or tap a four bar melody. In either 2/4 or 6/8 time.
- To recognize whether a chord played in root position is a major seventh, dominant seventh, minor seventh or diminished seventh.
- To observe a four bar melody and then play it from memory.  
In 4/4 time.

**VIVA VOCE:** 10 marks

- General questions will be asked about **all** pieces performed and the technical work for this grade.
- To explain the construction of the blues scale.
- To explain the construction and use of the diminished seventh chord.
- To explain the tablature system.

**MELODY OUTLINE:** 20 marks**Criteria for this section:**

- The four bar introduction must include chords and a melody line.
- Both parts should be developed within the criteria given to make a complete piece.
- **Must** use dual play.
- Expression and dynamics **must** be included and marked on the music.
- The work **must** be given a title.
- The final work **must** be either computer written or hand written **by the candidate**.
- **A copy of the melody outline must be sent to the Area Manager 21 days prior to the commencement date of the examinations as specified on the NZMSM calendar.**

**Part One: Bars 1 to16**

- The melody **may** include notes of the chord and/or passing notes.
- **Must** be chorded with one chord per bar.
- The bass progression: **Ilm V7 I** **must** be included at least once.

**Part Two: Bars 17 to 32**

- A more comprehensive melody **must** be added.
- The time signature **may** be changed.
- Freedom of harmonization.

**MUSICIANSHIP:** 15 marks**Rhythm Guitar, Book 2****Transposition:****Greensleeves, page 20**

- **Must** be played from memory.
- **Must** be transposed a major second lower.
- **Must** be picked.
- No Capo.
- Expression and dynamics must be included.

**PIECES:** 75 marks**Melody Making, Book 2  
Graded Tunes, Book 5 and 7****Rhythm Guitar, Book 2  
Supplementary Tunes, Book 1**

Four pieces **must** be performed, **one** piece from each section

All pieces **must** have an introduction and ending where none is given.

Expression and dynamics **must** be included and marked on the music.

Style, improvisation and rhythmic approach are expected for this grade.

**Section I:** 20 marks

**Summer Holiday**  
**Honesty**  
**Take It Easy**

**Melody 2,**      **page 28**  
**Book 7,**        **page 18**  
**Supplementary 1,** **page 19**

- Choose **one** piece from the list above.

**Criteria for this section:**

- **Must** be picked.
- Fills **must** be added.
- Any alterations **must** be marked on the music **by the candidate**.

No repeats except D.C. or D.S. or as indicated for a specific piece.

**Section II:** 20 marks**Book 7**

**I'll Never Fall in Love Again**  
**I Dreamed a Dream**  
**Better Be Home Soon**

**page 8**  
**page 12**  
**page 20**

- Choose **one** piece from the list above.
- No Capo.

**Criteria for this section:**

- The piece **must** be transposed into the key of Eb if the original is in a different key. Transposed chord symbols **may** be written on the music.
- **Must** be either sung by the candidate or accompanied by another instrumentalist. The candidate must count in for the accompanist unless the candidate sings.
- **Must** choose own strum.
- **Must** include some degree of arrangement.
- Any alterations **must** be marked on the music **by the candidate**.
- Strum style optional.

**Section III:** 20 marks

**House of the Rising Sun** Rhythm 2,  
**Unchained Melody** Book 7,  
**Fernando** Book 7,

**page 21**  
**page 2** change to 4/4  
**page 14**

- Choose **one** piece from the list above.

**Criteria for this section:**

- **Must** use **three** different styles.
- **Must** include harmony.
- **Must** be picked.
- Transposition in part is permitted.
- Bass runs **must** be included.
- **Must** have some degree of the candidate's own arrangement.
- Any alterations must be marked on the music **by the candidate**.

Repeats are optional.

**Section IV:** 15 marks**Book 5**  
**Supplementary 1**

- Choose **one piece** not previously performed from the publications listed above.

**Criteria for this section:**

- The piece **must** be arranged.
- The piece **must** be notated and include **at least eight bars** of tabulation. The tablature **must** include pitch, time values and bar lines- An indication of which bars of the piece are being tabulated **must** be marked on the copy.
- Expression and dynamics must be included and marked on the music.
- **A copy of the arrangement must be sent to the Area Manager 21 days prior to the commencement date of the examinations as specified on the NZMSM calendar.**

Repeats are optional.

All markings must be removed from pieces except expression marks, position changes and notation of arrangement.  
**STRICTLY NO PHOTOCOPYING**