

N.Z. MODERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC
GUITAR EXAMINATION SYLLABUS
GRADE EIGHT

Note: A minimum pass of 130 marks in the NZMSM Grade Seven Theory of Music Examination is an additional requirement for this examination.
A copy of the candidate's result must be sent in with the examination entry form.

TECHNICAL WORK: 20 marks

Scales and Arpeggios for Guitar Book

To be played from memory.

Scales: mm ♩ 108

Any Major Scale

Two octaves, ascending and descending.

Blues Scale of E

Position VII, string 5.

One octave, ascending and descending.

Melodic Minor of E, in octaves

Two octaves, ascending and descending.

Arpeggios: mm ♩ 96

Any Major arpeggio

G Diminished seventh

AURAL: 15 marks

- To recognize whether a phrase is in a major or minor key.
The candidate will then state whether the ending cadence is Perfect (V-I) or Interrupted (V-VI).
- To hum or sing the 1, 3, 5 degrees of an augmented or diminished chord.
The tonic will be played and the tonic note given.
The candidate will then identify the degrees by letter name.
- To observe a four bar melody and then pick it from memory.
- In 6/8 time.

VIVA VOCE: 10 marks

- General questions will be asked about **all** pieces performed and the technical work for this grade.
- To explain guitar embellishments.

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.
- Freedom of harmonization for parts one and two.
- 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 to 16

- Bars 1 to 8 **must** be chorded with **one** chord per bar.
- Bars 9 to 16 a melody note and chords **must** be continued.
- The bass progression: **Ilm V7 I** **must** be included at least once.

Part Two: Bars 17 to 32

- The time signature **may** be changed.
- A more comprehensive melody **must** be added to the given chords.
- Some chord substitutions and/or chord alterations **may** be added.

MUSICIANSHIP: 25 marks
(Two parts).

Graded Tunes, Book 7

1. Transposition 10 marks

Criteria for this section:

- To transpose an eight bar phrase.
- No capo.
- **Must** be played **twice:**
 1. **Strum** the chords.
 2. **Pick** the melody.

The examiner will choose from one of the following:

- Key of C major, one tone lower,
- OR**
- Key of F major, one tone higher.

2. Set Piece 15 marks

“Crazy”

Book 7, page 22

Criteria for this section:

- **Must** be played from memory.
- **Must** be transposed a major third higher.
- Dual play.
- No capo.

No repeats to be played unless D.C. or D.S. or as indicated for a specific piece.

PIECES: 60 marks

**Graded Tunes, Books 6 and 7
Supplementary Tunes, Book 2**

All pieces **must** have a four bar introduction and ending where none is given.
Expression and dynamics must be added and noted on the music.
Style, improvisational skill and creative ability are expected for this grade.

Section I: 40 marks

Chattanooga Choo Choo	Book 6, page 2
The Pink Panther	page 4
Can't Smile Without You	page 14
Memory	page 20
Candle In The Wind	Book 7, page 10
Mouldy Old Dough	page 24

- Choose **two** pieces from the list above.

Criteria for this section:

- The pieces chosen **must** be of contrasting style, tempo, time signature, mood and rhythm.

Repeats are optional.

Section II: 20 marks

Supplementary 2

- Choose **three** pieces from the publication listed above.

Criteria for this section:

- The three pieces **must** be arranged as a medley.
- The medley **must** be in three different keys, using a four chord modulation between each key.
- The work **must** be given a title.
- The maximum duration for the medley is **five** minutes.
- Any alterations **must** be marked on the music **by the candidate**.
- **A copy of the medley must be sent to the Area Manager 21 days prior to the commencement date of the examinations as specified on the NZMSM calendar.**

All markings **must** be removed from pieces except expression marks, position changes and notation of arrangement.

STRICTLY NO PHOTOCOPYING