

N.Z. MODERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC
KEYBOARD 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 sheet must be sent in with the examination entry form.

TECHNICAL WORK: 20 marks

Comprehensive Book of Scales and Arpeggios
Magic on Piano, Book 2
Magic for Modern Book

To be played from memory.

Scales: mm ♩ 132 Choose either group one or group two from each scale section:

Major Scales:

Group I: G, Bb, Gb, E OR

Group II: A, B, Ab, Db.

Harmonic Minor Scales

Group I: E, G#, C, Eb OR

Group II: D, Bb, F#, D#

Melodic Minor Scales

Group I: B, G#, F, Eb OR

Group II: G, Bb, C#, D#

Three octaves, **similar motion**, ascending and descending, hands together.

Must be played as quaver triplets.

Legato and staccato.

mm ♩ 120

Diatonic Chord Scales of G and Bb

One octave, ascending and descending, separate hands.

The candidate **must** state whether the chord is major, minor or diminished.

Chromatic Scale of Eb, a minor third apart

Two octaves, ascending and descending, hands together.

L.H. commences on C, R.H. on Eb.

Studies:

Magic Book 2, Exercise No.30.

Magic for Modern, Exercise No.62, (II)

Exercise to be played as both major and minor.

Four octaves, ascending and descending, separate hands.

AURAL: 15 marks

- To recognize whether a phrase is in a major or minor key.
When played again, the candidate will then identify whether the phrase is in simple or compound time.
- To observe a four bar melody and then play it from memory.
In 4/4 time.

VIVA VOCE: 10 marks

- Questions will be asked about **all** pieces performed and the technical work for this grade.
This will include the genres and the background details.
- To explain the construction of all suspended chords.
- To discuss all features of the keyboard used.

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 both parts is expected.
- A suitable bass style **must** be used.
- Expression and dynamics **must** be included and marked on the music.
- Voice, style and tempo registrations **must** be marked on the candidate's 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 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

- **One** chord per bar **must** be added.
- Bars 9 to 16 a melody outline note **must** be added.
- The bass progression: **IIm 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.
- Some chord substitutions and/or chord alterations **may** be included.

MUSICIANSHIP: 25 marks
(2 parts)**1. Transposition:** 10 marks

- To transpose an eight bar phrase.
- The examiner will choose from one of the following:
 - Key of C major, one tone **lower** **OR**
 - Key of F major, one tone **higher**.
- Automatic accompaniment is optional.
- The keyboard transposition facility **must not** be used.

MUSICIANSHIP Cont'd.**2. Medley:** 15 marks**Supplementary Tunes, Book 2**

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

Criteria for this section:

- An introduction and ending **must** be added.
- The three pieces **must** be arranged as a medley.
- The medley **must** modulate into three different keys, using a four chord modulation between each key.
- **Must** include harmony.
- The bass style **must** be either auto accompaniment and/or manual.
- Expression and dynamics **must** be included and marked on the music.
- The maximum duration for the medley is **five** minutes.
- Style, improvisational skill and creative ability are expected.
- **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.**

PIECES: 60 marks**Graded Tunes, Books 6 and 7
Supplementary Tunes, Book 2****Popular Standards Book**

All pieces **must** have an introduction and ending where none is given.
Voice, style and tempo registrations **must** be marked on the candidate's music.
Touch response **must** be used if available on the candidate's keyboard.
Expression and dynamics must be included where touch response is available and marked on the music.
Style, improvisational skill and creative ability are expected for this grade.

Section I: 20 marks for each piece.

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| Can't Smile Without You | Book 6, | page 14 |
| I'll Never Fall In Love Again | Book 7, | page 8 |
| Sway | Book 7, | page 16 |
| Honesty | Book 7, | page 18 |
| I Can See Clearly Now | Book 2, | page 17 |
| Summer Holiday | Popular Book, | page 16 |

- Choose **two** pieces from the publications listed above.
- The pieces **must** be of contrasting tempo, rhythm and style.

Criteria for this section:

- The bass style/s **must** be either auto accompaniment and/or manual.

Repeats optional.

Section II: 20 marks**Modern Piece**

- Choose a fully notated piece at an appropriate degree of difficulty for this grade.

Criteria for this section:

- **Must** be played manually with no auto accompaniment.
- **Must** be at least two pages duration.
- **A copy of the piece 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 tidy fingering, expression marks, registration settings and notation of arrangement.

STRICTLY NO PHOTOCOPYING