

N.Z. MODERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC
KEYBOARD EXAMINATION SYLLABUS
GRADE ONE

TECHNICAL WORK: 20 marks

Comprehensive Book of Scales and Arpeggios
Technical Resource, Syllabus

To be played from memory.

Scales: mm ♩ 80

Major Scales of G and F

Harmonic Minor Scales of D and E

One octave, **similar motion**, ascending and descending, hands together.
End with a crotchet rest followed by the tonic chord, held for two beats.

Harmonic Minor Scale of A

One octave, **contrary motion**, hands together.

Arpeggios: mm ♩ 76

G and F Major

D and E Minor

Two octaves, ascending and descending, separate hands.

Improvisation: mm ♩ 60

8 bars. In 4/4 time.

Must use notes of the chord to improvise a R.H. melody line.

Must use note values and chord pattern provided on the day.

Must use auto accompaniment and fingered chords.

Time values include semibreve, dotted minim, minim and crotchet.

Chords of C – G – F – Am.

AURAL: 15 marks (Examiner to play twice on the keyboard)

- To clap a four bar melody. In either 3/4 or 4/4 time.
Time values include dotted minim, minim, crotchet and quaver.
- To recognize whether a note is raised or lowered one semitone.
- To identify a note of an arpeggio.
Identify by Tonic Sol-fa or interval number.

VIVA VOCE: 10 marks

- General questions will be asked about **all** pieces performed and the technical work for this grade.
- The candidate **must** have a basic knowledge of the keyboard functions.

SIGHT READING: 15 marks

- To play an eight bar passage. In 3/4 time.
- Chord symbols will be given for the left hand.
- The chord must be resounded on the first beat of every bar.
- No rhythm or auto accompaniment to be used.
- In the key of C.

PIECES: 30 marks for each piece. **Popular Songs Book 1, Jazz, Rags & Blues Book 1, Syllabus**

Three pieces **must** be performed, **one** piece from each section.

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.

Markings of rit/pause/pedal **may** be deleted.

May add right hand improvisation when executing an auto introduction and ending.

Expression and dynamics **must** be included where touch response is available and marked on the music.

Chords for this grade **may** be simplified including the removal of the slash.

It is permissible to change any note 8va or 8vb outside of the keyboard span.

It is permissible to add a bar to facilitate any change in the voicing and/or style. Inform the examiner on examination day.

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

Section I:

Piano Man
A Thousand Years
Amazing Grace
Greensleeves

Popular Songs Book
Popular Songs Book
Syllabus
Syllabus

- Choose **one** piece from the publications listed above.
- **Must** use an auto or manual ending.
- Auto accompaniment and fingered chords **must** be used.

Criteria for this section: **must** include **three** or more of the following:

8va higher harmony voice change auto and/or manual fills Introduction

Section II:

My Heart Will Go On
Beauty and the Beast
The Wellerman
Pokarekare Ana

Popular Songs Book
Popular Songs Book
Syllabus
Syllabus (may swing quavers)

- Choose **one** piece from the publications listed above.
- **Must** use an auto introduction and ending.
- Auto accompaniment and fingered chords **must** be used.

Criteria for this section: **must** include **three** or more of the following:

8va higher harmony voice change auto fill/s R.H. quaver fill

Section III: The candidate must choose from Option 1, Option 2 or Option 3**Criteria for this section:**

- **May** alter the tempo.
- Any alterations **must** be marked on the music **by the candidate**.
- A copy of the arrangement/piece **must** be given to the examiner on examination day.

Option 1 **Jazz, Rags & Blues Book 1**

Don't Wanna' Leave You Blues
Ol' Rockin' Chair Blues
Surfboard Boogie
Sneaky Business

- Choose **one** piece from the list above.
- Either hand **may** be used to change voice/settings/rhythm.

Criteria for this section:

- **Must** be played as notated.
- **May** change voice(s).
- **May** use rhythm.
- No auto accompaniment.

Option 2

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

Criteria for this section:

- The melody line **must** be chorded with one L.H. chord (or two L.H. chords if required) per bar.
- **May** change voice(s).
- A suitable auto accompaniment and fingered chords **must** be used.
- Surfboard Boogie - bars 1 to 10 bass clef melody to be played 15ma with R.H.
- The candidate **must** include some degree of arrangement.

Option 3

- Choose **one** piece not previously performed from Section I or Section II or Popular Songs Book 1 pages 1-18

Criteria for this section:

- **Must** use an auto or manual introduction and ending where none is given.
- Some degree of arrangement and the use of keyboard functions **must** be included.
- Auto accompaniment and fingered chords or manual L.H. modern bass patterns or a combination of both **must** be used.
- L.H. modern bass patterns **may** be pedalled excluding blues/boogie style.

All markings must be removed from pieces except tidy fingering, expression marks and notation of arrangement.
STRICTLY NO PHOTOCOPYING

Technical Resource

G major

Musical notation for G major exercise in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two measures of eighth-note runs in both hands, followed by a final chord. The right hand starts on G4 and ascends to D5, while the left hand starts on G3 and ascends to D4. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in the right hand and 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 in the left hand.

F major

Musical notation for F major exercise in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two measures of eighth-note runs in both hands, followed by a final chord. The right hand starts on F4 and ascends to C5, while the left hand starts on F3 and ascends to C4. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in the right hand and 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 in the left hand.

D harmonic minor

Musical notation for D harmonic minor exercise in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two measures of eighth-note runs in both hands, followed by a final chord. The right hand starts on D4 and ascends to A5, while the left hand starts on D3 and ascends to A4. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in the right hand and 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 in the left hand.

E harmonic minor

Musical notation for E harmonic minor exercise in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two measures of eighth-note runs in both hands, followed by a final chord. The right hand starts on E4 and ascends to B5, while the left hand starts on E3 and ascends to B4. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in the right hand and 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 in the left hand.

A harmonic minor

Musical notation for A harmonic minor exercise in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two measures of eighth-note runs in both hands, followed by a final chord. The right hand starts on A4 and ascends to E5, while the left hand starts on A3 and ascends to E4. Fingerings are indicated: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in the right hand and 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 in the left hand.

Improvisation Examples

No.1

Example 1: A 4-measure piece in 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). Chords C and Am are indicated above the first and fifth measures respectively. The second staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). Chords F, G, and C are indicated above the first, fifth, and ninth measures respectively. The piece ends with a double bar line.

No.2

Example 2: A 4-measure piece in 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). Chords C, G, and Am are indicated above the first, fifth, and ninth measures respectively. The second staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). Chords F, G, and C are indicated above the first, fifth, and ninth measures respectively. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Amazing Grace

Moderately

Musical score for "Amazing Grace" on a keyboard. The score is in 3/4 time and consists of six staves of music. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The tempo is "Moderately". The score includes chord symbols: F, Dm, Bb, F, Dm, F, C, C7, F, Dm, Bb, F, Dm, C7, F, D7, G, Em, C, G, Em, D7, G. A large "Teacher Copy" watermark is overlaid on the score.

Adopted 2024

Greensleeves

Moderately

Am G

5 F E7

9 Am G

13 F E7 Am

17 C G

21 Am E7

25 C G

29 F E7 Am

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The Wellerman

Allegro

NZ Sea Shanty

There once was a ship that put to sea, the name of the ship was the

5 Bil ly o' Tea, the winds blew hard, her bow dipped down, Oh blow me bul-ly boys,

9 blow. Soon may the Well-er-man come to bring us su-gar and tea and rum.

14 One day, when the ton-guin' is done we'll take our leave and go!

18 She had not been two weeks from shore when down on her a right whale bore. The

22 Cap-tain called all hands and swore: We'll take that whale and tow! Soon may the

27 Well-er-man come to bring us su - gar and tea and rum.

30 One day, when the ton-guin' is done we'll take our leave and go!

Adopted 2024

Pōkarekare Ana

May swing quavers

Flowing

N.C. G

Pō - ka - re - ka - re a - na, _____ ngā wai o Wai - a -

4 C Am D7

pu, _____ whi-ti at - u ko - e hi - ne, _____ ma - ri - no a - na

8 G C Am G Em

e. _____ E hi - ne e, _____ ho - ki mai - ra. _____ Ka - ma - te a -

14 D7 G

hau, _____ I te a - ro - ha e. _____ Ka - ma - te a -

18 D7 G

hau, _____ I te ar - o - ha e.

Adopted 2024