

N.Z. MODERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

GUITAR EXAMINATION SYLLABUS

GRADE THREE

NOTE: The use of a plectrum is optional. Barre chords may be used for this grade.

TECHNICAL WORK: 20 marks

Technical Resource, Syllabus

To be played from memory.

Scales: mm ♩ 60

Major Scales of F and A
Harmonic Minor Scale of D
Pentatonic Major Scale of A
Pentatonic Minor Scale of G

Must be played as quavers.

Rest stroke.

The examiner will choose either im or ma fingering.

Plectrum **must** use alternate picking. $\square \nabla \square \nabla$

Arpeggios: mm ♩ 100

F Major
D Minor

Must be played as crotchets.

Must use pima fingering.

Free stroke.

Plectrum **must** use the example provided.

Improvisation:

Must pick an eight bar passage to the rhythm pattern provided on the day. In 4/4 time.

Must use the notes in no particular order from the A major pentatonic scale. Position IV only.

Must use a minimum of 3 strings.

Must commence and finish on a root note.

Time values include semibreve, minim, crotchet and quaver.

IV

Rhythm pattern example

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

- To clap a four bar melody. In either 3/4 or 4/4 time.
Time values include semiquaver and those of longer duration.
- To recognize whether a chord played in root position is major or minor or dominant seventh.
- To identify a note being one of the degrees of the major scale.
The tonic will be played and the tonic note given before each degree.
Identify by Tonic Sol-fa, letter name or interval number.
In the keys of C, G and F.

VIVA VOCE: 10 marks

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

SIGHT READING: 15 marks

- To pick an eight bar melody on strings 1-4. . In 4/4 time.
- Either rest stroke or free stroke or a combination of both.
- In the key of G.

PIECES: 30 marks for each piece.

**Supplementary Tunes, Book 2
Syllabus**

Three pieces **must** be performed, **one** piece from each section.
Expression and dynamics **must** be included and marked on the music.
Barre chords are optional.
No repeats except D.C. or D.S. or as indicated for a specific piece.

Section I: Lead

Syllabus

Guitar Boogie

My Sweden Pet

Rainy Day Blues

(must use dual play)

(may add slides, bends, tremolo, hammer on, pull off)

- Choose **one** piece from the publication listed.

Criteria for this section:

- **Must** be picked as written using pima or a plectrum.

Section II: Rhythm**Supplementary Tunes Book 2****Wild World****That'll be the Day****I Can See Clearly***(must add sus chords)*

- Choose **one** piece from the publication listed.
- A capo **may** be used for singing only.

Criteria for this section:

- **Must** add a four bar introduction using the melody in a different position. **May** be 8va or 8vb.
- **Must** add a four bar ending using the melody and/or part of any tonic scale. eg major/pentatonic
- **Must** use a minimum of 2 strum patterns.
- **May** add fills.
- **Must** be either sung by the candidate or accompanied by another instrumentalist.
The candidate **must** count in for the accompanist unless the candidate sings.

Section III: Arrangement

- Choose **one** piece not previously performed from Section I or Supplementary Tunes Book 2.
- An introduction and ending **must** be added where none is given.

Criteria for this section:

- **Must** include a minimum of eight bars lead.
- **Must** include at least **two** of the following:

dual play	harmony	folk pick	position change(s)
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- **May** use slides, pull off, hammer on or any other technique.
- **May** include singing.
- Any alterations **must** be marked on the music **by the candidate**.

All markings must be removed from pieces except expression marks and notation of arrangement.

STRICTLY NO PHOTOCOPYING

Technical Resource

F Major

Musical notation for F Major in 4/4 time. The exercise consists of a melodic line in the treble clef and a guitar tablature line in the bass clef. The tablature includes fret numbers and string indicators (T, A, B) for the top three strings. The melodic line is a sequence of eighth notes: F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The tablature shows the following fret numbers: 1-3, 0-1-3, 0-2-3, 1-3, 0-1-0, 3-1, 3-2-0, 3-2-0, 3-1-0, 3-1.

A Major

Musical notation for A Major in 4/4 time. The exercise consists of a melodic line in the treble clef and a guitar tablature line in the bass clef. The tablature includes fret numbers and string indicators (T, A, B) for the top three strings. The melodic line is a sequence of eighth notes: A4, B4, C#5, D5, E5, D5, C#5, B4, A4, G#4, F#4, E4. The tablature shows the following fret numbers: 5-7, 4-5-7, 4-6-7, 4-6-7, 5-7, 4-5-4, 7-5, 7-6-4, 7-6-4, 7-5-4, 7-5.

D Harmonic Minor

Musical notation for D Harmonic Minor in 4/4 time. The exercise consists of a melodic line in the treble clef and a guitar tablature line in the bass clef. The tablature includes fret numbers and string indicators (T, A, B) for the top three strings. The melodic line is a sequence of eighth notes: D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C#5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4. The tablature shows the following fret numbers: 5-7-8, 5-7-8, 6-7, 9-10-12, 10-11, 9-10-9, 11-10, 12-10-9-7-6, 8, 7-5, 8-7-5.

A Major Pentatonic

Musical notation for A Major Pentatonic in 4/4 time. The exercise consists of a melodic line in the treble clef and a guitar tablature line in the bass clef. The tablature includes fret numbers and string indicators (T, A, B) for the top three strings. The melodic line is a sequence of eighth notes: A4, B4, C#5, D5, E5, D5, C#5, B4, A4, G#4, F#4, E4. The tablature shows the following fret numbers: 5-7, 4-7, 4-7-9-11, 9-11, 10, 11-9, 11-9-7, 4-7-4, 7-5.

G Minor Pentatonic

III V VIII V III

T 4/4
A 4/4
B 4/4

3-6 3-5 3-5-8 5 7 6-8-11 8-10-8 11 8-6 7-5 8-5-3 5 3 6-3

F Major

Plectrum □ □ □ □ □ □ V V V V V V □

T 4/4
A 4/4
B 4/4

1 5 3 3 2 1 1 1 2 3 3 3 5 1

D Minor

Plectrum simile

III VII III

T 4/4
A 4/4
B 4/4

5 3-7 7 10 10 10 10 10-7 7-3 5

Guitar Boogie

To be picked 8va lower

4

7

slide simile

10

13

16

18

20

22

Adopted 2025

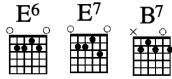
My Sweden Pet

Must use dual play

Chord progression: G, D7, C, D, A7, D, A7, D, A7, D, A7, D, C, G, D, C, G7, C.

Adopted 2025

Rainy Day Blues



A. Wilson

Slow blues, swing quavers

4/4

4

8

12

14

The score consists of five systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff (guitar) and a bass clef staff (bass). The guitar staff contains notes, rests, and chord diagrams. The bass staff contains fret numbers and rests. Measure numbers 4, 8, 12, and 14 are indicated at the start of their respective systems. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the fifth system.

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