

LCM Exams

Specimen Aural Tests: Grade Three

Rhythm

Test 1a

[1 mark]

Beat (conduct) time to a passage in $\frac{6}{8}$ time ($\frac{6}{8}$ as 2-in-a-bar). The beating must have a clear beat-shape (conducting pattern) and be in time with the examiner's playing.

The test may be played twice.

Moderato

i)

Grazioso

ii)

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Poco lento

iii) *mf*

Musical score for section iii) in 6/8 time, marked Poco lento and mf. The piece is in B-flat major. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. A crescendo hairpin is visible in the right hand.

Musical score for the continuation of section iii). The right hand continues the melodic line, and the left hand has a few final chords. A decrescendo hairpin is present in the right hand, and the section concludes with a fermata and the marking *Ped.*

Sostenuto

iv) *mp*

Musical score for section iv) in 6/8 time, marked Sostenuto and mp. The piece is in B-flat major. The right hand has a more active melodic line with eighth notes and chords, while the left hand has a steady accompaniment. The section ends with a fermata.

Andante

v) *mf*

Musical score for section v) in 6/8 time, marked Andante and mf. The piece is in D major. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth notes and a fermata at the end of the first phrase. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. A decrescendo hairpin is visible in the right hand.

Test 1b

[2 marks]

Candidates will be given a sheet with three lines of music, each containing four individual bars in $\frac{8}{8}$ time, marked a, b, c, d. The examiner will indicate which line is being used. The examiner will play one of the bars on that line twice, and ask the candidate which one it is. (2 examples.)

The image shows six lines of musical notation, each labeled 'Line 1' through 'Line 6'. Each line contains four bars of music, labeled 'a)', 'b)', 'c)', and 'd)' above the bars. The music is written in treble clef with a $\frac{8}{8}$ time signature. The notes and rests are distributed across the lines as follows:

- Line 1: a) quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter; b) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; c) quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter; d) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter.
- Line 2: a) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; b) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; c) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; d) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter.
- Line 3: a) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; b) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; c) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; d) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter.
- Line 4: a) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; b) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; c) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; d) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter.
- Line 5: a) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; b) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; c) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; d) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter.
- Line 6: a) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; b) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; c) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter; d) quarter, quarter, quarter, quarter.

Pitch

Test 2a

[2 marks]

Identify **by numerical value only**, intervals played once with the pitches sounding first successively, and then together. Intervals will be restricted to: (Major) 2nd and 3rd, (Perfect) 4th and 5th. (2 examples.)

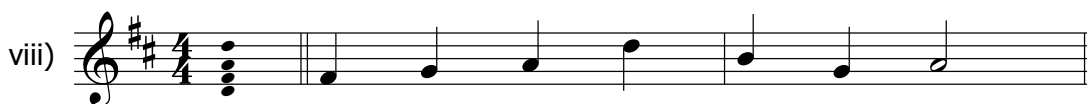
The image shows two lines of musical notation. Each line contains four bars of music. The first two bars of each line show intervals played successively (one note after the other), and the last two bars show the same intervals played together (as chords). The intervals are: (Major) 2nd and 3rd, (Perfect) 4th and 5th.

Test 2b

[3 marks]

Sing or play back a phrase of not more than 3 bars in length, in either a major or minor key. Rhythms will be limited to crotchets, quavers, minims, dotted minims and semibreves.

The key will be announced and the tonic chord sounded. The melody will be played twice.



Transposing instruments: see Notes.

Candidate Copy: Grade Three

Test 1b

a) b) c) d)

Line 1

Line 1 contains four measures of music in treble clef with a 3/8 time signature. Measure a) starts with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and a quarter rest. Measure b) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter rest. Measure c) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure d) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4.

a) b) c) d)

Line 2

Line 2 contains four measures of music in treble clef with a 3/8 time signature. Measure a) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter rest. Measure b) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure c) starts with eighth notes G4, A4, B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure d) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4.

a) b) c) d)

Line 3

Line 3 contains four measures of music in treble clef with a 3/8 time signature. Measure a) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure b) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure c) starts with eighth notes G4, A4, B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure d) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4.

a) b) c) d)

Line 4

Line 4 contains four measures of music in treble clef with a 3/8 time signature. Measure a) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure b) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure c) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure d) starts with eighth notes G4, A4, B4, and a quarter note G4.

a) b) c) d)

Line 5

Line 5 contains four measures of music in treble clef with a 3/8 time signature. Measure a) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure b) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure c) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure d) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4.

a) b) c) d)

Line 6

Line 6 contains four measures of music in treble clef with a 3/8 time signature. Measure a) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure b) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure c) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4. Measure d) starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note G4.

Specimen Aural Tests

Notes:

1. These aural tests are used for Graded and ALCM Examinations in the following: Piano, Pipe Organ, Electronic Keyboard, Electronic Organ, Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Recorder, Classical Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Cornet, Flugelhorn, Baritone, Euphonium, Trombone, Tuba, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar, Harp, Singing and all Jazz instruments.
2. **GRADE 1 TEST 1(b); GRADE 3 TEST 2(b)**: where a candidate wishes to respond to either of these tests in the alternative manner as specified, the examiner must be informed in advance of the tests being administered. This may be done either via the Centre representative or attendant on the day (in advance of the examination), or by the candidate (in the examination, in advance of the tests).
3. In tests where the identification of note values (rhythmic values) is required, such as **Grade 2, test 1(c)**, candidates are required to respond by listing the rhythmic values in order, e.g. 'minim, crotchet, crotchet' or 'minim, four quavers'.
4. In tests where a sung response is required, candidates may use any clear and appropriate syllable or vowel sound (e.g. 'ah', 'la', 'oo', etc.) They may also hum or whistle. Candidates may request tests to be transposed if required by their vocal range. Candidates may play back such tests on their instrument if they prefer; in this case, examiners must be informed prior to the administration of the tests (see Note 2 above).
5. In tests where responses describing pitch are required, candidates may use letter-names (A, B, C, etc.), tonic sol-fa (doh, re, mi, etc.), or number (1, 2, 3, etc., or 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) (Where a minor key is used, it will be assumed that doh=tonic.)
6. Please note that **from Grade 2 onwards**, candidates are required to beat time (i.e. conduct), NOT to tap or clap the pulse. They may join in during the initial playing, or a second playing may be given.
7. Candidates may request any test to be given one repeat playing without loss of marks.
8. **Please note that in all cases, examiners will use a piano to conduct the tests.** Examiners will ask candidates to stand or sit in such a position that they cannot see the piano keyboard.
9. Please note that the printed wording is a guide only. Examiners are encouraged to conduct the tests in a conversational manner.

Transposing Instruments:

Dealing with transposing instruments requires particular care in the 'play-back' alternatives to some of the 'sing-back' test, especially in cases where the candidate has a keen or absolute pitch sense.

When a candidate elects to play back using a transposing instrument, examiners will first ascertain if they have absolute pitch. If so, they may need a slightly fuller explanation of the following method of delivering the test or agreement on a way to proceed. If the answer is 'no', or the candidate does not understand what absolute pitch is, then the examiner will simply announce to them, using the guidance below, their key, such that the response will sound at concert pitch. Thereafter they will work from the printed material. The candidate's response will be in concert pitch, though may sound an octave lower, which is acceptable.

For B flat instruments (Clarinet, Trumpet, Saxophone), examiners will announce to the candidate that the test is in a key a tone higher than the concert key they are actually working in (i.e. C major = D major). For a French Horn, the examiner will announce the key as a Perfect 5th higher (i.e. C major = G major); and for an Alto or Baritone Saxophone, the examiner will announce the key as a Major 6th higher (i.e. C major = A major). However, examiners will take care in the choice of test that the resulting key for the candidate is not more advanced than is suitable for the grade.