MTB Grade 5
Double Bass

Section One: Recital (60 marks)

Select <u>three</u> pieces from the following list (20 marks each)

As an alternative to the pieces below, candidates may perform up to 3 free choice pieces.
For guidance on selecting and approving free choice pieces please click here

Composer/Artist	Title	Book/Cat. Ref	Publisher/ Buy Here
Ashfield	2nd Movt: Adagio	Sonata for Double Bass	Phylloscopus Publications
L. Beethoven	Ich liebe dich (p.76)	Enjoy the Double Bass Vol 2	Boosey & Hawkes / Bote & Bock
Bernstein	Cool (West Side Story)	Amazing Solos for Double Bass	Boosey & Hawkes
Davis/ Swaim	So What No.19	Suzuki Bass School Vol 3	Alfred-Sunny Birchard Revised Edition
Minkler	A Gaelic Melody No.11	Suzuki Bass School Vol 3	Alfred-Sunny Birchard Revised Edition
Cerny	No.1 Allegro moderato	14 Studies Book 1	Recital Music
Gliere	Russian Sailor's Dance	N/A	Carl Fischer
Hauta-aho	2nd Movt: Pizzicato Unaccompanied	Jazz Sonatine No.2	Recital Music
Leogrande	March No.1 **<u>or</u>** The Carousel No.2	Intermediate Solos Book 1	Recital Music
Moskowski Music	Spanish Dance No.2	Subterranean Solos	Bartholomew Publications
Panofka	Either Study on p.46	Enjoy the Double Bass Vol 2	Boosey & Hawkes/ Bote & Bock

Copyright © MTB Exams

MTB Grade 5
Double Bass

Composer/Artist	Title	Book/Cat. Ref	Publisher/ Buy Here
Osborne	Faster Than You Think! No.1	Pizzicato All-Sorts	Recital Music
Osborne	Jazz Waltz	Junior Jazz Book 1	Recital Music
Osborne	The T-Rex Rock	Jurassic Jazz	Recital Music
Rimsky-Korsakov	Mazurka No.11	La Contrabasse Classique Vol B	Editions Combre
Storry	Callisto... and the Great Moon Turns	N/A	Recital Music
Trad./ Isaac	The Jolly Dutchman	Festival Performance Solos	Carl Fischer
Trad.	Old Joe Clark	String Explorers Book 2	Alfred Publishing
Kment	No.68 **or** No.78	Elementaretuden fur Kontrabass	Hofmeister
T. Michaelis	Exercise in B minor No.70	Yorke Studies Vol 2	Yorke Edition
Simandl	No.4 **or** No.5	30 Studies for Double Bass	IMC
Slama	No.2 **or** No.6	66 Studies for String Bass	IMC
Sturm	No.4 **or** No.5	110 Studies Vol 1	IMC
J.P. Waud	No.7 **or** No.9	30 Progressive Studies	Recital Music

Copyright © MTB Exams

Section Two: Technical (25 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

Technical Option 1

Technical Exercises:
Perform all the technical exercises required for this grade

Page 4

PLUS

Scales from Memory:
Perform the scales from memory required for this grade from the sheet

Page 5

Technical Option 2

Technical Exercises:
Perform all the technical exercises required for this grade

Page 4

PLUS

Alternative to Scales from Memory:
Perform the alternative to scales from memory required for this grade from the sheet

Page 7

Section Three: Musicianship (15 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

Musicianship Option 1

Reading Skills:
Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

Page 9

PLUS

Listening Skills:
Sing the prepared aural tests for this grade

Page 10

Musicianship Option 2

Reading Skills:
Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

Page 9

PLUS

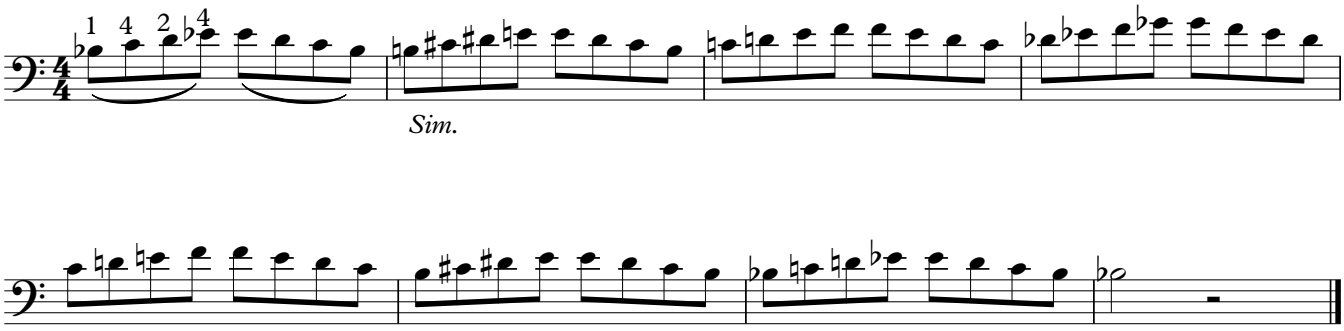
Duet:
Perform the duet for this grade

Page 8

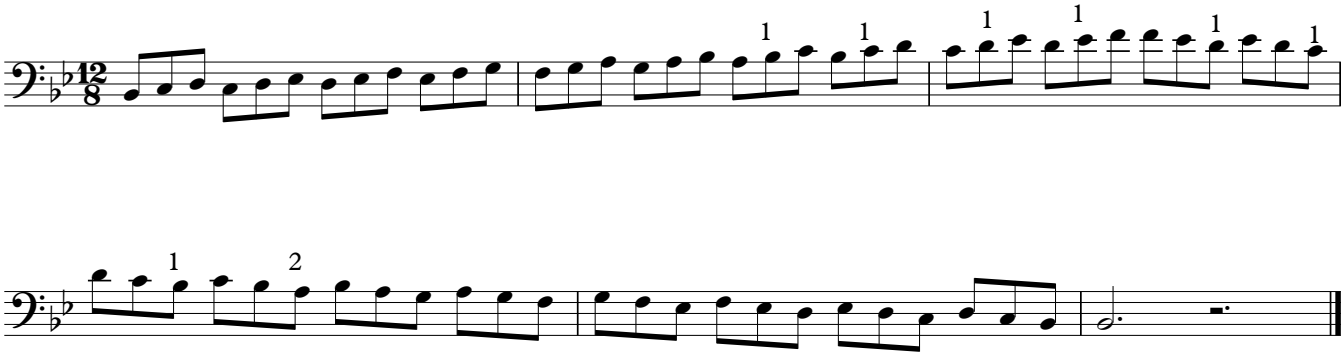
Copyright © MTB Exams

Technical Exercises

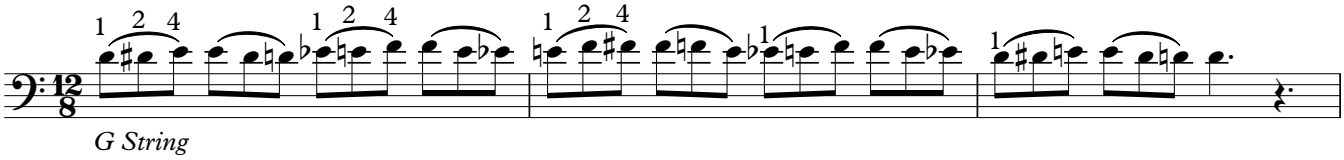
Ex. 1 - Separate bows and then slurred in fours

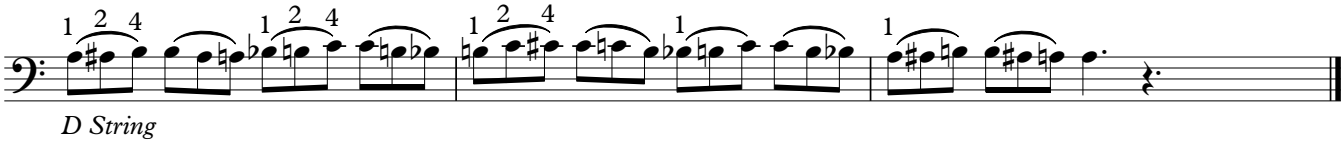


Ex. 2



Ex. 3





Copyright © MTB Exams

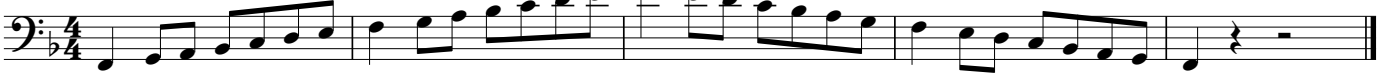
Scales & Arpeggios from Memory

For the examination, the candidate should be asked to perform all the following scales and arpeggios from memory. They should perform each scale and arpeggio with separate bows or slurred as requested by the teacher. The teacher should aim for an even distribution of articulations. All tempi given are minimum speeds.

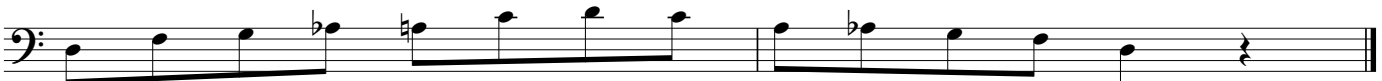
(See MTB Double Bass Scale Bowing Patterns)

♩ = 72

F major scale

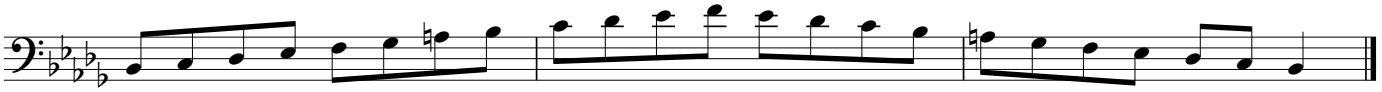


D Blues minor scale

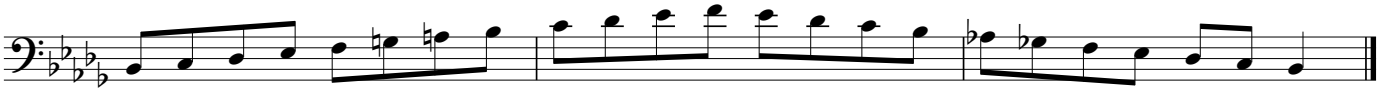


(separate bows and pizzicato)

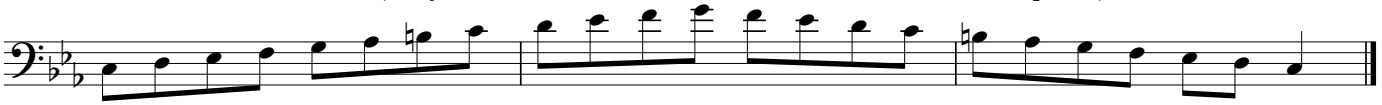
Bb harmonic minor scale 12th (Only one version of harmonic or melodic minor scales required)



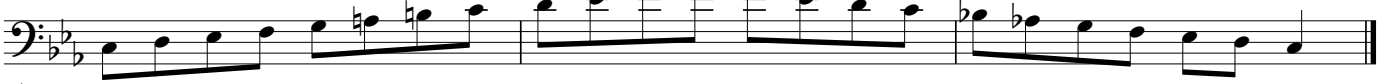
Bb melodic minor scale 12th



C harmonic minor scale 12th (Only one version of harmonic or melodic minor scales required)

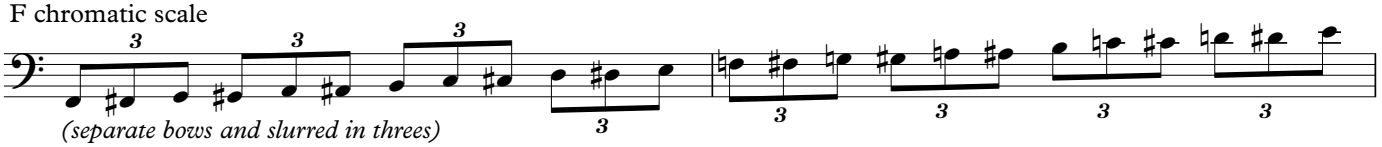


C melodic minor scale 12th

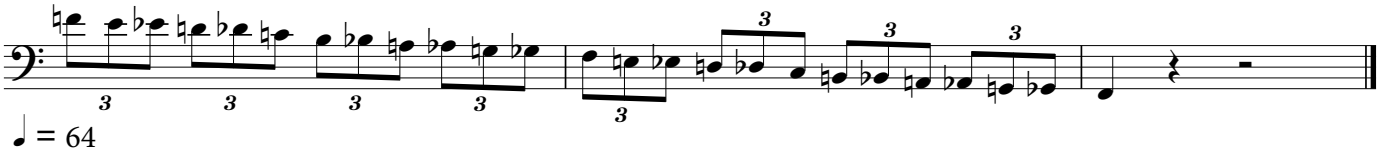


♩ = 52

F chromatic scale

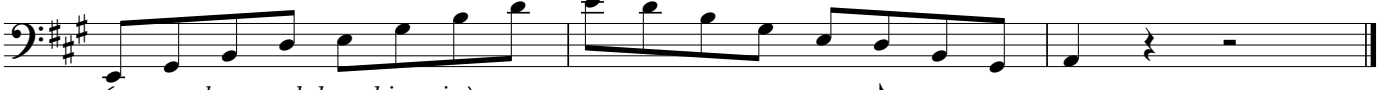


(separate bows and slurred in threes)



♩ = 64

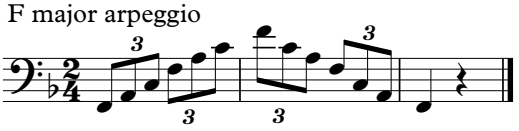
Dominant 7th in A



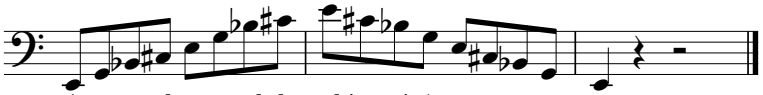
(separate bows and slurred in pairs)

♪=100

F major arpeggio

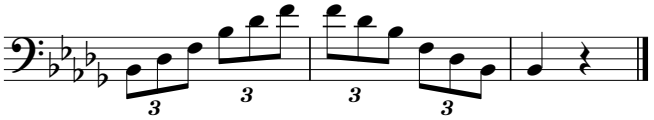


Diminished 7th on E

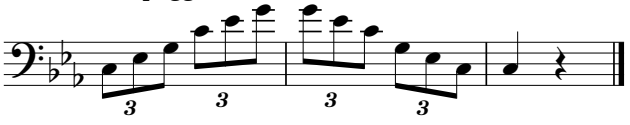


(separate bows and slurred in pairs)

Bb minor arpeggio 12th



C minor arpeggio 12th



Copyright © MTB Exams

Scale Bowing Pattern Examples

Scales and Arpeggioss

Grade 5

Long tonics. Separate & slurred two bows per octave

Arpeggios separate, even and slurred in 3s

Chromatics

Grade 5

Separate and slurred 3 notes to a bow

Dominant 7ths

Grade 5

Separate, even and slurred 4 notes to a bow

Diminished 7ths

Grade 5

Separate, even

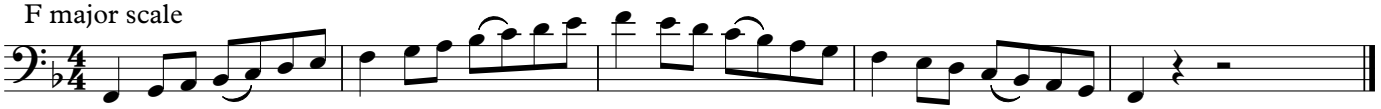
Copyright © MTB Exams

Alternative to Scales from Memory

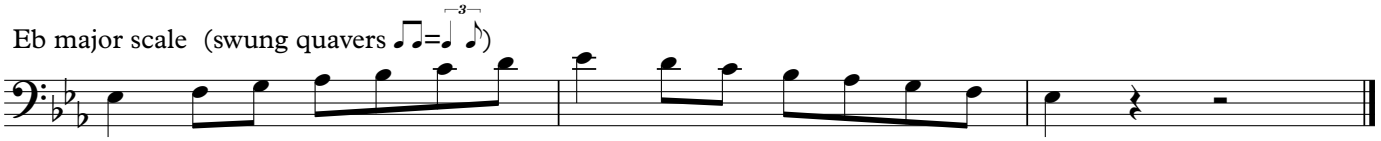
The following do not need to be played from memory. For the examination, perform *all* the following (only 1 version of minors - harmonic or melodic are required.) All tempi given are minimum speeds.

♩=72

F major scale

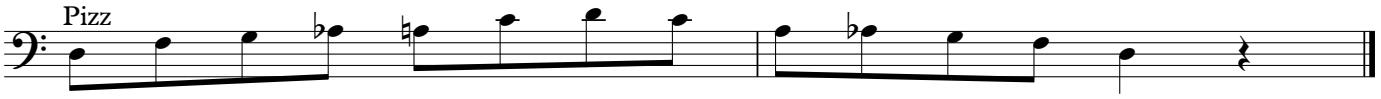


Eb major scale (swung quavers ♫=♩ ♪)



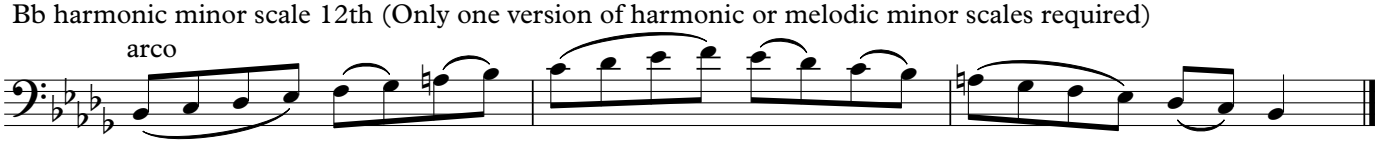
D Blues minor scale pizzicato (swung quavers ♫=♩ ♪)

Pizz

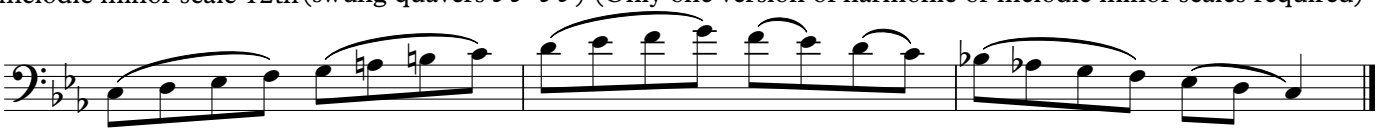


Bb harmonic minor scale 12th (Only one version of harmonic or melodic minor scales required)

arco

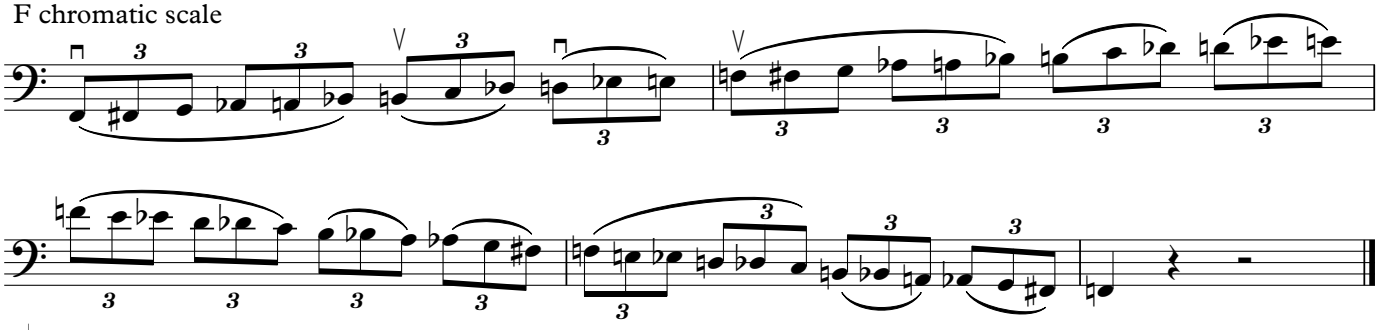


C melodic minor scale 12th (swung quavers ♫=♩ ♪) (Only one version of harmonic or melodic minor scales required)



♩=52

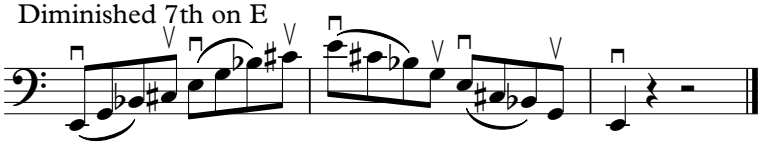
F chromatic scale



♩=64

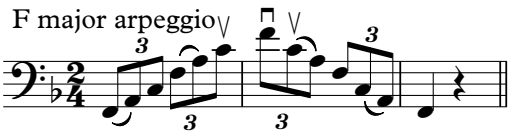
Dominant 7th in A

Diminished 7th on E

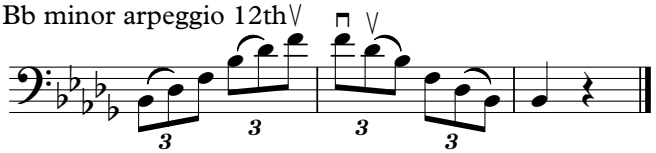


♪=100

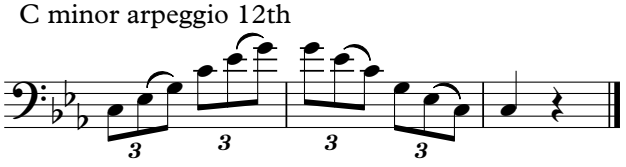
F major arpeggio



Bb minor arpeggio 12th



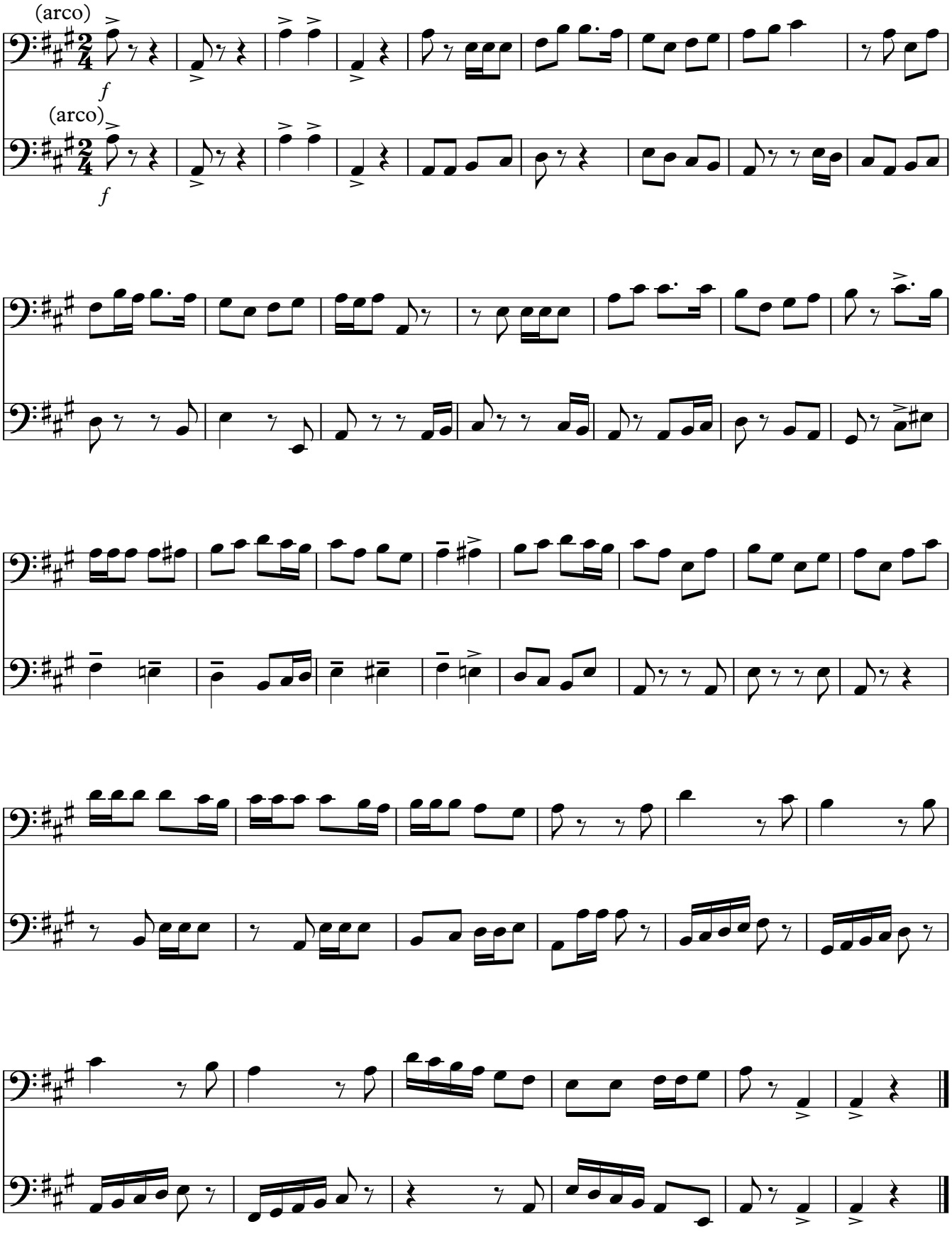
C minor arpeggio 12th



Copyright © MTB Exams

Duet

On Parade!



Copyright © MTB Exams

Reading Skills

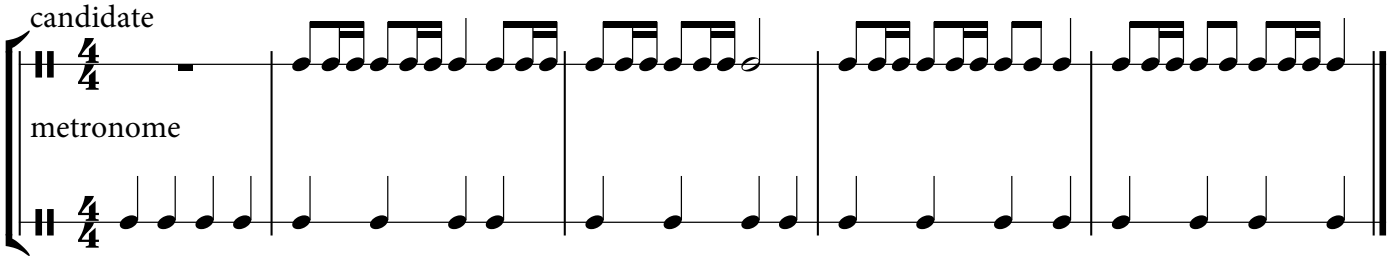
Click here to find the MTB Reading Skills recordings

Candidates should practise the six clapping exercises below as part of their preparation to take this grade.

For the exam itself, the candidate should perform all six exercises in the order below at the indicated tempi. The candidate part should be clapped and the lower part should be provided using either the MTB Reading Skills recording for this grade, which can be downloaded here, or a metronome (not clapped).

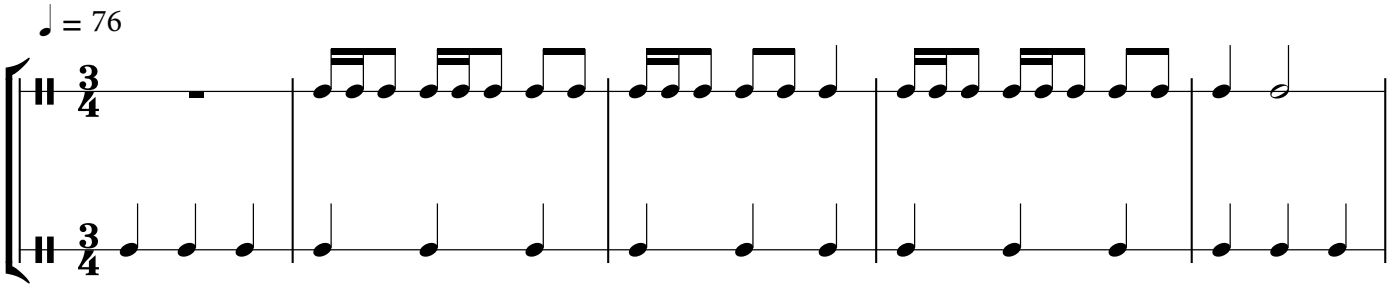
1

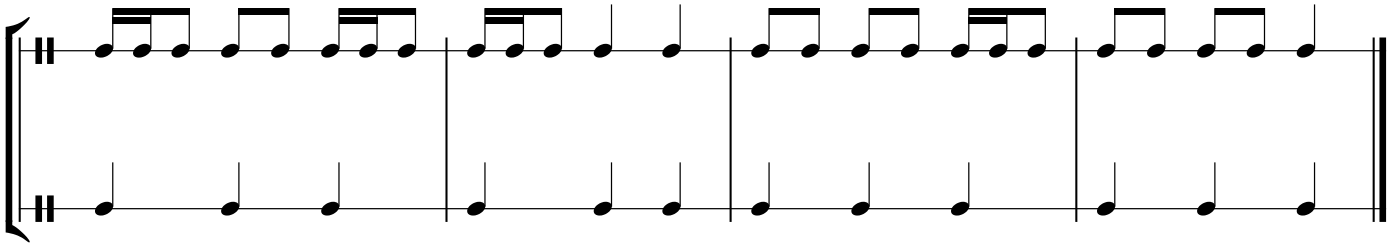
♩ = 90



2

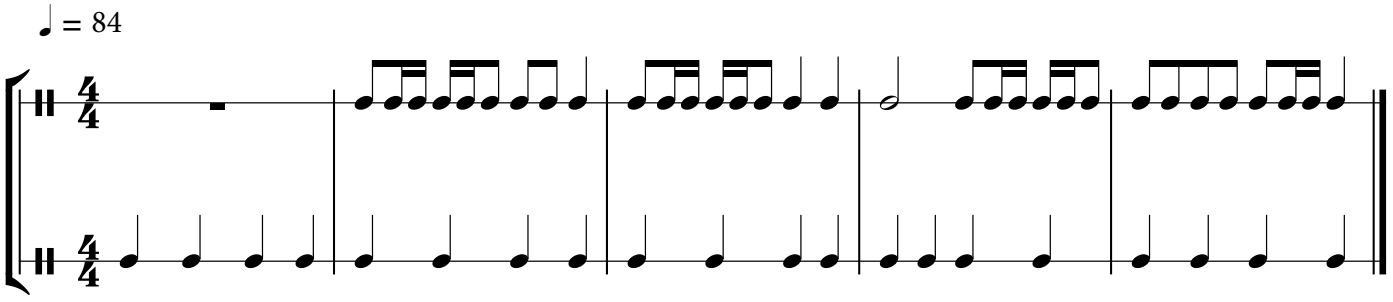
♩ = 76



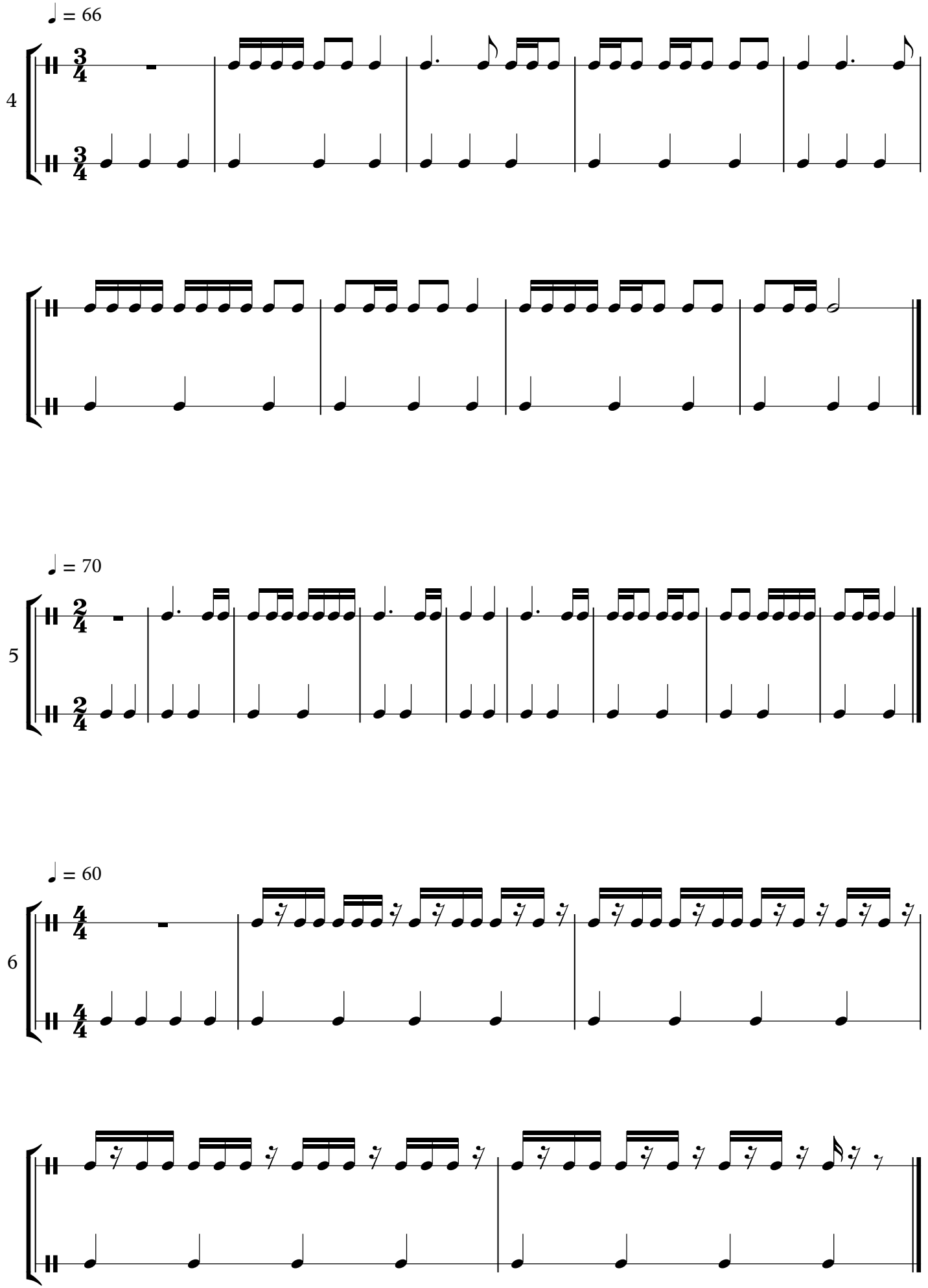


3

♩ = 84



Copyright © MTB Exams



Copyright © MTB Exams

Click here to find the MTB Listening skills recordings in Treble Clef

Click here to find the MTB Listening skills recordings in Bass Clef

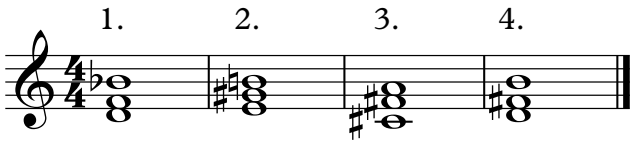
Listening Skills
(Aural tests)

The candidate should practise all the exercises on this sheet with the accompanying Listening Skills recording as part of their preparation for the exam. The exam can be conducted either with the candidate responding to the recording or the teacher can deliver them using this sheet.

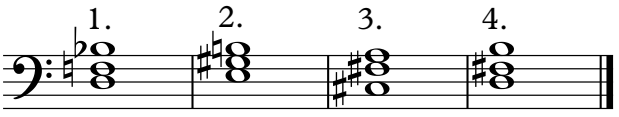
Only the teacher should have this sheet in front of them during the exam.
For each test, select *either* the treble *or* the bass clef exercises as appropriate to the range of the candidate's voice.

Test 1 - Singing back notes.
I shall play a 3 note chord, and then you will sing back the highest, middle, then lowest notes.
We shall do this for 4 different chords.

Treble Clef

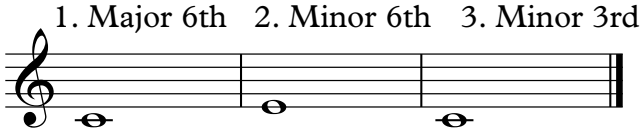


Bass Clef

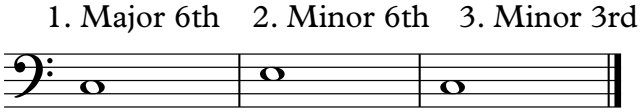


Test 2 - Intervals.
I will play a note and ask you to sing a specific interval above. We shall do this for 3 different intervals.

Treble Clef

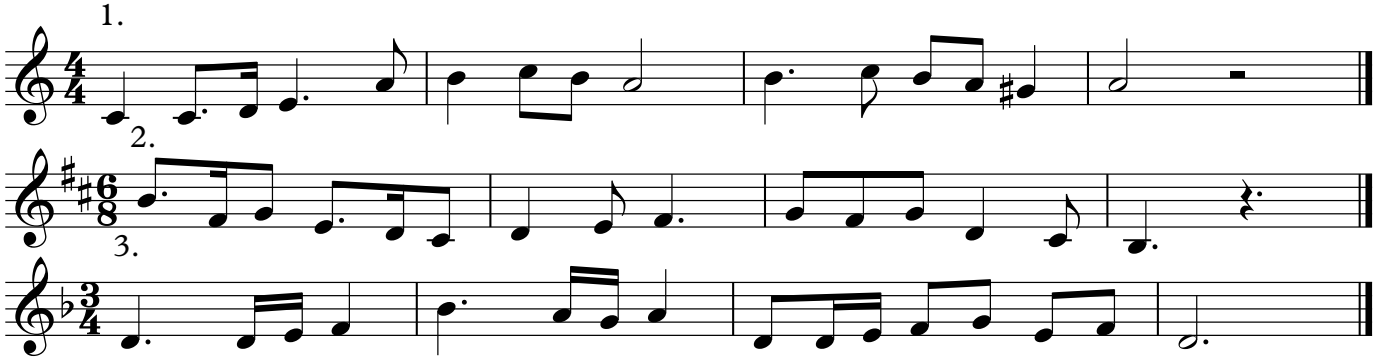


Bass Clef

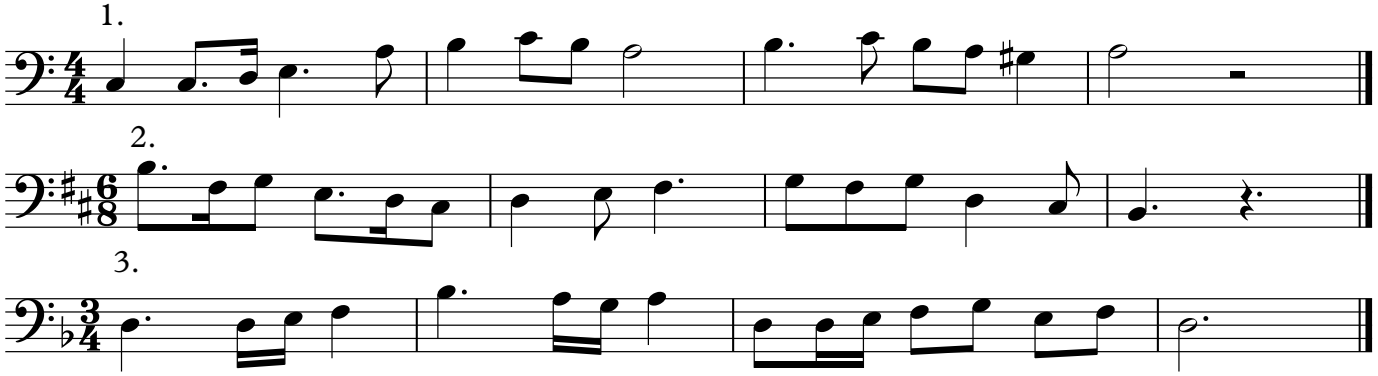


Test 3 - Singing back melodic phrases.
I shall play a melodic phrase **twice**, and then you shall sing it back. We shall do this for 3 different melodies.
Before each, I will indicate the pulse.

Treble Clef



Bass Clef



Copyright © MTB Exams

Syllabus Guidance

- The teacher is encouraged to speak to the candidate during the exam to put them at ease or to help them understand what is being requested. For more guidance on conducting/taking the exam click here.
- The recording should not be turned off at any point during the exam until all elements of the assessment have been completed. For more recording advice click here.
- For Practical Grades follow the above syllabus requirements. To learn about Performance Grade requirements please click here.
- To learn more about how our exams are marked visit our Marking Criteria Page here.

Recital Guidance - Practical & Performance Grades:

- Repeats are optional for MTB Exams, however, they are encouraged as they are often structurally important and can offer opportunities to display greater dynamic and expressive variation.
- All D.C. and D.S. marks should be observed (unless the syllabus specifies otherwise).
- The candidate should introduce each piece they are about to perform by stating its title.
- The teacher may help the candidate tune up before the exam begins. This should be done before starting the recording.
- Recorded accompaniments are acceptable as an alternative to a live accompanist. Make sure it is played on a different device to the one recording the exam.
- The composer's dynamics, phrasing etc should be observed in the pieces. Any editorial markings may be altered to allow for a personal interpretation. Where a piece contains no, or only limited, dynamic and expressive markings, the candidate is encouraged to include their own additional dynamic or expressive elements.
- Where a candidate presents Free Choice repertoire these must be of the correct grade standard. If such pieces fall below the required grade standard then examiners may reflect this in their marking. Free Choice Guidance can be found here.
- Candidates wishing to submit 2 or more pieces with Jazz improvisation may do so as part of our free choice options, these will be marked by a Jazz specialist who will normally specialise in that section of instruments (i.e. Wind, Brass etc).

Technical & Musicianship Guidance - Practical Grades:

- The tempi given for the technical section exercises (scales from memory/technical exercises etc.) are minimum speed requirements.
- There are no unprepared elements in an MTB exam. All Technical and Musicianship elements should be practised by the candidate prior to taking the exam.
- If the Listening Skills fall outside of the candidate's vocal range, they may be transposed. However, all exercises within a test must be transposed by the same interval.
- For the duet option, the teacher part may be performed by the teacher, another pupil or any suitable player on any instrument from the same family (wind/brass/strings etc) with octave transpositions made as necessary. Alternatively, a recording can be used for the teacher part during the exam.
- Duets set in the Musicianship section cannot to be used as recital pieces.

Copyright © MTB Exams