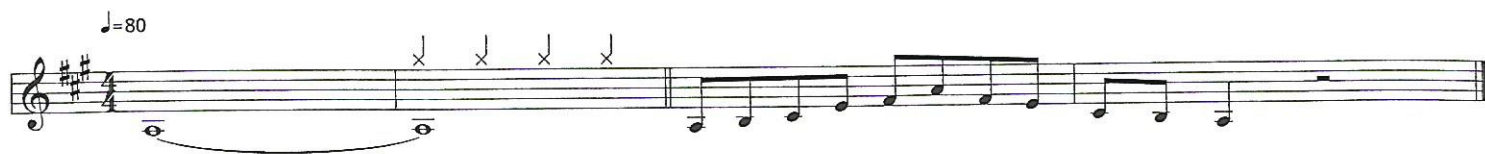


Technical Exercises

Group A: Scales

The major pentatonic scale should be prepared as shown below. You may select any starting note from A-E. You will be asked if you would like to sing along to a metronome click or hear four clicks before you start. Whichever option you choose, you will hear your chosen starting note before the count starts. You may perform this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling. The tempo is ♩=80.

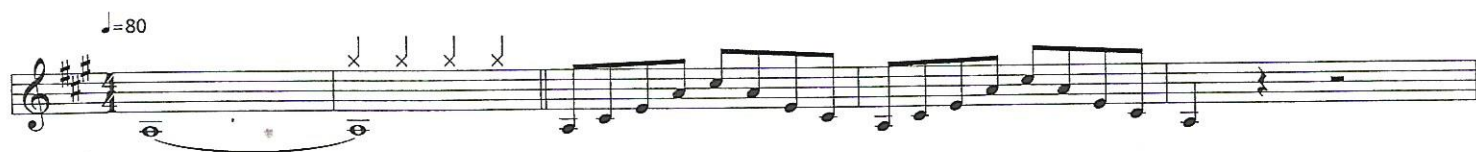


Group B: Arpeggios

In this group, both of the arpeggio exercises need to be prepared as shown below. You will be asked to perform one of them in the exam, as chosen by the examiner.

This test is performed to a metronome click track and you may select any starting note from A-E. You will hear the root note played on piano followed by a one-bar (four click) count-in. You may perform this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling. The tempo is ♩=80.

A major arpeggio



A major arpeggio (ascending) and E⁷ arpeggio (descending)



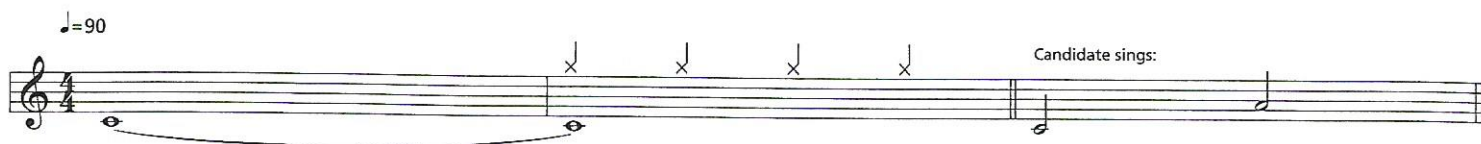
Group C: Intervals

In this group, both the major 6th and major 7th intervals need to be prepared as below. You will be asked to perform one of them in the exam, as chosen by the examiner.

The examiner will choose a starting note within the range A–C. You will hear this note followed by a four-beat count-in. You may perform this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling. The tempo is ♩=90.

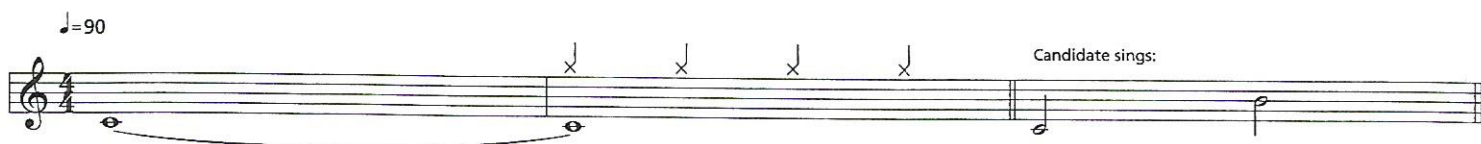
Major 6th interval

♩=90



Major 7th interval

♩=90

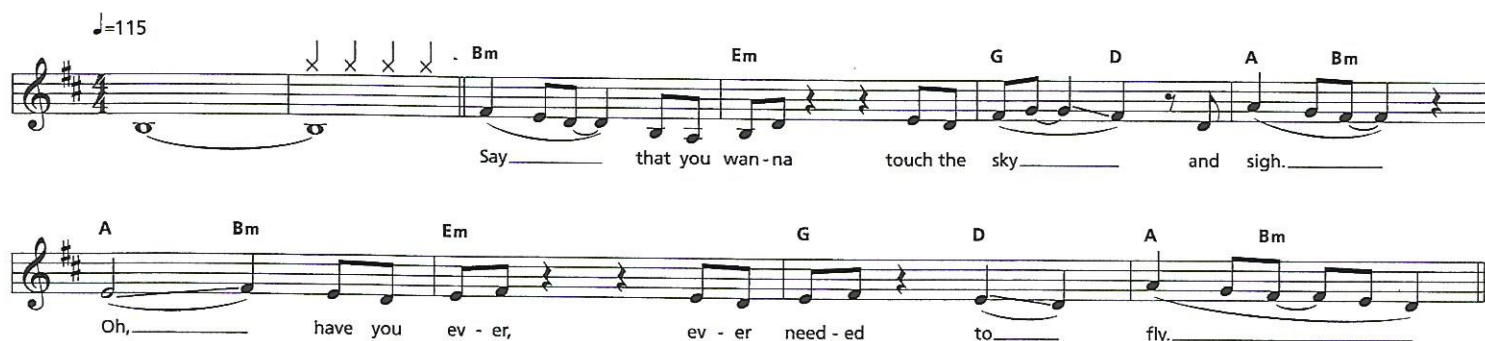


Group D: Melodic Study

In this group, the melodic test must be prepared as shown below. The test starts with a root note followed by a four-beat count. The test should be performed to the appropriate backing track which can be found on the download card.

Slides and Trilldowns

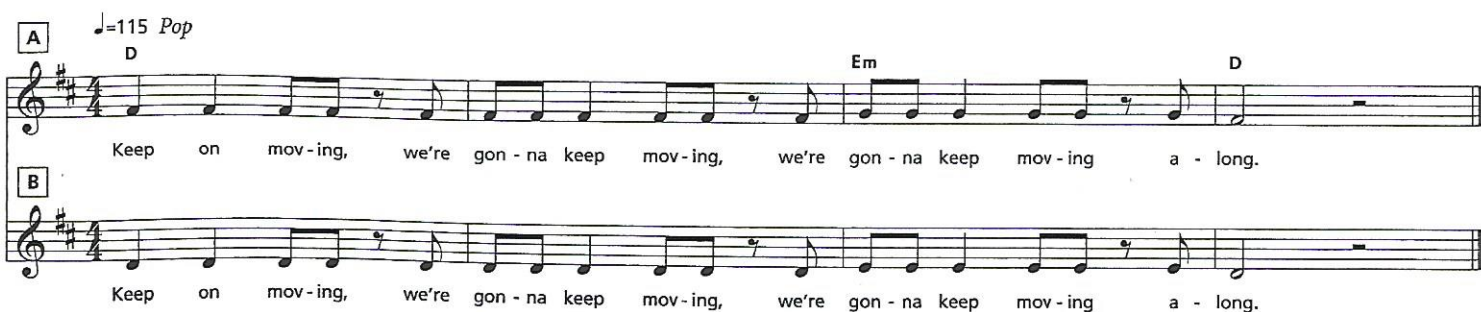
♩=115



Group E: Backing Vocals

In this group, both backing vocal parts need to be prepared as shown below. You will be asked to perform one of them in the exam, as chosen by the examiner. The test should be performed to the appropriate backing track which can be found on the download card.

A ♩=115 Pop



B

Sight Reading

In this section you have a choice between:

- *Either* – a sight reading test
- *Or* – an improvisation and interpretation test (see facing page).

The examiner will ask you which one you wish to choose before commencing. Once you have decided, you cannot change your mind.

You will be given an eight-bar melody in the keys of either D major, B \flat major, B minor or D minor. It will feature lyrics and cover a range of up to an octave. At this grade there is an element of improvisation. Bars 5 and 6 are a repeat of bars 1 and 2, and you need to improvise a melody in the final two bars. You will be given 90 seconds to practise, after which you will perform the test. The tempo is $\text{♩} = 80-90$.

During the practice time, you will be given the choice of a metronome click throughout or a count-in of four beats at the beginning. Whichever option you choose, the practice time will start with the examiner playing the root note. You will receive the same choice when performing the test. The test will start with the root note.

You may perform the improvised bars in this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling.

$\text{♩} = 90$

If you want to know what's go-ing on, fol-low that crowd right now.

now. If you want to know what's go-ing on, Improvise melody

Please note: the test shown is an example. The examiner will give you a different version in the exam.

Improvisation & Interpretation

The examiner will give you a chord sequence in the key of either D major, B \flat major, E minor or D minor. You must improvise a melody over the backing track. At this grade, there is also an element of sight reading, consisting of a two-bar section featuring lyrics, at the beginning of the test. You will be given 30 seconds to practise, after which the examiner will play the backing track twice. The first time is for you to rehearse and the second time is for you to perform the final version for the exam. The backing track will begin with a root note and a four-beat count-in on both playthroughs. The backing track is continuous, so once the first playthrough has finished, the root note and count-in of the second playthrough will start immediately. The tempo is $\text{♩} = 90-100$.

During the practice time, you will be given the choice of a metronome click throughout or a count-in of four beats at the beginning. Whichever option you choose, the practice time will start with the examiner playing the root note.

You may perform the improvised bars in this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling.

$\text{♩} = 95$ Jazz $\text{♩} = \text{♩} = \text{♩} = \text{♩}$

He does-n't want to get out of bed.

Improvise melody
Bm 7

F#m 7 Gmaj 7 A 7 Dmaj 7

Please note: the test shown is an example. The examiner will give you a different version in the exam.

Ear Tests

In this section, there are two ear tests:

- Melodic Recall
- Harmony Vocals

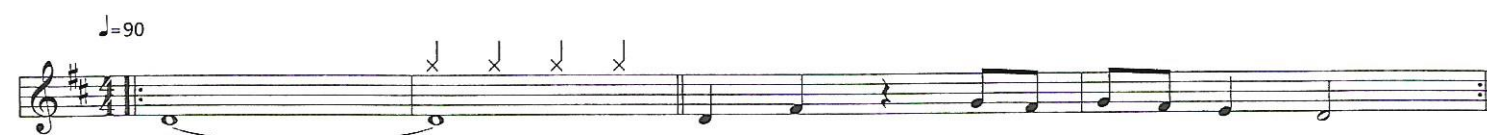
You will find one example of each type of test printed below and you will be given both of them in the exam.

Test 1 | Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two-bar melody played to a drum backing. It will use up to the first six notes of the D major or B natural minor scales (the examiner will decide which) and the first note will be the root note. You will hear the test twice. Each time the test is played it starts with the root note and a four-beat count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise after each playthrough. Next you will hear a **vocal** count-in and then you should sing the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is ♩=90.

It is acceptable to sing over the track as it is being played as well as practising after the first two playthroughs. The length of time available after the second playthrough is pre-recorded on the audio track, so the vocal count-in may begin while you are still practising.

You may perform this test using any vocal sound except humming or whistling.



Please note: the test shown is an example. The examiner will give you a different version in the exam.

Test 2 | Harmony Vocals

The examiner will play you a three-bar melody in the key of C major or A major, based on the I-IV chords. The recorded vocal part will sing the root note of each chord and you need to harmonise a major third above this part using the same rhythm. The examiner will give you the lyrics.

You will hear the test twice. Each time the test is played, it starts with the root note and a four-beat count-in. There will be a short gap for you to practise after each playthrough. Next, you will hear a **vocal** count-in, after which you should perform the harmony line. The tempo is ♩=90-100.

It is acceptable to sing over the track as it is being played as well as practising after the first two playthroughs. The length of time available after the second playthrough is pre-recorded on the audio track, so the vocal count-in may begin while you are still practising.

Please note: the test shown is an example. The examiner will give you a different version in the exam.

General Musicianship Questions

In this part of the exam you will be asked five questions. Four of these will be about general music knowledge and the fifth will be about your voice or the microphone.

Part 1 | General Music Knowledge

The examiner will ask four music knowledge questions from the categories below. The questions will be based on one of the pieces (including Free Choice Pieces) as performed by you in the exam. You can choose which one.

If there are handwritten notes on the piece you have chosen, the examiner may ask you to choose an alternative.

You will be asked to *identify*:

- Any pitch name. (You will need to state an appropriate flat, sharp or natural.)
- Whole-, half-, quarter-, eighth-, triplet eighth- and 16th-note values, and adjacent note value combinations.
- Whole-, half-, quarter-, eighth- and 16th-note rests, and adjacent rest combinations.
- Recognition of any interval up to a 7th between two adjacent notes. (You will not need to state major, minor or perfect.)

You will be asked to *identify and explain*:

- The meaning of any time signature.
- The meaning of '*ad lib*'.
- The meaning of any dynamic marking.
- The meaning of the tempo marking.

Part 2 | Your Voice And The Microphone

The examiner will also ask you one question about your voice or the microphone. They will decide which. Brief demonstrations to assist your answer are acceptable.

You will be asked:

- How do you ensure consistent vocal tone?
- How do you create breathy (aspirate) tone?
- When would you use vibrato?
- How does a microphone amplify sound?