

N.Z. MODERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC
MODERN PIANO EXAMINATION SYLLABUS
GRADE FOUR

TECHNICAL WORK: 20 marks

Comprehensive Book of Scales and Arpeggios

To be played from memory.

Scales: mm ♩ 96

Major Scales of E and Ab

Harmonic Minor Scales of C# and F

Two octaves, **similar motion**, ascending and descending, hands together.

Major Scale of E

Two octaves, **contrary motion**, hands together.

Blues Scale of C

One octave, ascending and descending, hands together.

Triad: mm ♩ 84

Primary Triad Scale of A

One octave, ascending only.

Chords in bass position, one octave higher than in the scale book.

Arpeggios: mm ♩ 84

E and Ab Major

C# Minor

Two octaves, ascending and descending, hands together.

Eb7

Two octaves, ascending and descending, separate hands.

AURAL: 15 marks (Examiner to play twice)

- To clap or tap a four bar melody. In either 3/4 or 4/4 time.
Time values include triplet and semiquavers and those of longer duration.
- To recognize whether a chord played in root position is major, minor, dominant seventh or augmented.
- To recognize if a phrase is in a major or minor key.

VIVA VOCE: 10 marks

- General questions will be asked about **all** pieces performed and the technical work for this grade.
- To name the degrees of the major, minor, dominant seventh and augmented chords.
- To explain the term modulation.

SIGHT READING: 15 marks

- To play a twelve bar passage. In either 3/4 or 4/4 time.
- Bass style - standard waltz No. 3 OR stride OR arpeggio.
- In any key up to three sharps or three flats.

MELODY OUTLINE: 15 marks**Criteria for this section:**

- **Must** choose a time signature of either 3/4 or 4/4 time.
- **May** add 8va higher and harmony.
- **Must** use a variety of note values between quaver and semibreve.
- **Must** add an ending run.
- Bass style to be chosen by the candidate.
- The work **must** be given a title.
- The work **must** have the composers' name.
- Expression and dynamics **must** be included and marked on the music.
- The final outline **must** be neatly hand written **by the candidate**.
- **A copy of the melody outline must be sent to the Area Manager 21 days prior to the commencement date of the examinations.**

PIECES: 25 marks for each piece.

Popular Songs Book 2, Graded Tunes Books 3 and 5

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

Expression and dynamics **must** be included and marked on the music.

Chords **may** be altered.

Bass pattern(s) and arrangement **must** be marked on the music **by the candidate**.

All pieces **must** have an introduction and ending where none is given.

Right hand **must** be played using single notes OR octaves OR harmony OR a combination of these.

Counter bass and addition of slash chords is optional.

The candidate should be encouraged to develop their own style(s), fills and arrangement.

Section I:**Popular Songs Book 2**

**Yellow
Vincent
Love Story
All of Me**

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

Criteria for this section:

- **May** include criteria from previous grades.
- **Must** include harmony.
- **Must** include **three** or more of the following:

Any Inversion ^^ 6th/Break 8va higher X.H. Trill SH/run a major 7th ending run

- Bass style(s) to be chosen by the candidate.

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

Section II: Popular Songs Book 2

Don't Stop Believin'
 Uptown Girl
 YMCA
 Goodbye Yellow Brick Road

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

Criteria for this section:

- **May** include criteria from the previous grades.
- **Must** include harmony.
- **Must** include **three** or more of the following:

Any Inversion	Run S.H.	^^	6th/Break	8va higher	X.H.	Trill
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- Bass style(s) to be chosen by the candidate but **must** include a Latin bass.

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

Section III: Popular Songs Book 2

Hold My Hand
 Imagine
 Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again
 Any piece from Section I or II

- Choose **one** piece not previously performed from the list above.

Criteria for this section:

- Bass style(s) to be chosen by the candidate.
- **May** change key and/or time signature.
- **May** add a bar to facilitate any modern fill.
- Freedom of arrangement.
- A copy of the arrangement **must** be given to the examiner on examination day.

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

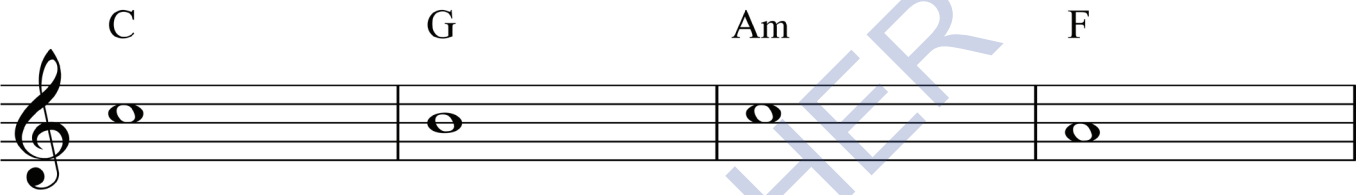
Melody Outline

Grade Four
Piano

Song Title:

Composer:

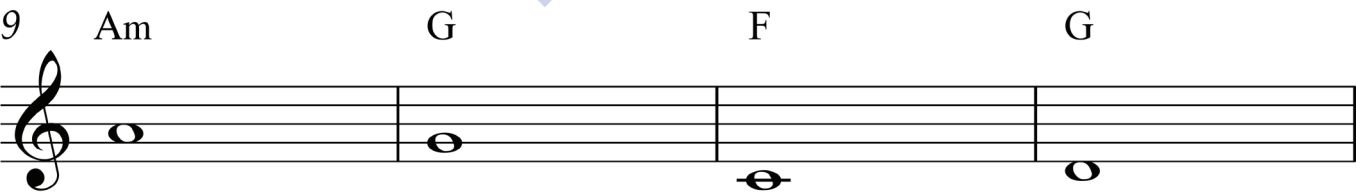
C G Am F



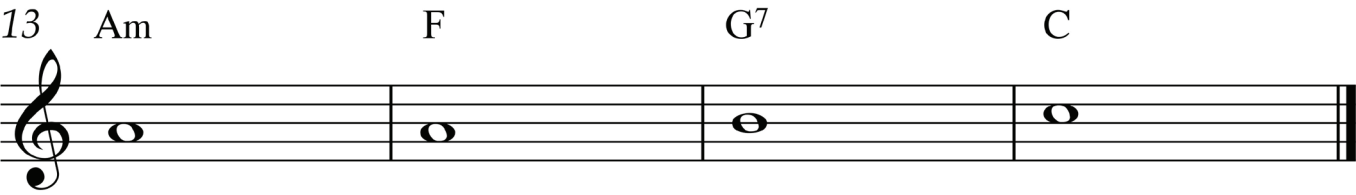
5 C G Am F



9 Am G F G



13 Am F G⁷ C



Criteria:

- Must choose a time signature of either 3/4 or 4/4 time.
- May add 8va higher and harmony.
- Must use a variety of note values between quaver and semibreve.
- Must add an ending run.
- Bass style to be chosen by the candidate.
- The work must be given a title.
- The work must have the composers name.
- Expression and dynamics must be included and marked on the music.
- The final outline must be neatly hand written by the candidate.