

FIRST GRADE

- Lasts for 14 minutes
- Scales - please refer to *Piano Technical Work* Level 1 for required Exercises and Scales
- 3 works – List A, B, C (no extra list pieces)
- Sight reading
- Aural tests
- General knowledge

STAGE 1 OBJECTIVES: BEGINNING

Preliminary Grade to Grade 4

You're just starting out and we want you to enjoy music! Here's a list of things examiners will look for:

- Good posture – where are you sitting, how are you sitting, how are your hands placed
- Can your fingers play the keys smoothly and evenly
- Can you play hands together
- Can you play legato, staccato, soft and loud
- When you play your pieces are they fluent
- Can you keep a nice even beat
- Can you control the balance of tone in each hand
- Can you understand basic theory – note values, time signatures, key signatures, signs on the music
- How well do you understand the piece you are playing
- Can you use the sustaining pedal

AURAL REQUIREMENTS

Rhythm The examiner will play a passage in duple or triple time twice. Clap back

Pitch Sing a short phrase played twice combining time and melody

Pitch To sing the tonic at the end of a short unfinished phrase played by examiner

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Please refer to Basic General Knowledge Questionnaire below

- At least one question for each List piece with a total of up to 10 questions asked
- Identify notes, rests, signs, terms, titles of pieces
- Identify what key the piece is in

BASIC GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Clearly define the title of the work

2. Give the birth and death date of your composer

3. What country is your composer from



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4. Briefly outline the main events in your composer's life with reference to how this impacted on their work

5. What key is your piece in

6. What time signature is your piece in

7. Outline modulations

8. What form is your piece in



9. Write down other terms or signs used that you may not be familiar with

10. Additional notes



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