

## PRELIMINARY GRADE

- Lasts for 12 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)
- 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



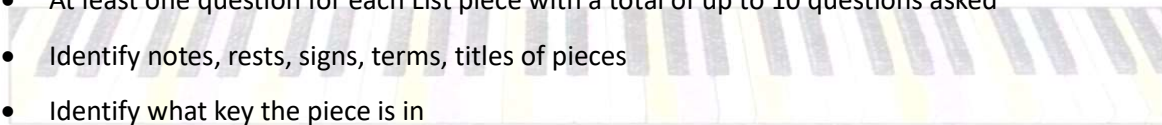
## AURAL REQUIREMENTS

Time	To clap the beat in either duple or triple time and to continue clapping after examiner stops playing
Rhythm	To sing or clap the note values of a 2-bar passage  To sing the notes of a phrase of 5 or 6 notes of crotchet beats.
Pitch	The examiner will first play the phrase then repeat it, waiting on each note for the candidate to sing the note.
Pitch	To state which is the higher or lower of any two notes, not less than a 3 <sup>rd</sup> apart

## 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

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2. Give the birth and death date of your composer

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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

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5. What key is your piece in

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6. What time signature is your piece in

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7. Outline modulations

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